



St Peter's Church, Phibsborough

Parish Newsletter

Second Sunday of Advent: 8 December 2024

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, 8 December

Dolores Dunne (BR)
Laura King (BR)
Marie Mills (1st A)
Michael & Larry O'Sullivan (D)
Maguire Family (D)
Margaret Galligan (D)

Monday, 9 December

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin is not celebrated this year
Eileen Harvison (A)

Tuesday, 10 December

Blessed Mark Anthony Durando, priest
Our Lady of Loreto
Ettie Gorman (1st A)

Wednesday, 11 December

St Damasus I, pope
Holy Souls

Thursday, 12 December

Our Lady of Guadalupe
St Finian, bishop
Katie Taylor (SI)

Friday, 13 December

St Lucy, virgin & martyr
Suzanne Miller (SI)
Kathleen, John & David Cullen (D)

Saturday, 14 December

St John of the Cross, priest & doctor of the Church
Marion Grehan (Thanksgiving)
Susan & John Mungovan (A)

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY...

... is transferred from Sunday 8th to Monday 9th December. It is a holyday of obligation: Mass times 10.30am and 7.00pm (Novena included).

ENCOURAGEMENT AND HOPE - IN ADVENT TIME

A natural observation

In human life it can happen that persons, whole societies may have expectation, and special joy at some unfolding in reality. This could occur around a General Election, a big victory in sport, a new Pope.

Then

In Reading 1 (Baruch 5) there is a most desirable picture of joyful living after slavery. The text is ostensibly set in post-Exile (c.520 BC). Still, Baruch is historically linked with Jeremiah (c.580 BC). The text for today is most probably from the Hellenistic age (in the E Mediterranean world from Alexander (c.330 BC) to the time of Christ). In Reading 2 St Paul, writing to his early Catholics in Philippi, calls them to "a pure and blameless life", in strong hope of eternal glory. In the Gospel John offers a great prospect of hope as he prepares for Christ's ministry.

Now

Personal and communal wellbeing on a natural level, while valid and desirable, when rightly understood, yet lack the spiritual dimension. Lately, a young person possessing many satisfactions yet spoke of being spiritually empty. Bishop McKeown has recently referred to this possibility. Peace, joy, and meaning come from following God's design. We give our spirit a chance! We take time of reflection, joining Mary, Joseph - and Jesus on the road from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

The remembrance of Christ's coming teaches us to share in, to lay hold of the grace (of this season) by faith and sacraments.

St Charles Borromeo

Fr Eamon Flanagan CM



ADVENT — WAITING IN JOYFUL HOPE

The Church begins again its liturgical life, waiting and watching for Christ our Saviour, born in time, to come again in glory. To help us prepare to welcome Jesus with hearts and minds renewed, the following moments alongside our regular life of Masses, confessions, adoration, novena...

- Parish Retreat - silent - open to everyone - on Saturday 14th December beginning at 3.00pm in the Church.
- Monday 16th December: 8.00pm St Peter's Choir and the Offbeat Ensemble concert in the church with donations to this year's parish charity, supporting families with children who have additional educational needs.
- Reconciliation Services in the Parish Partnership:
 - ◇ Mon 16th Dec at 7.30pm in Our Lady Help of Christians, Navan Rd.
 - ◇ Sat 21st Dec at 10.30am in Christ the King Church, Cabra.

Fr Eamon Devlin CM PP

LITURGICAL READINGS FOR: Sunday, 8 December 2024

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the Prophet Baruch

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, the name God gives you for ever will be, *'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'*. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort. The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philipians

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes.

God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you.

My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception. so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God. The Word of the Lord.

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.
The Gospel of the Lord.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Please remember in your prayers all those who died recently especially Rita Byrne (née Clarke, formerly of St Attracta Road) and John Reddington.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**



THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The Annual Christmas Appeal takes place at all Masses this weekend and replaces Share. One of the Conference members will make a short appeal at each of the Masses. Envelopes are available in the Church and can be returned to the Parish Office or in the secure box beside our Lady's Shrine in the Church.

SVP FOOD APPEAL

Types of food urgently needed: breakfast cereals, rice/pasta, fruit juice, tea/coffee, soup, sugar, powdered milk, tinned meat/fish, tinned fruit/veg, packaged desserts, biscuits etc... Please bring your **non-perishable** food items to any of the Masses this weekend.

COLLECTIONS - Sunday 1st December

Parish (1st Collection, incl. Online)	= €1,226.36
Envelopes (Online/Payzone)	= € 524.00
Share (2nd Collection)	= € 326.45

Thank you for your support to the parish and to the Diocese.

TEA / COFFEE

On Tuesday next, 10 December, tea & coffee will be available in the Chapel of Adoration after the 10.30am Mass. All are welcome to attend. (The next meeting will be on Tuesday 14th January 2025).



CHRISTMAS CARDS & CALENDARS

Mass Bouquets €10.00
Novena Cards €5.00
SVP (pack of 10) €5.00
2025 Calendars €2.50

Available from the Parish Office and the Repository

