

St. Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

2nd Sunday of Advent—5th December 2021

PREPARE
A WAY FOR THE LORD
LUKE 3:4

This Week's Readings

1st: Baruch 5: 1-9 **Psalm:** 125 **R/** What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad
2nd: Phillipians: 1: 3-6, 8-11
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!
Gospel: Luke 3: 1-6

CURRENT MASS SCHEDULE

Monday—Friday Mass: 10am preceded by the Rosary at 9.35am church opens at 9.30am and closes at 5pm
Saturday: church opens for private prayer at 10am
Vigil Mass at 7pm
Sunday Mass at 10.30am* & 12 noon

Services available on www.blanchardstownparish.ie/webcam
*also available on Phoenix Radio—92.5FM

Confession—The Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation will be available every Saturday during the Season of Advent. Confessions from Saturday 11th December from 10.30am to 11.00am

Eucharistic Adoration—Tuesdays and Fridays after the 10am Mass until 5pm.

New Evening Mass Schedule for the Greater Blanchardstown Area from 1st December at 7.30

Mulhuddart – Monday, Castleknock – Tuesday
Blanchardstown – Wednesday
Castleknock – Thursday, Corduff – Friday

Please remember: mask, sanitise, safe distance.



Feast of the Immaculate Conception - Dec 8th

We celebrate Mary, who, from the first instance of her existence in the womb of her mother Anne, was 'by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God, and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the human race, preserved free from all stain of original sin'.

Mass times are as follows:

Tuesday 7th December (Vigil) at 7.00pm.
Wednesday 8th December 10.00am and 7.30pm

FROM THE PASTORS DESK THE SEASON OF ADVENT



Advent stillness before - Christmas

Advent is a season of attentiveness. We wait in a spirit of calm expectation, with our eyes wide open in gentle alertness, for the unfolding of the gifts that Jesus has prepared for us. A Christmas song tells children 'you better watch out'. In the Gospel of Mark, for the first Sunday of Advent, Jesus challenges us to 'stay awake'. These two phrases have something in common – being alert and being attentive. What is this attentiveness like? Is it noticing the peace that comes when we create the right environment – no phone or radio or T.V. – some gentle music – a candle – a quiet place or are feeling more chilled out as the season moves forward. Is it about hearing God crying from the wilderness of our mindlessness – speaking words of promise, encouragement and renewal? Is it paying attention to the people in our lives who we might take for granted? This attentive standing back sometimes reveals the other person in a new light – their presence illuminated by the glow of their constancy, the warmth of their support or the unnamed security of their being there. As we count our gifts we are mindful for ways to offer what we have received. 'You received without charge, give without charge'. (Source: Unknown)

Jesse Tree Symbols with Scripture - Advent Week Two

Sunday 5th Dec. – Jacob—Ladder- Genesis 28:10-17

Monday 6th Dec. – Rachel—Shepherd's Crook - Genesis 29:9-12

Tuesday 7th Dec. – Joseph—Colourful Coat - Genesis 37:3

Wednesday 8th Dec. – Moses—Burning Bush - Exodus 3:1-6

Thursday 9th Dec. – Miriam—Music Notes - Exodus 15:20-21

Friday 10th Dec. – Deborah—Palm Tree - Judges 4:4-5

Saturday 11th Dec. – Samuel—Lamp - 1 Samuel 3:1-3

Hope versus Optimism

Advent is a season of Hope. Hope is not the same thing as optimism. Optimism is the expectation that things will get better, whatever the situation. Hope is the trust that God will fulfill the promises he has made to us in his way and in his time.

Weekly Candles on Advent Wreath - 2nd Week – (purple)

THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF PEACE – God kept his promise of a Saviour who would be born in Bethlehem. We work for peace because Jesus is the 'Prince of Peace' and he calls his children to work for peace in his name.

On the second Sunday of Advent and we light the candle of Peace Lord Jesus, Light of the World, the prophets said you would bring peace and save your people from trouble. Give peace in our hearts at Christmastide. We ask that you would remain present with us. Help us today, and everyday to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will, sharing your peace with each other. We ask this in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen

During the Season of Advent Mass in our beautiful Pastoral Centre in Pelletstown at 7.30pm On Thursdays 9th; 16th and 23rd December. All are most welcome.

