

4th Sunday of Easter 21st April 2024

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<u>MASS TIMES AT CLONARD</u> <u>Public Mass & Masses via Webcam</u>

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 \pounds 3,110. Also for your kind donations, online and by post.

Scripture Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter:

Acts 4:8-12; Today's reading tells us that in the trial before the Sanhedrin, Peter was empowered by the Holy Spirit to bear a renewed Easter witness to the Son of God, Jesus Christ the Nazarene.

I Jn 3:1-2; John, in today's second reading, reminds his people that they should remember their great privileges - to be called the children of God. John clarifies that we are not merely called the children of God; we <u>are</u> God's children in actuality.

Jn 10:11-18: Introducing himself as the Good Shepherd of his flock, Jesus tells us that the Good Shepherd is willing to lay down his life for his sheep.

Clonard Child Safeguarding Committee notice:

Parents/Guardians must accompany children using toilet facilities in the Monastery.

Vocations Sunday

Today is *Vocations Sunday*. The Lord has a calling that is personal to each one of us. He calls us in our uniqueness with our very particular temperament, our unique identity. No one of us is like anyone else. Parents know how distinct and unique each of their children is. They will all have been given the same love; they grow up in basically the same environment. Yet, from a very early age, their uniqueness becomes very evident. The family is a microcosm of the church. Through baptism, we are each called to be the Lord's disciples, to follow the Good Shepherd. However, the way we do that will be unique to each one of us. The particular way in which the Lord works through us is unique to each one of us. I can do something for the Lord that only I can do. Each person in this church can do something for the Lord that only he or she can do. Each one of us has a unique contribution to make to the work of the Lord in the world, to the life of the church, and that contribution is just as vital as anyone else's contribution. We each have a unique vocation and each vocation is equally significant. Each one of us is vitally important to the Lord. When we each respond to our unique vocation, we give a lift to everyone else. When any one of us fails to respond to that vocation, we are all a little bit impoverished.

The first reading talks about the stone that was rejected by the builders becoming the keystone of the building. This is a clear reference to Jesus himself, the rejected one. We can all feel at times like the rejected stone, for whatever reason. Yet, we are never rejected in the Lord's eyes. He continues to call us in the way that is unique to us. He sees us as the keystone for some aspect of his work. He recognizes the potential for good that is within us all. On this Vocations Sunday we commit ourselves anew to hearing and responding to the call of the Good Shepherd. Can you offer your gifts in Clonard?

<u>Cemetery Sundays 2024</u> Prayers and the Blessing of Graves will take place on the following dates for the respective Cemetery Sundays.

Milltown:Sunday 12th of May at 3pmCity:Sunday 19th of May at 3pmHannahstown:Sunday 26th of May at 3pm

First Belong to God: On Retreat with Pope Francis A Talk by Dr. Austen Ivereigh

Your invitation to experience the Spiritual Exercises with Pope Francis Belfast Jesuit Centre, Donegall Street, Belfast Saturday 27th April 3pm



The loss of a partner through death, separation or divorce is devastating. Beginning Experience is offering a programme of bereavement support in St Bride's Hall, Derryvolgie Ave., Belfast on three Saturdays (27th April, 25th May and 29th June 2024) Booking essential. To find out more, contact Pauline 07519289185 or Marie 07896119669 or email <u>belfastbe@yahoo.com</u>

