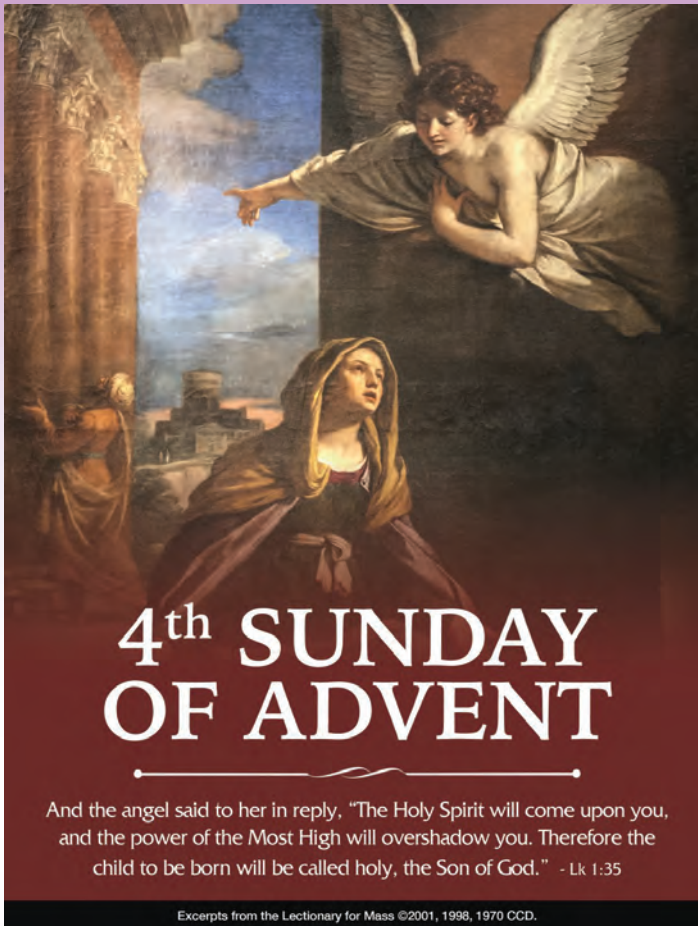


St. Brigid's Blanchardstown, Parish Newsletter.

4th Sunday of Advent /Christmas Day –24/25th Dec, 2017



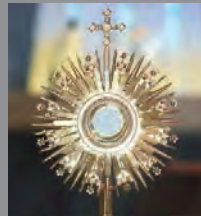
SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Luke 1:26-38

1. We are all favoured ones and God is with us. Sometimes we are more aware of this than others. How have you experienced being a favoured person, one blessed by God? How have you experienced God's presence? Who has been Gabriel to you – a messenger of good news?
2. 'Do not be afraid.' Mary was perplexed by the words of the angel. Perhaps you too have sometimes been perplexed by life's path and wondered what it all meant. Perhaps at times you have doubted if God was really with you. In your troubled moments who has been an 'angel' helping to lower your anxiety?
3. Mary was taken by surprise by the invitation, but she did not tell the angel she was not ready, nor ask him to return later. She was prepared to go with the invitation even though it was not the 'right moment'. 'Here I am Lord.' What invitations have come to you at the 'wrong time' and how have you responded?
4. Mary's response serves as a model for us – she is one who says 'yes' to what life offers. What is it like for you to say 'yes' to life? Perhaps at this moment in your life you are being invited to say 'Here I am, Lord'?

John Byrne osa

Saturday 6th/7th January 2018



Father Gary Holmes, Missionary of the Most Holy Eucharist, will preach at all Masses. He will give a talk on Eucharistic Adoration with Q /A after Sunday evening Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration will resume on Tuesdays and Fridays in the New Year



The parish Team and Staff of St. Brigid's wish you and yours every blessing of the Christmas season and Peace and Joy in the New Year

