



24<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
of  
Ordinary  
Time

13th September 2020

CLOONARD MONASTERY  
1 CLONARD GARDENS  
BELFAST BT13 2RL

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**Webcam and Public Masses in Clonard**

**MASSES via the WEBCAM**

**PUBLIC MASSES in CLONARD**

7.00am	9.30am	11.00am		Sunday September 13..	7.00am	9.30am	11.00am	12.30pm
7.00am	9.30am	6.15pm		Monday September 14.	7.00am	9.30am		
7.00am	9.30am	6.15pm		Tuesday September 15.	7.00am	9.30am		
7.00am	9.30am	6.15pm		Wednesday September 16.	7.00am	9.30am		
7.00am	9.30am	6.15pm	9.00pm	Thursday September 17. [Novena Masses]	7.00am	9.30am	6.15pm	
7.00am	9.30am	6.15pm		Friday September 18.	7.00am	9.30am		
7.00am	9.30am	7.30pm [Vigil Mass]		Saturday September 19.	7.00am	9.30am	7.30pm [Vigil Mass]	

**Please wear face coverings when entering the church.**  
**Use hand-sanitisers on entering and leaving the church.**  
**Sit only on designated seats.**



The church will be open daily for **individual visits:**  
11.00am to 5.00pm [Monday to Saturday]  
2.00pm to 5pm [Sunday]

We thank you for last week's collection which came to £1,284.00 for Clonard, £550.00 for the Bishop's collection

Thank  
You!



**"Is there life after COVID-19? The Search for Meaning and Moral Values".**  
Zoom course hosted by Drumalis and led by Dr Johnston Mc Master over eight Tuesday evening sessions, 7pm – 9pm, from September - November 2020. Contact Drumalis on 028 2827 2196, or email drumalis@btconnect.com for details.

**GOD'S WORD IN SEPTEMBER 2020**  
**13th SEPTEMBER TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Readings Matthew 18: 21-35

**What Price Pardon?**

Matthew's instruction on life in the Christian community that we began to read last week concludes with a great teaching on forgiveness. Acting as the representative of the other disciples, Peter asks Jesus how often one must forgive, probably sure that seven times was generous. To his surprise, Jesus replies, 'not seven, but seventy times seven' and then uses a parable to spell out the meaning of such generosity.

Some key-terms are important if we are to get the point of the parable. 'Servants of a king' are not household attendants who performed menial tasks. Just as the word 'minster' which originally meant servant is now used for a high government official, these 'servants' are not owly members of the palace staff but the king's trusted advisors, his ministers of state. Second, we need to understand the ancient monetary system that lies behind the parable. It has been estimated that a talent is almost the equivalent of \$20,000, so a thousand talents would be about 200 million dollars! A denarius was at the other end of the scale. Its value was the equivalent to the wages of an unskilled labourer. A hundred denarii would then be the equivalent of three month's wages. In terms to today's values, it would work out as a little over € 4,000. While it is not exactly a trivial sum, it is a drop in the ocean compared to 200 million dollars!

The first servant seems to have been some who was able to play the system to his advantage. When he is discovered and the threat of losing everything, including having his family sold into slavery, he has no alternative but to throw himself on the king's mercy and to ask for time to get his affairs straightened out. Probably to his surprise, the king does not just give him time, but he cancels the entire debt. The parable now takes a new twist. The one who is forgiven the enormous debt now meets another member of the royal household who owes him one hundred denarii. Just as he had pleaded with the king for time, his fellow servant now asks him for time but is refused. This is too much for his fellow members of the royal administration. They report the matter to the king who now demands full payment of the original debt. The point of the parable is clear: forgiveness is a two-way process. This is a point Matthew has pressed home from the beginning of the Gospel. It is a powerful illustration of the prayer 'forgive us our debts, as we forgive those who are indebted to us' Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 6:12).

Courtesy of REALITY magazine.

**Prayer Online:**

Come and join us at [www.soulparemission.com](http://www.soulparemission.com)  
Who are we? We are a new interactive prayer website created by Jacinta Crockford DipTH, Spiritual Director.  
What's on offer? A variety of PDF meditations on Mother Teresa, St John Paul II, Ignatius Spirituality to name but a few. Lots of content to Dive into. There you will find - Podcasts on Faith, Friendship & Knowledge; Rosaries, Prayers and Marian Consecration. Come and join in and be part of the prayer movement online.



**Available at Clonard**

**Reception:**  
First Communion Cards, Rosettes, etc.,  
**Also available:** Mass Cards, Rosaries, Medals, Prayer Cards, Prayer Booklets, Novena Books and Candles.



