



Twenty-First Sunday of the Year 24th August 2025



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MASS TIMES AT CLONARD Public Mass and Masses via Webcam

Sunday 7:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am and 12:30pm

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 7:00am, 9:30am and 6:15pm

Thursday (Novena) 7:00am, 9:30am, 6:15pm and 8:00pm

Saturday 7:00am, 9:30am and 12:00 noon. **Sunday Vigil Mass** 7:30pm



DAY OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION FOR GAZA – SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

The Irish Bishops are encouraging us to set aside this **Sunday, August 24**, as a **Day of Prayer and Reflection for Gaza** and for a renewed commitment by the international community for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Here at **Clonard**, there will be a special time of prayer in the presence of the **Blessed Sacrament** here in the church from **3.00pm-4.00pm**. *All are welcome.*

A SPECIAL CELEBRATION

For The Canonization
Of Blessed Carlo Acutis

Veneration of
his statue and
a blessing
with his Relic

With music from our
Carlo Acutis Choir

AT THE SUNDAY 12 NOON MASS
7TH SEPTEMBER 2025

ST. PAUL'S PARISH
Falls Road, Belfast



Jubilee Year of HOPE

Diocese of Down & Connor

'Celebration of Youth'

A time of prayer
and reflection led by
Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ

FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2025
7:15 PM – 8.30 PM
CLONARD MONASTERY, BELFAST

All youth and young adults welcome!

Queen's University Belfast
Catholic Chaplaincy



REFLECTION: Luke 13:22-30 People from every nation can enter in by the "narrow door"

In today's Gospel Jesus gives us a stark image of a narrow door. He reminds us that entry into the Kingdom of God isn't automatic, it requires conscious effort and intention. The "narrow door" represents embracing Christ's path, it isn't about exclusivity, it's not enough to simply know about Jesus, we're called to know Him personally and live out His teachings in our daily lives. Jesus is asked "if only a few people will be saved," and Jesus' answer is clear, "Strive to enter through the narrow door." This is a personal call for us to intentionality follow Him by our actions and deeds.

In our modern, convenience-driven world, full of distractions, we often look for the easy path; to settle for surface-level faith by attending Mass occasionally, saying a quick prayer, or assuming we're "good people." But Jesus challenges us to go deeper. He invites us to examine our hearts and ask "Am I truly living as a disciple?" This requires us to make an effort, to live according to his teachings, even when it's challenging. It should be our daily choice to live with integrity, to forgive when it's hard, to be generous when no one is watching, to love when it costs us something. The passage ends with a powerful exchange: "the last will be first, and the first will be last." This reminds us that God's standards are not our own. Our social status, wealth, or worldly success means nothing at the "narrow door." What matters is the quiet, daily effort we make to follow Christ. This Weeks Challenge is to think of one area in your life where you've been taking "the easy way out" instead of striving for what's right. Perhaps it's a difficult conversation you've been avoiding or a charitable act you've been putting off, or it might mean offering a sincere compliment, listening actively and fully to someone in need instead of multitasking, practicing patience with a difficult person or forgiving someone without expecting an apology or response. These small, consistent, intentional acts allow us to take that small, intentional step towards the "narrow door." Remember, the door may be narrow, but it's always open and Jesus is waiting on the other side.

RENOVATION OF RECEPTION AT CLONARD

During this coming week, final preparations will be made for the renovation of the Reception Area of the monastery. This will cause some inconvenience and, no doubt, there will be some confusion. We *thank you* for your patience and understanding.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Wednesday 27th: **St Monica**

Thursday 28th: **St Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church**

Friday 29th: **The Passion of St John the Baptist**

We *thank you* for last week's collections which came to £2,568 for Clonard and £857 for the Diocesan. Also for your kind donations, online and by post.

