



## 27th Sunday of the Year

### 2nd October 2022

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 £2,766.  
Also for your kind donations, online and by post.  
The Bishop's collection will be included today.

#### 2022 SEASON OF CREATION:

##### "LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF CREATION"

The Season of Creation ends on **October 4**, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology, beloved by many Christian denominations.



Listen to the  
Voice of creation  
SEASON OF CREATION 2022

"If we learn how to listen, we can hear in the voice of creation a kind of dissonance. On the one hand, we can hear a sweet song in praise of our beloved Creator; on the other, an anguished plea, lamenting our mistreatment of this our common home".

**Pope Francis**

#### Learning from Him

"Lord increase our faith," said the apostles. Elsewhere they asked him, "Lord teach us how to pray" (Lk 11:1). In essence the two requests were the same. To pray is to focus our heart on God, to have faith in God's concern for us. Every prayer renews our trust in God, and whenever we turn to God in faith, we are praying. It is no more possible to have faith without prayer than to swim without water. But we need to pray in the right spirit. Too often we just want to bring God around to our way of thinking rather than putting ourselves under God's guidance.

Sometimes prayer is used as a magical formula, a last resort, worth a try when all else fails. A lawyer was walking along a street with a scholarly friend. When they came to a ladder leaning against a house which was being painted, the scholar refused to pass under it. The lawyer laughed and said "Surely you don't believe in that old superstition about never walking under a ladder!" "No, I don't believe in it," the scholar answered, "but I never waste a chance of avoiding an accident." Maybe that's how we approach prayer. We don't strongly believe in it, but we feel that maybe it might work, as a last resort. So we could join in that request, "Lord, increase our faith; Lord, teach us how to pray." Jesus did not just *teach* his friends how to pray, he *showed* them by his own example. Often he would turn to God and address him as Father. Early in the morning he would go up the hillside, his favourite place for quiet prayer.

Unprofitable servants? A better word might be "*ordinary*". The servants had just done their job, what was expected; they made their due contribution to life, to God and to others. With Jesus as our guide, we would do this as normal. The standards he sets for us are high. Our lives will be worthwhile and noble, if we also choose them for ourselves.

What is RCIA? RCIA (the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is a process to introduce the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church to individuals who wish to learn more about Catholicism, including the opportunity, if they wish, to become Catholic through the Sacraments of Initiation. RCIA is a time of teaching, formation and conversion to come to know, love and develop a relationship with God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. How do I sign up for RCIA? The first step is to request a registration form by emailing [rcia@downandconnor.org](mailto:rcia@downandconnor.org) When and where does RCIA meet together? We meet Thursday nights from 6.30 - 8.00 pm at St Mary's Hall, Chapel Lane, Belfast BT1 1HH from October to May. The start date for the programme is Thursday 6th October 2022.



#### Feast Days this week:

Tuesday 4th October: St Francis of Assisi

Wednesday 5th October: Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Redemptorist priest,

Friday 7th October: Our Lady of the Rosary