

St. Brigid's Blanchardstown, Parish Newsletter.

1st Sunday of Advent—3rd Dec, 2017



Advent Week 1

As you light the first candle in the Advent wreath, take a slow deep breath. Remember that achieving the perfectly orchestrated holiday doesn't matter. What matters is watching for God in every situation.

THE DEEP END: Keep Awake

We are surrounded these days by the commercial 'circus' of Christmas shopping and 'getting ready'. It might seem far removed from the story that we are celebrating; the story of a poor refugee family 2,000 years ago who had a very special delivery. The story of God choosing to intervene in human history in such an intimate and shocking way; God choosing to be born into a situation of poverty and danger. It is good to ask ourselves at this time of year, what are we getting ready for? Advent is a wonderful season which invites us to use our waiting to grow spiritually. We are invited to make space for ourselves and for God in the midst of the rushing. Can we stop and be still and ask ourselves: 'Where do I see God being born around me

today?' In those I meet? In kind words and gestures? In my community? In my own heart?


Have a more 'aware' Advent. Be mindful in all you do. Be aware in your rushing, be aware as you stand in that queue, be aware as you eat, be aware of your feelings, be aware of your thoughts. By watching all of this we become more awake, more able to recognise our true selves and more able to see God being born continuously each day within us and around us. Our awe and wonder grows and we can be prepared for the coming of the Gift himself. How we prepare determines what will be.

Jane Mellett

ONLINE ADVENT RETREAT

ADVENT WORDS and ADVENT PEOPLE

A SERIES OF FIVE TALKS THIS DECEMBER
BY REVD JOHN LITTLETON

 (01) 404 8124

 enquiries@prioryinstitute.com

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THE PRIORY INSTITUTE
A Dominican Centre for Theological Studies



Annual Christmas Collection for the St. Vincent de Paul replaces the Share collection at all Masses next weekend - 9th/10th Dec.

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

website: www.blanchardstownparish.ie

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



Monday morning Meditation

resumes this Monday with Máirín, our Parish Pastoral Worker

We ask you to remember in your prayers Fr. Pat , St. Teresa and all our parishioners who are ill, in hospital or housebound at this time



Divine Mercy Prayer Group

7pm Monday nights in the Fr. Dungan Room, Pastoral Centre
All are welcome

God made you to be the answer to someone else's prayers. Keep your eyes open.

www.still-speaks.com
[facebook.com/StillSpeaks](https://www.facebook.com/StillSpeaks)



Trócaire's Home Truth exhibition will be on in the Pastoral Centre after all the Masses on the 2nd and 3rd of December.

This exhibition sheds light on the forced displacement of Palestinian communities in the West Bank, with a particular focus on the demolition of Palestinian homes by the Israeli military, and the impact this has on the lives of those affected. Since 1967, Israel has demolished over 48,000 Palestinian homes and other structures in the occupied Palestinian territories. In 2016 alone over 7,000 Palestinians were affected by demolitions.



Annual Night Vigil in Knock In honour of

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Lady

Bus leaves Church Ave. Blanchardstown
Thu. 7th Dec . at 4 30pm.

Booking **Michael Frawley 086 8650708**

Intention: *those recently deceased and bereaved families.*



REMEMBER OUR RED BOXES

Please donate any loose change, spare coins

Blanchardstown Music Ministry presents

O Night Divine!

An evening of some of the most beautiful Christmas Music ever written

Blanchardstown Parish Choirs

Eoin Tiemey Organ

Blanchardstown Brass Band

Mary Mac Gabhann Soprano

Bob Linehan Tenor

St. Brigid's Church - Blanchardstown
Friday December 15th 2017 8.00 p.m.

Donations on door gratefully received



proceeds in aid of
Simon Community & Crosscare



You are invited to join us in Prayer

FOR THE PROTECTION OF LIFE AND FAMILY

during Eucharistic Adoration
every Tuesday and Friday
2.00—2.30 p.m.

Movement Therapy for People with Parkinsons' Disease.

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



ACCOMMODATION FOR FAMILIES

Could you host a family?

The World Meeting of Families 2018 organisers are actively seeking offers for accommodation for overseas pilgrims in family homes in the Dublin area, particularly areas with good bus or rail links. If you are interested in hosting Pilgrims or a family in your home please email volunteer@worldmeeting2018.ie with 'Host a family' in the subject line



Welcome to
**Alannah Louise, Elise Leah,
 Liam Michael, Daragh and
 Lily Magdalena**
 Who were recently baptised



Aware, the national organisation providing support, education and information services for those impacted by depression and bipolar disorder, is **urgently seeking 100 new volunteers**. Aware relies on the passion and dedication of its volunteers to ensure that the organisation can continue to provide free support services nationwide, essential services that have a profound impact on individuals and families throughout Ireland.

Aware is currently recruiting volunteers across its four support services – **Support Line, Support Mail, Support & Self Care Groups and Life Skills Online**. No prior qualifications or experience is required, as comprehensive training as well as ongoing support and education is provided by the organisation. For more information, please visit aware.ie/volunteer or call 01 6617211.



MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on wheels service
 KARE provides a hot nutritious main meal and a delightful dessert delivered to your door. Volunteer drivers deliver at lunch time, Monday to Friday.

Meals are also cooked and served in our local community kitchens, if you would prefer to join us to eat and have a chat.

Meals are available from one to five days.



If you would like to avail of our meals delivery service we can arrange for you to talk to one of our meals on wheels representatives.

Or why not volunteer.

If you have your own transport, and can spare one hour per week please do contact **Catherine** on 01-8058574

KARE SOCIAL SERVICES

2 Sybil Hill Road,
 Raheny
 Dublin 5

TEL:01-8058574

Email

info@karesocialservices.ie

READERS FOR Dec 3rd

- 7pm: Kevin Cullen
- 9am: Maeve O'Donoghue
- 10.30am: Alice O'Connell
- 12 noon: Mary Brady
- 7pm: Michael Hanratty

OLV Gospel Choir

sing for

St. Francis Hospice

Friday 8th Dec. @ 8pm

Here in St. Brigid's Church. Admission €10



Mass Intentions

Dec 3rd

Dec 10th

Sat. 7pm	Brian Clarke	Kathleen & Michael Kelly
Sun 9am	Terence O'Brien	Aileen & Gerard Madden
10.30am	John & Josephine Brooks	Kevin Nugent
12 noon	John Dredge	Marie McCabe
7pm	Kathleen O'Halloran	Noel & Patrick Nugent

AFTERNOON OF REFLECTION AND PRAYER

The **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS** are invited to an afternoon of reflection and prayer on Sunday the 10th of December at 2.30 pm in the Pastoral Centre. The Eucharist will be celebrated, and the day will conclude with refreshments at 5.00pm. Please let Christine in the office know if you can attend, as soon as possible.

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MINISTER OF THE EUCHARIST? This might be an opportune occasion to find out more .

Ph. 8115412 or email office@blanchardstownparish.ie



Please spread the word to family, friends and those housebound and also young families with smart devices All church services are now available on the internet via www.blanchardstownparish.ie

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Blanchardstown Centre
01 822 6040



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Online Theology Course

Open Day

Saturday 9th December

INTERESTED?

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ALL ARE WELCOME

Call (01) 404 8124

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Sunday - 11:30-18:00

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Phone: (01) 640 5740

BACK TO SCHOOL ESSENTIALS



OPENING HOURS

Sunday	10a.m. - 3p.m.
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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