

St. Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

First Sunday of Advent – Sunday 27th November 2022

*Let us see, O Lord,
your mercy.*
Psalms 84:8

This Sunday's Readings

1st: Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm: 121 R/ I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to God's house."
2nd: St Paul to the Romans 13:11-14
Gospel Acclamation! Alleluia, alleluia!
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!
Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

CURRENT SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:
Mass at 10am preceded by the Rosary at 9.30
church closes at 5pm

Monday: Area Mass at 7.30pm

Wednesday: Liturgy of the Word at 10am

Saturday: church opens at 10am

Vigil Mass at 6pm (note change)

Sunday Mass at 10.30am*

(last Sunday of each month will have a midday Family mass)

1st Saturday of the month— Mass at 10am followed by confessions

Last Tuesday of the month—Prayer Group Mass at 8.00pm, all welcome

Bank Holidays: Mass at 11 am only

All services available on

www.blanchardstownparish.ie/webcam

*also on Phoenix Radio—92.5FM

Eucharistic Adoration

Tues. & Fri. 10.30—5pm

Blanchardstown Area evening Mass

Mon: Blanchardstown at 7.30

Tues & Thurs: Castleknock

Wed: Mulhuddart

Fri: Corduff

A Reflective Sentence

Jesus Christ is the centre of all things and the foundation for all things; he/she who does not know him knows nothing about the world and nothing about himself/herself.... Blaise Pascal



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 Matthew, 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)

Prayer for the 1st Sunday of Advent

Gracious God, on this first Sunday of Advent you call us to be awake and ready to recognise the signs of your kingdom in our midst a kingdom of justice and mercy, of joy and of peace. May we be aware of your presence in our lives. Be with us as we begin our Advent journey. Increase our faith, Show us your ways, Teach us your paths, That we might walk with you more closely, Our hand in your hand, Our feet in your footsteps, That we like Mary, may be your willing servants. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen

Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is significant in that unlike holly or floral wreaths, it has candles standing upright, representing the four Sundays of Advent and the thousands of years that God's people awaited the Messiah. The round ring of the Advent Wreath represents eternity-time without end. As the circle is never ending, so time with God goes on and on. The evergreens are for eternal life, life without end. Evergreens do not die in the winter and like them God is always fresh and new. The candles remind us of Christ 'Light of the World'.

1st Week

1st CANDLE – (purple) THE PROPHECY CANDLE or CANDLE OF HOPE— We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. "And again, Isaiah says, 'The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; the Gentiles will hope in him.' May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:12-13)

JESSE TREE

This tree is named after Jesse the father of David, the great king of Israel. 'A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse and from his roots a bud shall blossom' (Is 11.7). The symbols represent the promises God made throughout the Old Testament concerning the birth of His Only Son. Some of the most important promises of all were made to Jesse and his son David. They were promised that God's only Son would be born in their family.

JESSE TREE SYMBOLS WITH SCRIPTURE - ADVENT WEEK ONE

Sunday 27th November— Adam - Male Figure - Genesis 2:7
Monday 28th November – Eve - Female Figure - Genesis 2:21-23
Tuesday 29th November – Noah –Rainbow - Genesis 9:11-17
Wednesday 30th December – Abraham – Tree -Genesis 18:1
Thursday 1st December – Sarah – Tent - Genesis 18:9-14
Friday 2nd of December – Isaac –Ram - Genesis 22:13-14
Saturday 3rd of December-Rebekah – Camel- Genesis 24:63-67

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

November Mass for Deceased-2022

On Thursday last, 17th November we celebrated our annual Remembrance Mass and it was a beautiful liturgy. The comforting Liturgy of Remembrance after the Gospel was accompanied by uplifting music and song. It gave all present space to remember their loved ones who died during the past year and perhaps provided some comfort. The evening was a huge undertaking with weeks of preparation. Thanks to everyone involved, for the clean Church, beautiful flowers, the décor, the book of names in front of the altar, and invitations. Not forgetting the Ministry Teams – Ministers of the Word, Ministers of the Eucharist, the Liturgy Team, the volunteer Sacristans, and the Parish Choir.

Family Mass

I welcome all this weekend to our Family Mass especially the children and families of the First Holy Communion classes.

Extension

The extension has been completely re-carpeted and new chairs installed. Thanks to all who helped, hoovering and putting up the chairs and other work which I may not have noticed. I hope you agree that it looks splendid.

Extension – kneeling

Are we to kneel on the floor? I don't expect that. For the Eucharistic Prayer you may be seated. During the Eucharistic Prayer when the Holy Spirit is 'called forth' and the words of Institution are pronounced, those who wish to kneel may do so. Only if you are able and it's not expected! After the Memorial Acclamation you may be seated again.

Advent Wreath

A lovely tradition in our Parish is the making of the Advent wreath which families may purchase at a very low cost subsidised by the Parish. I thank the Liturgy Team who put the packs together during the week and a special Thank You to Mary Ronayne, Dolores O'Leary and Máirín Keegan (PPW) who generously gave of their time on Sunday to demonstrate how to put together the Advent Wreath. They did this after the 10.30 Mass and then at 1.30pm in the Pastoral Centre, Royal Canal. There are still Advent Wreath Packs available in the sacristy or the office for €7.

Vocation Themed Intercessions for Advent

First Sunday of Advent - In our Gospel Jesus warns his followers to be attentive – to "stay awake" to "stand ready". We pray that those who the Lord is calling to follow him as priest, deacon or religious, will be "awake" to the call of the Lord in their hearts.

Mass Booking Diary

The 2023 Diary is now available in the Sacristy if anyone wishes to 'book' Masses for 2023.

Fr Michael Carey PP



Children's Corner

In The Gospel

Jesus wants us to be ready to welcome him. Noah was ready when the rain came. Noah was ready because he was listening to God and doing what God asked. We will be ready to welcome Jesus if we are being kind and loving, living as God asks.

I can help

Who do you love and want to help this week? Draw them, or write their names, inside this heart.

When we help even the least important person we are helping Jesus.

Can you find some words which describe how we can get ready for Jesus hidden around this heart?

Start with I and then use every other letter.



Blanchardstown Music Ministry presents

O'Night Divine!

Our annual concert of beautiful Christmas music both Sacred & Secular

Blanchardstown Parish Church
Friday December 9th 8.00 p.m.

Donations at door in aid of Ukraine Winter Fund

Scoil Bhríde Cailíní
Blanchardstown
10th & 11th December

URBAN CHRISTMAS MARKET

Coffee•Hot Food•Sweets•Treats•Christmas Crafts•Gifts and much more!!

Annual Night Vigil in Knock

In honour of *The Feast of the Immaculate Conception*

Bus Leaves Church Ave, Blanchardstown

Wednesday 7th December at 4.30pm

To book please contact:

Michael Frawley 086 8650708

Upcoming events.....

Coolmine Therapeutic Centre Gala Concert featuring Blanchardstown Brass band and parish choirs. **Draíocht—15 December at 8pm**

The Annual St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal will take place on the weekend of Sat 10th/Sun 11th December

Mass Intentions 26th/27th November

Sat 6pm Mary Carey (1st Anniv)

Sun 10.30am Tom & Marie Russell

Fr Michael, Fr Tom, Paul & Kevin Russell

John Dredge

Nancy, Denny & Teresa Flanagan

Sun 12pm Canice Foley

Eva Gethin (MM)

Edmund Long



Recently Deceased

Eileen Regan

Rosaleen Boylan

Elizabeth Earle

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