Beannachtaí na Nollaig oraibh go léir agus Síocháin san Ath Bhliain



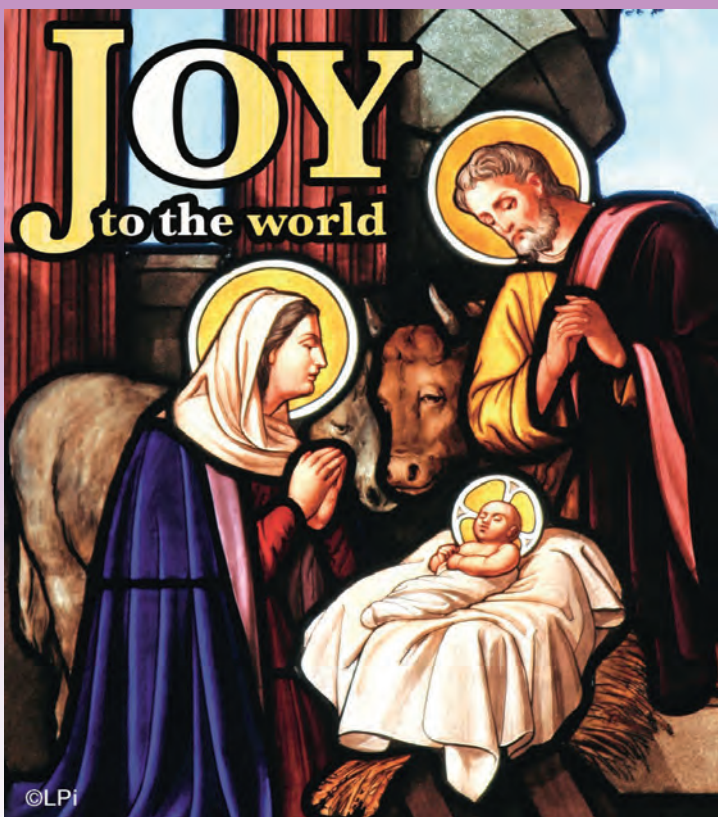
Contact details: Fr. Mangan: 01 8213660 Fr Casey: 01 8213716

Jim Adams (Deacon) 086 2232411 Máirín Keegan (Pastoral Worker) 01 8115414

Office: 01 8115412 / Sacristy: 01 8238354 mail: office@blanchardstownparish.ie



Please spread the word to family, friends (both at home and abroad), those housebound and also young families with smart devices All church services over the Festive Season are available on the internet via www.blanchardstownparish.ie



"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." Merry Christmas! Jesus is born! Today we rejoice that this new life, this infant God, has come to be "the light of the human race." He is here to shine in the darkness of our sin and sadness, to bring joy and peace in place of sorrow. We celebrate this day with all the energy we have because we know that Christmas truly means good news! Many of us have topped our trees with a bright star that helps to light up our homes, especially at nighttime. These stars should be more than just plastic decorations, however! They should also shine as reminders to us of the Star of Bethlehem that announced the coming of Christ. What better way to welcome the Light of the World than with that magnificent star? And just as the Magi found their way to Jesus by following the light of that star, so we too have a heavenly guide to follow: Jesus himself! We have his words and teachings recorded for us in Scripture, his actions and directives preserved through the Tradition of the Church, and the guidance of his Spirit to assist us along the way. And all of these gifts are ours because of Christmas! Because the "Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us."

As we exchange gifts with our loved ones on this special day, may we remember all of these wonderful things we have already received. And may we strive to give to our family and friends not only the treasures that come in boxes and bags, but also a share in the greatest gifts of God: forgiveness, mercy and the unconditional love that brings joy enough to last the whole year through.

OUR RED BOXES



Many thanks for your generosity with our Red Boxes. The total count so far this year comes to just over €2,755. This money goes towards projects associated with the upkeep and maintenance of our Church and Pastoral Centre.

Christmas Day Arrangements 2017

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Sun. 24th Dec: 7.00 p.m. VIGIL MASS

led by the Family Mass Team.

9.20 p.m. Carol Service*

10.00 p.m. NIGHT MASS*

Monday 25th: Masses at 9, 10.30* & 12 noon

(Christmas Day):

NO EVENING MASS

Tue. 26th (St. Stephen's Day) - Fri. 29th Mass @ 11.00 a.m.

