

St. Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

4th Sunday of Advent—19th December 2021



This Week's Readings

1st: Micah 5: 1-4
Psalm: 79 R/ God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved
2nd: Hebrews 10: 5-10
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the handmaid of the Lord: Let what you have said be done to me, Alleluia!
Gospel: Luke 1: 39-45

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 from 10.30am to 11.00am

Eucharistic Adoration—Tues. and Fri. after the 10am Mass.
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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.



Aware is the national organisation providing free support, education and information services to those impacted by anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder and related mood conditions. They are currently seeking volunteers for their Support Services. For more info <https://www.aware.ie/get-involved/volunteering/>

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

THE SEASON OF ADVENT



CHRISTMAS TREE - A Sign and Reminder of Divine Light

"God became man and came among us to dispel the shadows of sin, bringing His divine light to humanity. This highest of lights, symbolised and recalled by the Christmas tree, has not only shown no sign of dimming through the passing of the centuries and the millennia, but rather continues to shine upon us and to illuminate every person who comes into the world, especially in moments of uncertainty and difficulty. Jesus Himself declared, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life'. ... And, the attempts made through the ages to extinguish the light of God, to replace it with the glare of illusion and deceit, have heralded episodes of tragic violence against mankind. This is because the attempt to cancel the name of God from the pages of history results in distortion, in which even the most beautiful and noble words lose their true meaning".

Father Michael

Advent Week 4

Jesse Tree Symbols with Scripture -

Sunday 19th – Elizabeth – Dove - Luke 1:39-45



Monday 20th – John the Baptist - River- Matthew 3:1-6



Tuesday 21st – Mary – Angel - Luke 1:26-35



Wednesday 22th-Jesus – Manger - Luke 2:1-7



4th CANDLE – (purple)

THE ANGEL CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF LOVE – The angles announced the good news of a Saviour. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." (John 3:16-17)

Father Michael

Parish Concert The concert last Friday evening was a great success and a tremendous evening was had by all. I thank all who were involved in the background: setting up the Church and returning it back to its original condition; the sound engineer, the lighting engineer and the décor arrangers. The concert itself as I said was beautiful. I thank the Organist; Blanchardstown Brass Band, the children's Choir; the parish Choir and the overall director of the entire evening our own superlative parish choir director John White. All take a bow for a very successful and entertaining evening! Thanks to all who attended.

Fr Michael Carey PP

Parish of St. Brigid, Blanchardstown Christmas Arrangements 2021

CHRISTMAS WEEK CONFESSIONS

Saturday 18th: 10.30am – 12.00 noon
Friday 24th: 10.30 am – 12.00 noon
 (Christmas Eve)

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Friday 24th: 10.00 am
 (Christmas Eve): **6.00 pm VIGIL MASS**
 8.30 pm Carol Service
9.00 pm NIGHT MASS
Saturday 25th: 9.00, 10.30 & 12 noon
 (Christmas Day): **No evening Mass**
Sunday 26th: 10.30am & 12 noon
Monday 27th– Friday 31st: 11am
Sat. 1st Jan: 11am & 7pm—Vigil
Sunday 2nd Jan: 10.30am & 12 noon
Monday 3rd Jan: 10am Mass resumes
Wednesday 5th Jan: 10am & 7pm Vigil
Thursday 6th Jan (Epiphany): 10am

All the above services available on the parish webcam

Important Note

1. The Church can accommodate 220 people (100 Church and 120 Extension) for each Mass on December 24th & 25th. With 5 Christmas Masses (two on the evening and three on the day) we can accommodate 1100 people.
2. A steward will place a cord across each door when limits are reached - this is to comply with Coved regulations and to keep everyone safe. The Government has expressly forbidden people standing in the Church
3. In the Church, Christmas is celebrated over an Octave that is 8 days, so if you would like to attend a 'Christmas Mass' you don't have to confine yourself to December 24th (Vigil) or December 25th, you can attend a Christmas Mass any day up to and including January 1st.

Season of Advent

Mass in the Pastoral Centre in Pelletstown at 7.30pm On Thursdays. The final mass will be next Thursday **23rd December**. Last week we had a lovely intimate celebration with 5 children and 6 adults. These Masses are small in attendance but very prayerful. All are welcome.

We welcome our recently Baptised

Children's Corner

In the Gospel Mary rushes to meet her cousin, Elizabeth. They are both expecting babies and are really happy to see each other.

Jump for Joy
 Arthur is really happy and is jumping for joy! What makes you really happy? Draw yourself jumping for joy next to Arthur.



I want to jump for joy when...

Hail Mary
 Elizabeth's words to Mary have become part of a special prayer. We know this prayer as the Hail Mary. Can you fill in the missing words?

Hail, full of, the Lord is with thee.
 art thou among women and blessed is the of thy womb, Holy Mary, of God, for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.

Things to do for Christmas

Make a Birthday card for Baby Jesus, you can leave it in the Church beside the crib.



Or you could make an origami star—see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RbxxFg4HoPI>

And don't forget to check out 'Aaron the Allergic Shepherd' on:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-WKZiuxxT8&feature=youtu.be>

A prayer to say

Mary, you are very special. You said "yes" to God and showed us how to love. Help me to say "yes" to God so that I can bring love into the world and spread joy too! Amen.

Christmas Cards A sincere thank you to all who packed the cards and to those who distributed them around the Parish. It is really appreciated

Society of St. Vincent de Paul-CHRISTMAS APPEAL Many thanks to all who contributed to the annual Diocesan Collection for the local conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul which took place last weekend. Your generosity is much appreciated.



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.**

Inten-tions	18th/19th December
7pm	Dermot & Valerie Kampff Aimee Devanney Stephen McGrath
10.30	Siobhan Moran Marie McCabe Nora & Donal Doolan, Maureen Dore & family, Hannah & Moss Kennedy Mary Daly & Ann Hanley Birthday Thanksgiving
12 noon	Tony Conway James, Margaret Mary, Mary & Joseph Fox

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