



17th Sunday of the Year

28th July 2024

CLONARD MONASTERY

1 CLONARD GARDENS

BELFAST BT13 2RL

Tel: 02890445950



reception@clonard.com



@clonardmbelfast



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.

**THURSDAY 1ST AUGUST,
FEAST OF ST ALPHONSUS LIGUORI,
Founder of the Redemptorists.**

27th September 1696— 1st August 1787.

We thank you Father, for having given us Alphonsus as a witness to your love among the men and women of his time.

We praise you

**for his wisdom as a teacher of the Christian life,
for his zeal in bringing the hope and freedom of the Gospel to the poor and broken-hearted,**

for the warm strength of his love for Jesus and Mary.

**Help us to follow the example of his life,
to draw fresh inspiration from his teaching,**

**to find consolation in his prayer for us
and so to come to share with him and all the saints in the fullness of Redemption where Jesus Christ reigns as Lord for ever and ever.**



On August 1, Redemptorists throughout the world celebrate the Feast of the Founder of the Congregation, St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori. Please remember the Congregation in your prayer that day, in particular, offer a prayer for an increase in vocations to the Redemptorist way of life.

This Sunday's Scripture Readings:

2 Kings 4:42-44: *Elisha provides food for a hundred men*

Ephesians 4:1-6: *From prison, St. Paul invites us to live a life of peace and harmony*

John 6:1-15: *Jesus feeds the people with a boy's loaves and fishes*

Poverty and hunger in the midst wealth and prosperity

In Asian, African, and Latin American countries, well over 500 million people are living in what the World Bank has called "absolute poverty." Every year 15 million children die of hunger. The Indian subcontinent has nearly half the world's hungry people. Africa and the rest of Asia together have approximately 40%, and the remaining hungry people are found in Latin America and other parts of the world. Nearly one of every four people (1.3 billion – a majority of humanity), lives on less than £1 per day. For them, hunger is real. There are three reasons for this situation: 1) The unwillingness of the rich people and wealthy countries to share their blessings with poor and the needy. 2) The unjust distribution of wealth, enabling the rich to become richer and allow the poor to get poorer. 3) The exorbitant military spending of rich and poor nations. Although the food in the world should suffice to feed God's children, it will never suffice to fill the greed of men. By describing how Jesus miraculously fed five thousand people using the sacrificial sharing of his lunch by a boy, today's Gospel challenges us to plan what we can do to feed the hungry in the world around us by changing the way we live, personally and as a community. Mahatma Gandhi said once, "*To the poor man, God does not appear except in the form of bread and in the promise of work.*" The Eucharist renews the deepest springs of our humanity by a story of bread broken and eaten for the life of the world. "Gather up the fragments so that nothing gets wasted." Global solutions lie beyond us, which is why we need to remember *the lesson of the fragments*. If we can put a little new heart into our efforts to live a bit more simply, if we can become conscious of our wastefulness of world resources, we can make a difference. Again, we remember the words of Gandhi: "*Live simply so that others may simply live.... You must be the change you want to see in the world.*"



The Clonard Community are inviting applicants for the post of Coordinator of Youth Ministry. Details can be found on the Clonard website. www.clonard.com



**We thank you for last week's Collection which came to £2,186.
Also for your kind donations, online and by post.**

Feast Days this week:

Monday 29th: Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus

Wednesday 31st: St Ignatius of Loyola

Friday 2nd August: St Peter Julian Eymard