

## 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 [ourladysparish@gmail.com](mailto:ourladysparish@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.

1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT  
9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2025

*THE DISCIPLINE OF PRAYER: "We simply need quiet time in the presence of God. Although we all want to make all our time 'time for God', we will never succeed if we do not reserve a minute, an hour, a morning a day, a week, a month or whatever period of time for God is needed - and for him alone. This asks for much discipline and risk taking because we always seem to have something urgent to do and 'just sitting there' and 'doing nothing' often disturbs us more than it helps.*

*But there is no way around this. Being useless and silent in the presence of God belongs to the core of all prayer. In the beginning we often hear our own unruly noises more loudly than God's voice. This is at times very hard to tolerate. But slowly, very slowly, we discover that the silent time makes us quiet and deepens our awareness of God. Then, very soon, we start missing these moments when we are deprived of them, and before we are fully aware of it an inner momentum has developed that draws us more and more into silence and closer to that still point where God speaks to us." Henri Nouwen, 'Reaching Out.'*

**GET TO THE HEART OF THINGS FOR LENT:** Why not make it one of your goals to read a spiritual book this Lent? I recommend Pope Francis's recent Encyclical on the human and divine love of the heart of Jesus Christ entitled "Dilexit Nos" - *he loved us*. There are plenty of copies available at the back of our Church, cost 10euro. Here's a quote to give you a flavour:

*"In a world where everything is bought and sold, people's sense of their worth appears increasingly to depend on what they can accumulate with the power of money. We are constantly being pushed to keep buying, consuming, and distracting ourselves, held captive to a demeaning system that prevents us from looking beyond our immediate and petty needs. The love of Christ has no place in this perverse mechanism, yet only that love can set us free from a mad pursuit that no longer has room for a gratuitous love. Christ's love can give a*

**heart to our world and revive love wherever we think that the ability to love has been definitively lost." (#218) Fr Damian**

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP.** As we journey through Lent, there are wonderful opportunities for our children and youth to grow in faith, community, and service. Here's what we have planned:

**Children's Meditation:** "Sit, Sing & Listen" - 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, starting next Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>, 2:35 - 3pm. A quiet and reflective time where children can pause, sing, and listen to Jesus speaking to their hearts. A beautiful way to nurture their spiritual growth.

**Easter Preparation:** Songs, Signs & Stories! Fridays, 6 to 7pm Children are invited to prepare for Holy Week through song, sign language, drama, and art. This is a special time to deepen their understanding of Easter and to prepare to play a part in the upcoming Holy week.

**Altar Server Training:** "Step Up to Serve!" Fridays, 6.00-6:30pm A call to all children who feel drawn to serve at our worship. Fr. Damian will lead this training, helping them take their first steps in this important and rewarding role.

**Faith & Film Night:** "The Chosen Experience" (For ages 12+). A chance for teens to gather, watch an episode of *The Chosen*, a powerful Christian series, followed by discussion. Dates and times to be confirmed.

**TAIZÉ PRAYER - MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup>** Our meditative Taizé prayer takes place in our church at 7pm next Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March. All are welcome, with an extra warm welcome for our Confirmation Candidates, the young and the young at heart.

**ETERNAL REST:** Please pray for the souls of our parishioners Ted Desmond and Tom Murphy whose funerals took place during the week. May the Lord grant them eternal rest, and may the Holy Spirit comfort and sustain all those who mourn.

**SYCAMORE** in St Mochta's parish centre, Porterstown. Sycamore meeting this Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March in St Mochta's parish centre, starting at 7.30pm with refreshments. Video talks and discussions about Faith matters. Please phone Marian on 087 295 8363.

**LECTIO DIVINA** Spiritual reading, prayer and contemplation of the Gospel for the following Sunday. Next Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March from 10.30 to 11am in Our Lady's Parish Centre, Castleknock.

**CRY OF THE EARTH.** In 2023 members of PPC attended a conference organised by the Archbishop of Dublin. We were requested to respond to global climate change and arrest the decline of biodiversity. Parishes were asked to use 30% of their grounds to create a haven for pollinators and biodiversity that can be enjoyed by the whole community. We made a start last summer by planting the eight large cement pots in the gathering space in front of our church with sustainable pollinator-friendly perennials. In autumn the pupils in St Brigid's 4th class

became our partners, and planted crocuses and other pollinator-friendly bulbs that provide pollen and nectar. Fingal County Council are currently supporting our project and are creating a biodiversity-rich corner on the church edge of the Auburn Avenue green. A variety of sensory plants and grasses will enhance the pollinators' food supply, and generate habitats for many species of insects and other creatures. Pupils will be involved in planting. Take time to look at this area and you will see the beautiful gravel pathways surrounding the plants. Please refrain from parking on this development or on any edge of the green. We plan to increase planting behind the cement pots, to create a haven for birds, bees and insects and generate a variety of habitats. Fingal CC will plant shrubs and bushes to fill in any gaps. We request support in creating this area for biodiversity where nature can grow and flourish.

**THANK YOU - CHARITY QUIZ** A big thank you to all who supported the charity pub quiz in Kavanaghs last Monday night in aid of the Kiltegan Fathers schools and vocational training centre in Riwoto Parish, South Sudan. To date a total of €5461 was raised between donations and monies raised on the night of the quiz. This money will greatly help to improve the lives of children and disadvantaged young adults there.

**MINISTERS OF THE WORD - ROTA** The rota for Ministers of the Word, covering March to May, is on the parish website. Copies are available in the Sacristy.

**PERMANENT DIACONATE.** Do you have an interest in learning about the permanent diaconate? Rev. Deacon Eric Cooney (Monkstown parish) will talk about his experience and the diaconate vocation next **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30 - 9pm**, Knights of St. Columbanus, Ely House, 8 Ely Place, Dublin 2. All are welcome.

**DUBLIN FLEADH 2025 10<sup>TH</sup> - 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY, DUBLIN 15 - EVENT IN THE LEAD UP TO THE FLEADH:** To celebrate International Women's Day, Dublin Fleadh 2025, Slí Dhála CCÉ and friends present 'Beyond Brigid': An evening of music, song, dance and spoken word. This Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm at St Brigid's Church, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15. Admission free. Booking essential at [dublinfleadhevents2025@gmail.com](mailto:dublinfleadhevents2025@gmail.com) or text 087 245 4143.

**BLOOD DONOR CLINIC - CARPENTERSTOWN, SUNDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH:** Support your upcoming Local Blood Drive! Castleknock Community College, this Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 12 noon to 3.30pm. Check your eligibility at [www.giveblood.ie](http://www.giveblood.ie), or 1800 731 137.

**PARISH PARTNERSHIP PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK JOINING THE DUBLIN DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE - SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL.** A bus will be going from our parish partnership of Castleknock, Laurel Lodge and Porterstown, collecting at each parish. The price per person is €50. All details available from the Parish Office.

Check: [parishoffice@castleknockparish.ie](mailto:parishoffice@castleknockparish.ie)

