



## 3rd Sunday of the Year

### 22nd January 2023

CLONARD MONASTERY

1 CLONARD GARDENS

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ClonardMonastery



www.clonard.com

#### MASS TIMES AT CLONARD Public Mass & Masses via Webcam

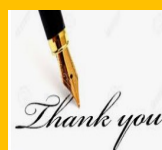
**Sunday (Vigil Sat- 7.30pm),** 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am, and 12.30pm.

**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 £1,899 for Clonard, £814 for the Down & Connor Diocesan Faith Development collection. Also for your kind donations, online and by post.

#### **Dreams.... Visions for Belfast 29th January - 5th February**

The 4 Corners Festival seeks to inspire people from across the city to transform it for the peace and wellbeing of all. It consists of innovative events designed to entice people out of their own 'corners' of the city and into new places where they will encounter new perspectives, new ideas, and new friends. We celebrate our city through music, prayer, storytelling, discussion, and more. For full festival programme go to [www.4cornersfestival.com](http://www.4cornersfestival.com). **Of special interest will be the event we are hosting in Clonard Church on Tuesday, 31 Jan. at 7.30pm, We Have A Dream: Role Of Women In Peacebuilding** Also, the opening event **Discerning God's Dream - Walking the Path Together** in Skainos, Lower Newtownards Rd on Sunday, 29 Jan. at 7pm. Speaker: Juileann Moran, General Secretary of the Catholic Church's Synodal Pathway in Ireland. Music by Kiran Young Wimberly. Book your place at [4cornersfestival.com](http://4cornersfestival.com).



#### Can we change our way of living?

When Jesus began his public ministry of preaching and healing, John the Baptist had already been arrested, putting an end to his movement of religious revival. At that point, instead of going back to Nazareth (i.e. instead of going home), Jesus went to Capernaum. This marked a new beginning, whose purpose is described in a verse of prophecy: "The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who lived in the land of the shadow of death, light has dawned." Jesus would later refer to himself as the light of the world; and, in commissioning his disciples, he would tell send us out also, to be light to the world. His vocation is our vocation too.

In times past the idea of "vocation" was focussed mainly on doctors, nurses, priests and religious. But now it has been restored to its original, wider application, and all our baptised people are invited to experience their calling from God. There is nothing dramatic about this. It just means that I don't just stumble into the Christian way by default, but that God has chosen me: "I have called you by name; you are mine." "You didn't choose me; no, I chose you, and I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that would remain." If the gospel is now, and I am every person in the gospel, then, through the gospel of today, I am being called again.

The starting-point of Jesus' message was very like that of John the Baptist. "Turn from your sins, and turn back to God, because the kingdom of heaven is near." Turning away from sins is a voluntary act, which can be reversed. There is a story to illustrate that point. When Leonardo da Vinci was asked to do a painting of the Last Supper, he searched far and wide for models for each person in the scene. He found a fine-looking young man, full of vitality, as the perfect model for Jesus. In the following months he did the same for models for each of the apostles, leaving Judas till last, not knowing how to represent him. Finally, he came across a tramp whom he thought was ideal for the part. Leonardo brought him to his studio, but while the work was in progress, he came to a shocking realisation. This man had been with him months before, representing Jesus. In the meantime he had taken to drink and lost his way, and was now homeless. It was a shock to Leonardo, and a prod to conversion for the man who modelled as Judas.

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY** continues until Wednesday 25th Jan **On Sunday 22 Jan.** at 3.30pm in St Anne's Cathedral Belfast there is a special anniversary service - 'Celebrating our Reconciling Vision of Hope' - marking the centenary of the Irish Council of Churches and the 50th anniversary of the Ballymascanlon Talks with preachers Most Rev Eamon Martin, Archbishop of Armagh (RC) and Rev Harold Good, former President of the Methodist Church in Ireland. All are welcome.



**'Belfast Jewish History'** - City Cemetery lecture series. Monday 23 Jan. at 7.30pm in Clonard Monastery. Steven Jaffe, director of the Belfast Jewish History project will deliver this talk commemorating the annual Holocaust Memorial Day. To book a place contact Ed Petersen in Clonard tel. 90445950.