

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 2nd and 4th 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

Church Sacristy - Phone: 01-8214652

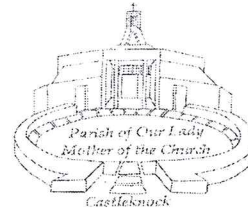
Our Lady's Parish Centre - Phone: 01-8209907

Parish Website - www.castleknockparish.ie

The Parish Newsletter: Notices for the Newsletter may be emailed to 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 to 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.

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

26TH JANUARY 2025

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD "I hope in your word." [Psalm 119:74]

Perhaps the one who best understood the relationship between God's word and hope was a pagan, the Roman centurion who, after pleading with Jesus to heal his sick servant, in the face of the Lord's immediate willingness to come to him declared himself unworthy for the Lord to go to his house and said to him, "only say the word and my servant will be healed" (Mt. 8:8). One word from Christ was enough for him to have a sure hope in the salvation Jesus gives. Faith enabled the centurion to understand that what arouses hope in God's word is that it is indeed a Divine Word, the word that the One who makes all things personally addresses to our need for to save us and gift us eternal life.

Peter also understood this at a time when many had abandoned the Lord and only a few awkward and insecure disciples remained with Him. This happened after Christ's 'I am the bread of life' message in the synagogue at Capernaum, saying, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" (Jn. 6:60). How come Jesus' word was a reason for others to leave when for Peter and the other disciples it was the only reason to stay with Him? "Lord, to whom can we go? You alone have the words of eternal life" (Jn. 6:68). The words of Jesus remained for Peter and his companions as a last thread of hope in a fullness of life they could only hope for from God. But why and how could Peter's hope, like that of the centurion, cling to the word of Christ? What gives the word of the Lord this power, this solidity whereby we can surrender to it with the full weight of our lives in the face of the danger of sliding into despair, death or nothingness?

God's word can be a source of hope for us as God is and remains the source of the word itself. Only if we hear the word from the voice of the Word, present to us and who looks upon us with love, can it nourish in us an unshakable hope, because it is founded on a presence that never fails. God's word is a promise in which the One who promises is utterly and totally faithful. Christ promises us

himself when he says: "And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." (Mt. 28:20). Jesus' last word and promise before he ascends into heaven, is the promise of himself present to our lives, not only at the end of time but every day, in every moment of our lives. "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (Jn. 1:14) until he died on the cross for us. Psalm 27 cries out to the Lord, "if you are silent to me, I shall be like those who go down to the Pit" (Ps. 27:1). We have within us the deep, ontological awareness that if God does not speak to us, if God does not create in us at every moment with his word, then death, the dissolution of life, is inevitable for us. Instead we trust in the God's Word through whom all things exist (cf. Jn. 1:3). We welcome the Word that calls our souls to life. *[based on a text of Dom Mauro-Giuseppe Lepori, Abbot General of the Cistercian Order]*

ETERNAL REST: Please pray for the souls of Anthony (Tony) de Lacy whose funeral took place on Monday, and for Frank Moriarty and Marie Hague whose funerals will take place next Monday and Tuesday respectively. May the Lord grant them eternal rest, and may the Holy Spirit comfort and sustain all those who mourn.

SYCAMORE St Mochta's parish centre, Porterstown this Monday 27th January at 7.30pm. A series of talks and informal discussions on Christian faith, based on the Scripture and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Please join us, starting with refreshments at 7.30pm. Newcomers are very welcome.

'COME FOLLOW ME' – SATURDAY 1ST FEBRUARY, ST MOCHTA'S, PORTERSTOWN

There will be special Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in St Mochta's Church, Porterstown next Saturday 1st February from 1 to 3pm to coincide with the historical worldwide Eucharistic procession that is taking place in Derry, Medjugorje and New York among other places around the world. All are welcome to pray, adore and sing. Please come along and light the flame of love in all our hearts.

Date for Your Diary: Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock – Saturday 26th April. As we begin our Jubilee of Hope, our Diocese has launched the 2025 Knock Pilgrimage. The pilgrimage will provide an opportunity to gather as a Diocesan community of faith to celebrate the Jubilee year. The pilgrimage will include workshops, outdoor walks, the Sacrament of the Sick and our pilgrimage Mass, which will be celebrated by Archbishop Farrell. A bus will be going from our parish partnership of Castleknock, Laurel Lodge and Porterstown. To register your interest, please email your name, telephone number and the number of people going to parishoffice@castleknockparish.ie Thank you.

