

St. Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

Second Sunday of Advent - Sunday 4th December 2022

REPENT
FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
IS CLOSE AT HAND - MATTHEW 3:1

This Sunday's Readings

1st: Isaiah 11: 1-10
Psalm: 71 R/ In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.
2nd: St Paul to the Romans 15: 4-9
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: Matthew 3: 1-12

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

Who could fail to be led by observation and thoughtful familiarity with the magnificent order of the cosmic system, which is derived from divine wisdom, to marvel at the almighty Architect...N. Coernicus



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'. This feast day is a Holy Day of obligation. Mass times are as follows:

St. Brigid's: Wednesday 7th December (Vigil) at 7.30pm. Thursday 8th December at 10.00am

Prayer for the 2nd Sunday of Advent

God of hope, who brought love into this world, be the love that dwells between us. God of hope, who brought peace into this world, be the peace that dwells between us. God of hope, who brought joy into this world, be the joy that dwells between us.

God of hope, the rock we stand upon, be the centre, the focus of our lives always, and particularly this Advent time. God of hope and promise, be with us throughout this Advent season and draw us ever closer as we journey together toward the stable and the birth of your Son, our Saviour. 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'.

2nd Week

2nd CANDLE – (purple) THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION – God kept his promise of a Saviour who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to "get ready". Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! "As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: 'A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all mankind will see God's salvation.'" (Luke 3:4-6)

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 TWO

4th of Dec—Jacob—Ladder-Genesis 28:10-17
5th—Rachel -Shepherd's Crook-Genesis 29:9-12
6th—Joseph -Colourful Coat -Genesis 37:3
7th—Moses -Burning Bush - Exodus 3:1-6
8th—Miriam - Music Notes - Exodus 15:20-21
9th—Deborah -Palm Tree- Judges 4:4-5
10th—Samuel -Lamp- 1 Samuel 3:1-3

Family Advent Prayer

Some families enjoy saying prayers as they light a candle each Sunday. This is an example of an interactive family prayer:
Parent: Lord, you are the light of the world.

Child: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.

Parent: Heavenly Father, we long for your plan of rescue and redemption to be realized. Give us hearts that see Your beauty and wait in hope for You to make all things good and new again.

Child: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.

Parent: May Your light and love shine brightly in our hearts, spreading hope and peace to those around us.

Child: Amen

Saints in the Church's Calendar

St. Nicholas, bishop Tuesday 6th Dec is a fourth-century Bishop of Myra, Turkey of whom little is known. He is patron of Russia, sailors, pawnbrokers and children. His relics were later brought to Bari (Italy).
St. Ambrose, bishop and doctor of the Church Wednesday 7th Patron of Milan, bee keepers and domestic animals.



Lectio Divina' - a reflection on the Scripture will take place on Wednesdays—7th, 14th and 21st of December

at 11.00am in either the Fr.Dungan room or the Jubilee room. We will reflect on one of the readings for the following Sunday each week. If you've never been involved in something like this there is no pressure you can speak or just listen and it gives you an opportunity to think about the scripture and to uncover God's love for each of us.

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

I Apologise

I like to thank volunteers and groups when something significant happens in the Church. The danger with so doing is that sometimes an individual or a group can be forgotten and I did that!! The November Mass for the deceased finished with a lovely reception afterwards and a huge number attended. It was greatly appreciated by all - a sincere thank-you to the Hospitality Team, who I forgot to mention in my last newsletter and who did a fantastic job. You'd know that people were enjoying themselves as no one was in a rush to leave.

Family Mass

Thank you to all who attended the Family Mass last Sunday. The Junior Choir under the direction of John White are an excellent feature at this Mass. This last weekend of the month is also when the families of the 1st Holy Communion children for the coming year are invited to attend all the weekend Masses. There was a great turnout as is evidenced by the lovely display of Advent wreaths on the Notice board in the 'stage area'. The next family Mass will be on the last Sunday of January, 29th at 12 noon.

Confirmation Enrolment Mass

This was the first time that the Parish held such an event. We are familiar with the 1st Communion children enrolment Masses but on Wednesday 23rd Nov the Confirmation children, their parents, the Parish Team and the Confirmation Team were present at this Mass. The Church was full. We have 146 candidates from all our Parish schools. I thank the Holy Spirit for encouraging so many to attend what was an uplifting and spiritual experience. I also especially thank our confirmation Team there on the night of Pat Cummins; Margaret Hill and Aine Jordan. Next up in the New Year we will hold our Confirmation retreats for Scoil Bhríde Girls and Boys and Saint Francis Xavier Schools.

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!

Vocation Themed Intercessions for Advent

Second Sunday of Advent—Just as John the Baptist answered the call to be a "voice in the wilderness" to "prepare a way for the Lord", we pray for those in our society who are called to be the voice in the wilderness of our modern society by living their lives in service as a priest, deacon or religious.

Mass Booking Diary

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

Fr Michael Carey PP



Children's Corner

In The Gospel

John the Baptist is the prophet sent by God to tell us all to get ready to welcome Jesus. John asks us to repent, to turn away from anything that is bad and turn towards God. Anyone who is loving and kind is turning towards God and their hearts will be ready to welcome Jesus. Make Jesus' paths straight!

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



Thursday 8th December after 10am mass, until 1pm, there will be a Sale of Christmas crafts and decorations in the Pastoral centre. All proceeds will go to preparing care-packs for homeless people to be delivered by Merchants Quay volunteers



Christmas Food Poverty Appeal. Please support if you can.

www.crosscare.ie or call 01-8360011



Recently Deceased

Christine Clarke

Bernard (Ben) Cooke

Rita Monahan

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 Diocesan Collection for the local conference of the Society of

St. Vincent de Paul takes place **next weekend December 10th/11th**. It will be the second collection replacing Share. *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)

Mass Intentions 3rd / 4th December

Sat 10am	Maria Kennelly (MM)	Tom Ryan
Sat 6pm	John & Josephine Brooks	Bernard Keville
Sun 1030am	Larry Coyne (1st Anniv)	Kevin Bernie Myra French John Lynch Patrick and Bridget Keane Edward Farrell Pat Mulloy



We welcome our recently Baptised Ruadh, Amelia and James.

PARISH CONTACTS: Fr. Carey: 8213660 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