

## CHURCH SERVICES

### THE EUCHARIST

**Sunday:** Saturday 6.00pm  
Sunday 10.00am and 12.00 noon  
**Weekdays:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 10.00am  
Tuesday, Thursday 7.30pm

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** After 10.00am and before 6.00pm Mass on Saturdays and on request.

**Baptism:** Normally on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month at 1.00pm. Enquiries to the parish office.

**Marriage:** By arrangement with one of the Priests.

### Evening Weekday Mass availability in our Deanery:

- St Brigid's, Blanchardstown, 7.30pm Mass on Mondays
- St Luke's, Mulhuddart, 7.30pm Mass on Wednesdays
- St Patrick's, Corduff, 7.30pm Mass on Fridays

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Fr. Damian McNeice** – Phone: 089 445 3987

**Fr. Denis O'Connor CSsR** –Phone: 01-8214003

**Parish Office** – Monday to Thursday, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Phone: 01-6409601 Email: [parishoffice@castleknockparish.ie](mailto:parishoffice@castleknockparish.ie)

**Church Sacristy** – Phone: 01-8214652

**Our Lady's Parish Centre** – Phone: 01-8209907

**Parish Website** – [www.castleknockparish.ie](http://www.castleknockparish.ie)

**Parish Newsletter** – Notices may be emailed to [ourladyparish@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyparish@gmail.com) Written notices may be handed in to the Parish Office. The deadline for submissions is Thursday evening.

## THE DONATE BUTTON ON OUR PARISH WEBSITE

This button, which can be found on the website homepage, is a convenient online way to donate to our parish or to contribute to Dues. You can also contribute to the usual weekend 1st and/or 2nd collections (as an alternative to contributing to the basket collections), towards our parish running costs, as well as our Third World Partnership (TWP) project.



# OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PARISHES OF  
ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE, LAUREL LODGE  
AND ST MOCHTA'S PORTERSTOWN.

**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**REJOICE!** Rejoice, you who have abandoned all hope, for God offers you his outstretched hand; he does not point a finger at you, but offers you his little baby hand, in order to set you free from your fears, to relieve you of your burdens and to show you that, in his eyes, you are more valuable than anything else. Rejoice, you who find no peace of heart, for the ancient prophecy of Isaiah has been fulfilled for your sake: "a child has been born for us, a son given to us, and he is named... Prince of Peace" (9:6). Scripture reveals that his peace, his kingdom, "will have no end" (9:7).

From the manger, the Child Jesus asks us to be the voice of those who have no voice. The voice of the innocent children who have died for lack of bread and water; the voice of those who cannot find work or who have lost their jobs; the voice of those forced to flee their lands in search of a better future, risking their lives in grueling journeys and prey to unscrupulous traffickers.

Brothers and sisters, we are approaching the season of grace and hope that is the Jubilee... May this... Holy Year be an opportunity for the conversion of hearts, for the rejection of war and the embrace of peace, and for joyfully responding to the Lord's call, in the words of Isaiah's prophecy, "to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners" (61:1). Those words were fulfilled in Jesus (cf. *Lk* 4:18)... born in Bethlehem. Let us welcome him! Let us open our hearts to him, who is the Saviour, the Prince of Peace! *Pope Francis*

## CHRISTMAS MASSES:

- **CHRISTMAS EVE - Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December**
  - 6pm Family Mass
  - 9pm Night Mass – *with Bishop Paul Dempsey*
- **CHRISTMAS DAY - Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December**
  - 10am
  - 12 noon.
- **St Stephen's Day - Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December**
  - 10am (No evening Mass)

**Confession - Individual confessions** will be available on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December - 10.30am to 12.30pm.

**THANK YOU!** To all who made our Advent celebrations so beautiful and those who came and enjoyed them: our Mass with the Anointing of the Sick, our Do This in Memory Bambinelli Family Mass with Joy to the World party, our Parish Carol Service and our Partnership celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation – each has prepared us to open our hearts wider in welcome to the Christ Child. Thank you to those who have prepared our church with lovely decorations and the Crib and who keep our Church so worthy of God and God's people. Thank you to all our Ministers of Liturgical music, of the Word and of Holy Communion, Volunteer distributors, Collectors and Newsletter Team, Baptism, Funeral and Bereavement Teams, for all you do during these holy days and your commitment throughout the year. As ever, we are deeply indebted to Mary in our Parish Office, Olive in the sacristy, Bernie and Tony in the Parish Centre and our own dear Fr Denis. May the Lord reward you all according to the wisdom and tenderness of his providential care and your need. *Fr Damian*

**ETERNAL REST:** Please pray for the souls of our parishioners Eamon O'Farrell, whose funeral took place on Saturday, Michael McMahon, whose funeral took place on Saturday in Porterstown and Helen McCann, whose funeral took place in Laurel Lodge last Wednesday. May the Lord grant them eternal rest and may the Holy Spirit comfort and sustain all those who mourn.

**PORTERSTOWN, LAUREL LODGE AND CASTLEKNOCK PARISHES – PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES:** Departing Tuesday, 19th August 2025 for 4 nights staying in the 4\* Hotel Padoue. Spiritual Director, Fr. Paul Ward.

If you are interested in travelling, please leave your name and contact no. in the Sacristy in Porterstown after any Mass or email [secretary@stmochtasparish.ie](mailto:secretary@stmochtasparish.ie). A deposit of €200 will secure your place.

## CHILDREN'S ROSARY, 4PM SATURDAYS

The Rosary is recited on Saturdays in our church at 4pm. We are taking a break over Christmas and we will resume on Saturday 18th January. Looking forward to seeing our young children joining us then, and all are welcome.

## 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**.

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL – THANK YOU

The local conference of St Vincent de Paul would like to thank most sincerely all who contributed to the Annual St Vincent de Paul collection on the 7th and 8th of December. The total church collection was €16,750.

## PLANTING FOR THE FUTURE - THE PPC CRY OF THE EARTH PROJECT

Building on the great work this year in sowing pollinator-friendly plants in the large pots that adorn the front approaches to our Church, the next phase is to involve the wider community including the schoolchildren of St Brigid's. This phase involves the planting of bulbs and shrubs, to include gorse or furze, to protect the existing plants from encroachment and to further enhance the Church environment. We are seeking support from parishioners with an interest / expertise in horticulture for advice and would also appreciate assistance with the planting. If you are in a position to help in any way, please contact Margaret Condon, our PPC Chairperson, at 086 839 2518.

**CROSSCARE APPEAL** Crosscare, the social care agency of our Archdiocese, is once again asking for support for their Christmas Food Poverty Appeal. So far this year, almost 3,000 people, including 1500 children, have needed basic food supplies and support; over a quarter of those coming to Crosscare's Food Poverty Service accessing food support are parenting alone. As families struggle to cope with the cost of Christmas, there will likely be a spike in the number of people seeking help in the weeks ahead.

**Anyone wishing to contribute can donate online at [www.crosscare.ie](http://www.crosscare.ie), call 01 8360011, or send a cheque or postal order to Crosscare Christmas Appeal, 2 Saint Mary's Place North, D07 Y768.**

## Community Connect - Ireland's Baby Bank charity

Christmas is a time of joy for many of us, however it can be a particularly challenging time for families in need, especially those with small babies. Community Connect is Ireland's Baby Bank charity, working across Ireland to provide practical support to mothers and babies in need. They are asking you to make a big difference to a mother and baby in need this Christmas, by sponsoring a package of essential items, then delivering them directly to the families who need them. **For further information and to sponsor, go to [www.communityconnect.ie](http://www.communityconnect.ie) or call 085 875 8366.** Thank you.