

Church of St. MacNissi

ANTRIM PASTORAL COMMUNITY

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Sunday 31st May 2020



WEBCAM STREAMED SERVICES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday 6pm Vigil & 10.00am

DAILY MASS

Monday, Wednesday to Friday 9.30am

Tuesday 7pm

ADORATION

Daily 10.00am - 12 noon

In the present quarantine you might find it helpful to access some of our parish liturgical moments on the web cam www.mcnmedia.tv go to '**Northern Ireland**' - **Antrim-Randalstown**

MONTHS MIND; Alex McVeigh Sat.30th May 6pm
Donna Brady Sun. 10am

ANNIVERSARIES;

Gerard Keenan, Jane McNally, Robbie O'Neill, Hugh Robb, Mary Drain, John Close, Bridie Toal, John Close, Maureen McCormack, Mary Hughes, Rita Fullen, Elizabeth O'Kane, Kathleen McQuillan, Annie Wilkinson

Intentions Vincent Totten 6pm Sat 6th June

Church access for private prayer

Due to the generosity of some parish volunteers it has been possible to have our church open for private prayer. Please accept guidance from the stewards who help to make this come about during the protective "lock-down" Nevertheless we are still required to be vigilant and that necessitates careful sanitation and respecting 'social distancing'.

Our opening times for private prayer are **10am -2pm 6.30pm -8pm** (except Tues)
It is a great privilege to get back into our church - even if it is limited for private prayer. To extend access times - and to be professional we are in urgent need for more parishioners to **supervise/ facilitate** the

present opening times.

If you would like to help we would be grateful if you would indicate your possible availability and call the co-ordinator

Margaret on **078 4530 2062**

And OUR CEMETERY:

While visiting please protect yourself and others **OBSERVE SOCIAL DISTANCING**

During actual burials access is restricted to the funeral party - a maximum of 10 family members

Please respect grieving families by not visiting at these times

Trócaire box returns

COVID-19 restrictions have meant that it has been difficult to return Lenten boxes. Trócaire urgently need our support to deliver their life-saving programmes, including helping to keep the poorest and most vulnerable people in the planet safe from the Coronavirus.

You may return your box to our church during the times of opening, or drop it off at the Office.

Alternatively, simply count or estimate what is in your box and make a donation in one of these easy ways:

- 1/ Online at trocaire.org
- 2/ Over the phone at 0800 912 1200 (NI)
- 3/ By post at Trócaire, 50 King Street, Belfast, BT1 6AD

Please visit **trocaire.org/trocairebox** for more information. Thank you.

One more thing, there has been a good return of envelopes since last week. We noticed during the count that many parishioners had been very generous and for that we are enormously proud of you for your thoughtfulness to very poor people.

HOWEVER... (as *they* say!) quite a few of those cash donations could have earned a 25% uplift from our friends in HMRC.

So if you have been so generous and you still pay tax you might still wish to complete a simple declaration - (available in the porch) all it needs is the amount you donated, your name and address and Trocaire will do the rest.

Grateful thanks to God.

We are very heartened to see that our friend and parishioner, Gerard McLarnon, who we have prayed for - has been moved out of the Nightingale hospital - free at last and into recovery.

It was with enormous joy that we saw Gerard being 'applauded out' of his original ward. A parishioner from another part of the diocese who does not even know him e-mailed to say that she cried with joy when she saw the footage.

We continue to pray for Gerard's road to recovery and look forward to when he is reunited to his family and to our parish community.



Pope Francis call us to pray this week

"#PrayTogether today for those who have died because of the pandemic, and in a special way for the anonymous dead"



Thank you for all your support and encouragement. If you wish to make a direct payment/ debit to the parish account details are as follows

Danske Bank 42 High Street Antrim Bt 41 4AP
Account name **Church of St MacNissis**
Sort Code **95-04-31**
A/c number **11000861**



My Jesus I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul. Since I can't now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you. Never permit me to be separated from you Amen

The timing and origins of Pentecost

Pentecost always occurs 50 days after the death and resurrection of Jesus, and ten days after his ascension into heaven Pentecost can fall anywhere between May 10 and June 13.

The timing of these feasts is also where us Catholics get the concept of the Novena - nine days of prayer - because in Acts 1, Mary and the Apostles prayed together "continuously" for **nine days** after the Ascension leading up to Pentecost.

Happy Birthday, Church

It was after Pentecost that Peter, inspired by the Holy Spirit, preached his first homily to Jews and other non-believers. According to the account in Acts, about 3,000 people were baptised following Peter's sermon.

For this reason, Pentecost is considered the **birthday of the Church** - The apostles and believers, for the first time, were united by a common language, and a common zeal and purpose to go and preach the Gospel.

Pentecost vestments and customs around the world

Typically, priests will wear red vestments on Pentecost, symbolic of the tongues of fire that descended on the apostles.

An Italian Pentecost tradition is to scatter rose leaves from the ceiling of the churches to recall the miracle of the fiery tongues. In France, it is tradition to blow trumpets during Mass to recall the sound of the driving wind of the Holy Spirit.

In Asia, it is typical to have an extra service, called genuflexion, during which long poems and prayers are recited.

In Russia, Mass goers often carry flowers or green branches during Pentecost services.