

# St. Nicholas News

Francis Street Parish, Dublin 8. ---- 01-4530387 ---- 01-5611390



23rd Sunday Ordinary Time 08 September 2019

## UNCLEAR WHETHER CHURCH HAS FUTURE IN IRELAND



Refusal to face the truth about the state of the Catholic Church in Ireland is “a form of religious treason”, a founder member of the Association of Catholic Priests has said. Fr Brendan Hoban has claimed those in the church who wanted to move forwards “can no longer afford to indulge those who cling to the wreckage of the

past”. Writing in the current edition of the Jesuit quarterly *Studies*, he said that “for the Irish Catholic Church, the tectonic plates really have shifted” but people were still “trying to build a scaffolding around a house that has already collapsed. “All the targeted parish programmes, all the parish councils in the world, all the experts sitting in offices with secretaries and computers, all the prayers in Christendom, won’t put the old church back together again. Its day is done,” he said. Fr Hoban writes that the two papal visits, in 1979 and 2018, “bookended the decline of Irish Catholicism; the first falsely promising the beginning of a new glorious age of Irish Catholicism; and the latter announcing the end of a version of Catholicism no longer acceptable to the vast majority of Irish Catholics”. The focus now had to be “on intellectual rigour; on a communicable theology that connects with the lived experience of people; on a robust commitment to a respectful re-imagining of our church; on an honest acknowledgement that clergy in the interests of the gospel need to divest their control and authority; and on a consensus that a robust synodality is the obvious and only way forward.” He writes that “the jury is out on whether the Irish Catholic Church has a discernible future, apart from a ceremonial presence on the official sidelines of Irish life or a refuge for those ill at ease with the modern world. “Because its presence as such, apart from being a convenient scapegoat for the ills of Irish society, has virtually disappeared in the media, in public debate, in modern Irish writing, in the lives of the young. Once we mattered too much in too many ways, now we’ve moved beyond antipathy into apathy.” Fr Hoban’s article can be found at [www.associationofcatholicpriests.ie](http://www.associationofcatholicpriests.ie)

*Courtesy Patsy McGarry, Irish Times*

## NEW ACADEMIC POST AT TCD TO BE NAMED AFTER FR. TONY COOTE



Trinity College Dublin has announced the creation of a new Fr Tony Coote Assistant Professor in Motor Neuron Disease Research. In a statement, the university said “the Motor Neuron Disease team at Trinity College Dublin mourns the death of Fr Tony Coote but his name and legacy will live on with the appointment of Dr Bahman Nassereloslami as the Tony Coote Assistant Professor in Motor Neuron Disease (MND)”. “Dr Nassereloslami has already made breakthrough discoveries in brain wave signalling in MND, and his work will help to

drive the quest for new and more effective treatments,” the statement said. Fr Coote was diagnosed with MND by Professor Orla Hardiman, Professor of Neurology at Trinity College in March 2018 and he died on August 28th last.

*Courtesy Patsy McGarry, Irish Times*

## POPE ACKNOWLEDGES AMERICAN CRITICISM OF HIM

In an offhand remark on the papal plane en route to Mozambique, Pope Francis acknowledged the sharp opposition he has faced from conservative Catholic detractors in the United States, calling it an “an honour that the Americans attack me”. His remark came at the start of a six-day trip to Africa, as the pope shook hands in the back of the plane with a French reporter who handed him a copy of his new book *How America Wanted to Change the Pope*.

## NOTICES

### Money Matters

Sunday 01 September 2019

Thank you for your contributions.

1st Collection: p260

2nd Collection: p330

Family Offering: p652

Crosscare: p95



### Remembered at Mass

Sat 6pm: Betty Keogh Birthday Remembrance, Margaret Graham, Teresa, Christopher & Richard Dowling, Billy Graham & Deceased Members, John Kelly.

Sun 11.30am: Anne Shelley, George Shelley, Fr. Des Forristal.



### St. Vincent de Paul

The monthly collection for the local St. Vincent de Paul takes place this weekend. All donations are used locally. Thank you for your continued generous support.



### Young Christian Workers (YCW)

will host an information evening for Parishes interested in forming small groups of young adults (18-30 yrs.) who will meet on a regular basis in their Parish community using the YCW method of See, Judge, Act. These groups will reflect on their lives in the light of the Gospel, using the YCW’s latest programme “Be The Change” to plan and implement actions in response to their needs and the needs of their Parish. This is a free event for Clergy, Pastoral Councils or individuals wishing to accompany young adults as they journey through the programme. Information on possible means of making contact, forming and sustaining groups will be provided

along with information on our new programme. Takes place Thursday 26th September at 7:30pm in St. Pauls Church Arran Quay. You can register for this event through Eventbrite [www.eventbrite.ie](http://www.eventbrite.ie) or by contacting YCW at [info@ycw.ie](mailto:info@ycw.ie)



### Anam Cara South Dublin

the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Support Event on 9 September at 7:20pm in the Maldron Hotel, Whitestown way, Tallaght. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. For more information, see [anamcara.ie](http://anamcara.ie) or call our Information Line on 085-2888 888



### A Liberties Cleanup Day

SICCCA Community Clean Up Day Saturday, September 21, Meet at Little Flower, 11 Meath St, D8 -10:30am Clean up: 11:00am - 1pm Post Clean Up Refreshments: 1-2:30pm Contact Kathleen 01 453 6098, email [kwhite@siccca.ie](mailto:kwhite@siccca.ie) or call into SICCCA, 90 Meath Street.



### Student Accommodation Scheme Proposed for Newmarket

A planning application has been submitted to An Bord Pleanála under the Strategic Housing Development process for development of a site bounded by St Luke's Avenue, Ardee Street, Newmarket and Brabazon Street. The proposed development comprises 368 student accommodation bedspaces with associated facilities and a co-working shared space with associated café (325 sq m); set within three blocks ranging in height from 2 to 8 storeys (12,248 sq m). This site forms part of a larger site that received permission for student housing in 2017. Details of the planning application can be found at [www.ardeepointshd.ie](http://www.ardeepointshd.ie) Submissions on the application can be made to An Bord Pleanála by 7th October 2019.



## TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

### A reading from the book of Wisdom

'What person indeed can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens? As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and people been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.'

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

## Psalm 89

**O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.**

You turn people back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons and daughters of people.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night R/

Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. R/

In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. R/

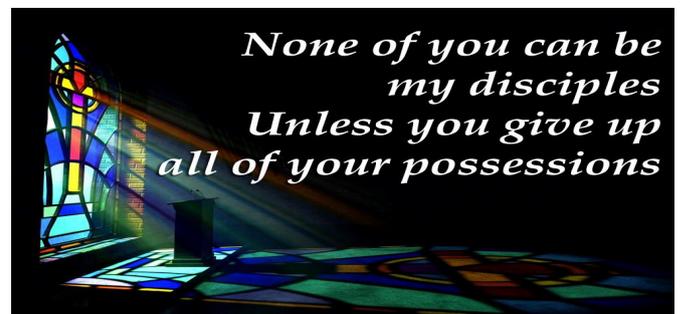
### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Let your face shine on your servant,  
and teach me your decrees.  
Alleluia!

### A reading from the Gospel of Luke

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. If anyone comes to me without hating their father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and thier own life too, they cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry their cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. 'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if you had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if you laid the foundation and then found yourself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of you and saying, "This is the person who started to build and was unable to finish". Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand people he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless you give up all your possessions.

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

To a person who hesitated to embark on the spiritual quest for fear of the effort and renunciation the Master said: "How much effort does it take to open one's eyes and see?"

From "One Minute Wisdom" by Anthony de Mello