



CURRENT SCHEDULE *

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:

Mass at 10am preceded by the Rosary at 9.30am, Church closes at 5pm

Monday: Area Mass at 7.30pm preceded by Rosary and Novena at 7pm

Wednesday: Liturgy of the Word at 10am

Saturday: Church opens at 10am

Vigil Mass at 6pm

Sunday Mass at 10.30am

1st Saturday of the month – 10am Mass followed by confessions until 11am

Last Tuesday of the month

- Prayer Group Mass at 8pm, all welcome

Bank Holidays: Mass 11am only

All services available on

www.blanchardstownparish.ie/webcam

Also on Phoenix Radio– 92.5FM

Eucharistic Adoration Tue & Fri 10.30am-5pm

Blanchardstown Area evening Mass 7.30pm

Mon: Blanchardstown

Tues & Thurs: Castleknock

Wed: Mulhuddart **Fri:** Corduff

* Please note that our standard schedule may be subject to some change in the current circumstances.



May, the Month of Mary

This week we shall read about Our Lady appearing to Bernadette in Lourdes:

Between 11 February and 16 July 1858, a young girl called Bernadette Soubirous experienced eighteen apparitions of the Virgin Mary in a cave on the outskirts of Lourdes, now known as the Grotto. In the course of these encounters a miraculous thing took place – a young girl became the friend and confidante of the mother of the Lord Jesus Christ. The apparitions have three phases, each with a different mood. The first seven, when the Lady first reveals herself to Bernadette, are a period of joyful discovery. Then the mood changes and the words, actions and gestures in the following five apparitions are penitential. The focus moves outwards in the last six, starting with the missionary thirteenth apparition.

Much of what happened in these exchanges is hidden: they took place largely in silence, very few words were recorded, and Bernadette maintained her natural reserve during and after the apparitions. And yet, over the course of the five months, we see the growth of an intimate relationship of trust, obedience and love. There are no specific words recorded from some of the meetings, but Bernadette fulfils her promise to go to the Grotto each day. The concept of the Immaculate Conception, in which the Virgin Mary is regarded free from original sin from the moment of her conception, had been accepted just four years previous by Pope Pius IX. Bernadette's claims garnered widespread attention, but sceptical church authorities subjected her to severe examinations and refused to accept her visions. After years of mistreatment at the hands of the authorities and the curious public, she was finally allowed to enter the convent of Notre-Dame de Nevers, where she spent her remaining years in prayer and seclusion. She died of ill health at the age of 35.

The site of her manifestations subsequently became the most famous modern shrine of the Virgin Mary, and in 1933 Marie-Bernarde Soubirous was canonised as St. Bernadette by the Roman Catholic Church. Today, millions travel to Lourdes every year to visit St. Bernadette's grotto, whose waters have curative powers. Blanchardstown Parish will travel in September to visit Lourdes with the Diocese.



Feast of the Ascension

We celebrate that the Lord's earthly mission is over, and the Easter apparitions have finished. He prepares to go to the Father and his followers will see this. He also has said that he 'would not leave them orphans', so we wonder how he is still with us. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus lives on in each person, given at baptism and confirmation. Where we give and share love in the ordinary times of our lives, when we pray to God and make time to be in the presence of God, Jesus is present. When we work for peace, justice, and when we show compassion and forgiveness – or try to forgive – each other, Jesus is present. We are not neglected by Jesus because he has gone to the Father – we are in the presence of Jesus because of the Spirit living in all of us. It's a feast that links heaven and earth. Jesus who is in heaven, also lives among us today. We pray also today that 'where he is, we one day hope to be'. The presence of Jesus ascended to the Father is an eternal presence of love for us all.

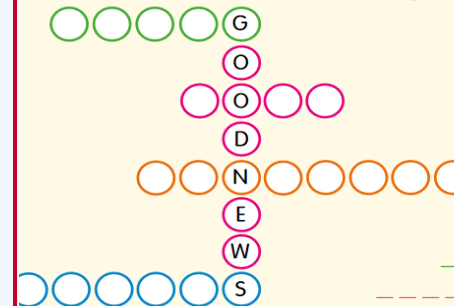
Donal Neary SJ

1st Holy Communion
Congratulations to the children of St Francis Xavier school who celebrated their First Holy Communion this weekend. Next Saturday 18th May at 11am and 1pm, the children from Scoil Bhríde Buachailli and Cailíní will receive their 1st Holy Communion. Great work and preparation has been put in by the pupils and their teachers. May the Lord continue to bless the children, their parents, families and teachers.

Children's Corner: In the Gospel Today

After rising from the dead and spending time with his friends, Jesus goes back to his Father in heaven. He leaves his disciples with a special job to do. Jesus asks his friends to tell everyone to spread his Good News everywhere.

Good news message



Choose the right words to finish the word puzzle.
LOVE KINDNESS
BRING OTHERS

Write the words in order to find a message about how you can spread **GOOD NEWS**.

_____ and _____ to _____

When you are kind and loving to people, you are sharing the **Good News**. Draw yourself being kind to your friend.



The **WHOLE WORLD** needs to know the **Good News**



I am so happy, Jesus, to know that you love me so much! Please help me to share this Good News with everyone I meet. Amen.



Mass of All Nations—Family Day Sunday 9th June.

Mulhuddart Blessing of the graves— Sunday 16th June

Annual Heritage Parish Pilgrimage. This will take place on **Saturday 22nd June** to Faughart and surrounding areas. It is a full day trip to include prayers, morning coffee and dinner on the return. We will take names from Monday 20th May. Limited availability!

Building Hope Prayer

Pilgrim God, we give you thanks and praise. You constantly journey with us even in our darkness and doubts. We seek your way of loving kindness to walk together as one family. Open our eyes to recognise you in the faces of one another, in the breaking of bread and in the splendour of creation. May the risen Christ sow seeds of hope and new life deep within us.

May our hearts and minds be filled with your Word, bringing forth truth, justice and peace. May the Holy Spirit working in and through us do much more than we can dare to imagine as we live out our baptismal calling in humble and loving service. We make this our prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us. St Laurence O'Toole, pray for us. St Kevin, pray for us. St Brigid, pray for us.



You are warmly invited to join once again with every parish in the diocese in a Novena to the Holy Spirit – our dedicated period of prayer, reflection and planning for the renewal of the Church in the Archdiocese of Dublin. The Novena will take place in the nine days from 12th – 20th May beginning on the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord, through Pentecost and continuing to the Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church. In conjunction with the Novena, on Monday, 13th May at 8pm all are invited to join the Sisters at the Monastery of St Alphonsus in Dublin 9, or via their webcam on www.rednuns.com, as they lead us in prayerful reflections drawn from the Novena Prayer Booklet and including music from the Dublin Diocesan Music Group.



The monthly outdoor collection for St Vincent de Paul Blanchardstown will be taken up this weekend at both masses.

Our Adult Discussion Group will meet on:

Wednesday 15th May @7pm

Topic for discussion this week:
Why do we anoint the sick and the dying?

Come along to enjoy just one session, or come for all the sessions.

We pray for our recently deceased,
Paddy O'Neill Vernon Leahy
Marie Hughes Don Kelly
Always loved, never forgotten



Mass intentions for the week

Saturday	Paul Kirwan (1st A)	Jimmy & Teresa Somers Sanela Angel (Intention) Richard O'Connell Noel Healy
Sunday	Aileen Canning	Liam & Teresa O'Neill Johnny & John Sr Lundy
Monday		David Cashin
Friday		Elizabeth, Thomas, Cyril, Peter, Bernie & Pauline Flynn