Sat. 30th Morning Mass 11am, vigil Mass for Sunday 7pm

Sun. 31st Mass at 9, 10.30, 12 noon and 7pm

Mon. 1st Jan 2018: Mass at 11 am

Tue. 2nd Jan 2018: normal 10am Mass resumes

Fri. 6th The Epiphany: Mass at 10 am with

Vigil Mass at 7pm on Fri. 5th Jan



OÍCHE NOLLAG 2017 -

AIFREANN NA GINE

Dé Domhnaigh, 24 Nollaig

Masses in Irish, Christmas Eve

Sunday, 24th December 2017

Ard Aidhin Aireagal an Aiséir

Bothar na Cille Móire, Baile Atha Cliath 5 7.30pm (Artane Oratory of the Resurrection, Kilmore Road, D 5

Belfield—An Séipéal Ollscoile

An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath 4 9.00pm

Belfield University Chapel, University College, D 4

Christmas GOAL Charity Mile

Join fellow-parishioners and friends for a run/walk/jog in aid of GOAL'S humanitarian and development work in developing countries on **Christmas Day at the Pope's Cross, Phoenix Park**, any time from **10.30 to 12 Noon**.

MEDJUGORJE IRISH CENTRE PILGRIMAGES 2018: 7 nights B&B and Airport Shuttle service from €279 per person. Book any flight - any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service. Call us for further info and book the dates that suit you. Tel. 01 4434510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com.

Movement Therapy for People with Parkinson's Disease.

Movement Therapy Classes with Mr. Pat O'Dea, through exercise, dance and enjoyment Wednesdays at 4.30 pm St. Brigid's Community Centre, Blanchardstown All welcome— bring a friend or relative.



Welcome to
Andrei Denis
Charlie, Sadie
Rebeka and Natas

Who were recently baptised



Monday morning Meditation

resumes with Máirín,
 our Parish Pastoral Worker
 after the 10 am Mass and Rosary on
 Monday 8th January 2018

A good opportunity to get some quiet time
 and kick start your new year

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

MASS OF ALL NATIONS
SUNDAY 22ND JANUARY 2018 12 NOON



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Remember your neighbour this Christmas.



ALONE encourages us all to check on our elderly neighbours this festive season. If you are concerned about an older person in your community,

phone a member of **ALONE** on 01 679 1032.

LIVING LINKS SUICIDE BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

1st Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m.
 Dublin Central Mission, 9 c Abbey St. Lower, Dublin 1.
 Adults over the age of 18 are very welcome to attend.
 Facilitated by trained volunteers from **Living Links Ireland**.
 Opportunity to share and discuss all aspects of complicated grief associated with the aftermath of a suicide death **Help is available**. For more information or if you wish to attend our group,

Tel: 086 937 1030 / 087 243 3738.

Mass Inten-
tions

Dec 25th

Dec 31st

Sat. 7pm		Caitríona Farrell
Sun 9am		Joe Dowling
10.30am	Joe & Ellen Carleton	Brigid Heskin
12 noon	Peter Scully	Noel Collins
7pm		Margaret Ffrench

READERS FOR 25TH DEC

10pm: Christine Carleton 9am: Kathleen Brennan
 10.30: Tony Devlin 12 noon: Eamonn Burke

READERS FOR DEC 31st

7pm: Michael Hanratty 9am: Kevin Cullen
 10.30am: Gwen Cruise 12 noon: Sheila Gouldson
 7pm: Saritha Moras

REMEMBER TO TAKE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH YOU AS YOU LEAVE THE CHURCH AND KEEP AN EYE ON THE SPONSORS ON THE BACK.

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BACK TO SCHOOL ESSENTIALS



OPENING HOURS

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Monday	9a.m. - 9p.m.
Tuesday	9a.m. - 9p.m.
Wednesday	9a.m. - 9p.m.
Thursday	9a.m. - 9p.m.
Friday	9a.m. - 9p.m.
Saturday	9a.m. - 6p.m.

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