DUBLIN DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK – Saturday 26th April. As we begin our Jubilee of Hope, our Diocese has launched the 2025 Knock Pilgrimage, an opportunity to gather as a Diocesan community of faith to celebrate the Jubilee year. The pilgrimage will include workshops, outdoor walks, the Sacrament of the Sick and Mass, which will be celebrated by Archbishop Farrell. A bus will be going from our parish partnership of Castleknock, Laurel Lodge and Porterstown. Please email parishoffice@castleknockparish.ie if you are interested, and include the number of people who intend going.

LECTIO DIVINA Spiritual reading, prayer and contemplation of the Gospel for the following Sunday. Next Wednesday 29th January from 10.30 to 11am in Our Lady's Parish Centre, Castleknock.

DIVINE MERCY Meetings on Tuesdays at 6.30pm in Our Lady's Parish Centre, Castleknock. All welcome.

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. If you are interested, please leave your name and contact no. in the Sacristy in Porterstown after any Mass, or email secretary@stmochtasparish.ie. A deposit of €200p.p. will secure your place. *** UPDATE – there is huge interest in this pilgrimage. If everyone who has already left their details with Porterstown parish pays their deposit, then the trip is full. The deposit is required by 12 noon this Monday 27th January to secure the place.

THIRD WORLD PARTNERSHIP (TWP) - A BIG 'THANK YOU' to everyone who donated so generously to the Third World Partnership collection at our parish Christmas Carol Service in December. We were delighted to receive the fantastic sum of €830. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who donates to the TWP via standing orders to our bank account, or using the DONATE button on our parish website - www.castleknockparish.ie. Your support has allowed us to make such a difference in the education and lives of the people in our partner parish in Ethiopia. If you would like more information on the TWP, or would like to help or volunteer, please email us at TWP@castleknockparish.ie.

RELICS OF ST. SHARBEL The Relics of Saint Sharbel will visit St Philip the Apostle Church, Mountview, D15 VK59 on: Saturday 1st February - 10am Mass/ Confession/ Adoration, followed by the blessing of the relic on Sunday 2nd February - 12 Noon Mass followed by the blessing of the relic. Come and hear about his life, and the many cures and miracles attributed to him. Described as the Saint with the Most Miracles Ever. Visit <https://friendsofsaintsharbel.com/> for details of St Sharbel's life and miracles. St Sharbel - Pray for us.

CHRISTMAS DUES: Sincere thanks to all who have returned their Christmas Dues. All these contributions, as do Easter and Summer Dues, go directly to the central Diocesan Common Fund administered by the Diocesan Finance Secretariat out of which your priests are paid their monthly stipend, and the sick and retired priests of our Diocese are cared for.

IRISH-LANGUAGE FAMILY GATHERING WITH A CATHOLIC ETHOS – FAMILY POP-UP GAELTACHT
Parents - Irish classes and faith formation. Children 7–17 yrs: Irish classes, music/art and faith formation. All levels accommodated. Beginners in Irish most welcome. Information meeting - Saturday 8th February, 3pm, Dominican Priory, Tallaght. For further details visit www.dominicans.ie/c35-events/family-pop-up-gaeltacht/ or email op.evangelisation@gmail.com

HARTSTOWN COMMUNITY SCHOOL – EVENING CLASSES Enrolment for spring 2025 term is now on through our website www.hartstown-cep.com, in the school, or by phoning us on (01) 820-9863. Classes begin this Monday 27th January.

Digital Training for Older People, Laurel Lodge Community Centre.
Age Action is hosting Digital Training for Older People in Castleknock at the Community Centre, Laurel Lodge on Fridays from 10:15 - 12:15. Please call the Getting Started team on 01 475 6989 to sign up.

St. Francis Xavier Senior National School together with other schools in Dublin will be performing as part of “Laudate Festival” singing a number of hymns in the Church of Our Lady of Victories, Ballymun Road (Laudate Festival Night) on Tuesday 28 January from 7.00-8.15pm. The celebrations are ticketless and entry is free for all. This is part of Catholic Schools Week.

Society of St Vincent de Paul monthly collection will take place after all Masses this weekend, Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th January.