ADVENT SEASON

An extract from "Advent 1955" by
John Betjeman

Some ways indeed are very odd
By which we hail the birth of God.

We raise the price of things in shops,
We give plain boxes fancy tops
And lines which traders cannot sell
Thus parcell'd go extremely well

We dole out bribes we call a present
To those to whom we must be pleasant
For business reasons.

Our defence is
These bribes are charged against expenses
And bring relief in Income Tax
Enough of these unworthy cracks!

'The time draws near the birth of Christ'.
A present that cannot be priced
Given two thousand years ago
Yet if God had not given so
He still would be a distant stranger
And not the Baby in the manger.



Lectio Divina takes place each Wednesday of Advent from 11am to 12 noon. If you would like join register with Máirín—
mairin.keegan@dublindiocese.ie



Advent Wreath packs still available at €5 each A Zoom tutorial with Dolores and Mary which will guide you is available on <https://vimeo.com/482573789>

Email photos of the finished wreath to mairin.keegan@dublindiocese.ie we can post them on our website and on **Wreaths can be collected from the sacristy or in the parish office. Happy Creating!**

Blanchardstown Music Ministry Presents

O Night Divine!

a concert of beautiful Christmas Music both Sacred and Secular with
Blanchardstown Parish Choirs
John White - Conductor
Blanchardstown Brass Band
Zdeněk Ondráček - Conductor

Eoin Tierney Organ Michael Minnock Piano

Friday 10th December 2021 8.00 p.m.
Blanchardstown Parish Church
Donations at door gratefully received - (in aid of Church Funds)

PARISH CONTACTS: Fr. Carey: 8213660 Fr. Drescher: 5384969 Jim Adams (Deacon) 0862232411 Michael O'Connor (Deacon) 0872941729 Máirín Keegan (Pastoral Worker) 8115414 Sacristy: 8238354 Parish Office: 8115412 email: office@blanchardstownparish.ie website: www.blanchardstownparish.ie <https://www.facebook.com/St-Brigids-Parish-Blanchardstown-944438662375848/>

Children's Corner

Listen to John the Baptist

John the Baptist says it is our job to make Jesus' path straight and smooth. We need to get ready for Jesus. What is John saying to you? Put the words in one or more of the speech bubbles. Colour the bubbles you are going to do this week.

Share my things

say a prayer

care for others

smile

help at home

try hard

smile



Put it right

These children are doing something wrong. Unscramble the letters to find out what they need to say.



I am _____

Choose one of the children and draw how he/she will change to show that they really mean they are sorry?

In the Gospel

John the Baptist tells us to get ready to welcome Jesus by making his path straight.

A Prayer to say

Please help me, Jesus, to make the way to my heart easy for you. Help me to say "sorry" when I need to and to change the way I behave if I am selfish. Amen.



Relaunch of the Report on the Parish Pastoral Assembly this weekend. Copies of the report are available throughout the church.



Copies of the Christmas Timetable & dues envelopes are now available for delivery. We would ask our usual distributors to collect them from the pastoral centre. If you have a couple of hours to spare, your help would be much appreciated.



St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

The annual Diocesan Collection for the local conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul takes place next weekend 11th/12th Dec. Our love should extend in a very practical way to the poor. Our Lord was not born in a palace or even a semi-detached. He was born in a stable. Jesus once drew attention to his own poverty. "The birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head" (Lk. 9:58)

Fr. Peter McVerry expresses his sincere thanks for your generous donations for the homeless and the needy

We welcome our recently Baptised
HARRY, CARA & CHLOE

We remember our recently deceased Mary Carey
to live in hearts left behind is not to die

Intentions	4th/5th December
7pm	Thomas, Margaret & Siobhán Cummins John & Josephine Brooks Michael McGee
10.30	Patrick & Bridget Keane Myra French— Murphy Bernard Keville
12 noon	Kay Kettle MM Kevin Bernie & Martin Cronin Annie & Matthew Cullen The Kumar family—