



4th Sunday of Lent

30th March 2025



CLONARD MONASTERY

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ClonardMonastery



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MASS TIMES AT CLONARD

Public Mass & Masses via Webcam

Sunday (Vigil Sat- 7.30pm), 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am, and 12.30pm.

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri.

7.00am, 9.30am and 6.15pm.

Thursday (Novena) 7.00am, 9.30am, 6.15pm and 8.00pm.

Saturday 7.00am, 9.30am & 12.00 Noon.



We thank you for last week's Collection which came to £3,593.
Also for your kind donations, online and by post.

Cappella Caeciliana, conducted by Matthew Quinn, present WORLDS OF LIGHT in Clonard Monastery on Sunday 6th April at 5.30pm. Programme includes the Fauré Requiem with professional orchestra. Tickets £20 from Reception and www.caeciliana.org. Students and under 25s free. There will also be a pre-concert talk at 4.30pm (£5).

CLONARD SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE NOTICE

The **Clonard Safeguarding Committee** meets regularly to monitor and review the implementation of Policies and procedures. Further information and our safeguarding policy are available on our website <https://www.clonard.com/safeguarding/>



We all deserve a second chance

It is sometimes said 'You never get a second chance to make a first impression'. True enough! Most people judge us by the first impression we make on them and only rarely do they change their opinion. So, first impressions are important. We may not get another chance. Fortunately, God does not deal with us in this way, as today's gospel shows. He is a God of second chances, a God 'of compassion and love.

Jesus calls us to "Repent and believe in the Good News." But what is repentance? The English word, unfortunately, can and does tend to create 'guilt feelings' over something we did in the past. Such feelings can tend to lock us into the past rather than lead us towards the future God wants us to embrace. To understand what Jesus means when he calls us to repent, we need to go back to the Hebrew word for repentance, which is 'teshuvah'. This word is derived from the verb 'to return' and its focus not on the past but on the future. Teshuvah a decision – a decision to turn away from where we are headed and move toward God. It is a turning away from the darkness toward the light. It is a joyous home-coming not a sad departure. For this to happen we must be willing to let go of the past and open our hearts to the new person God wants us to be. And we must believe that the God of compassion and love can transform and re-create us in the image of his beloved Son.

Our greatest sin may be our reluctance to believe that God really loves us. If we truly experienced God's love, we could not help but be transformed by it. Sadly, our understanding of God is often clouded by our own fears and anxieties, so we turn away rather than approach him in trust and confidence.

Today's gospel challenges us to ask ourselves: Do I really believe in the God of infinite mercy, the God revealed in the life and ministry of Jesus, the supremely loving Father of the Prodigal Son? This is the Father who offers us a "second chance", who welcomes us when we approach him in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

ST. GEORGE'S SINGERS: Mozart Requiem. St Peter's Cathedral on Wed. 9th April at 7.45pm. Tickets £25 (£15 conc.), available at the door or email: contactstgeorges@gmail.com.

Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne. The Passion Story: "A Work of Infinite Love". (Sat 12 April, 9:30 am - 4 pm). Fr Aidan Troy CP will lead us in a day of prayer and reflection as we enter into Holy Week, where we are invited to immerse ourselves in this story of hope and unconditional love. To book or for further details, contact Drumalis (Mon Fri, 9am-5pm) – 028 28276455/28272196 or email drumalis@btconnect.com website: <http://www.drumalis.co.uk>



New design Easter Mass Bouquet cards are now available from Reception.

