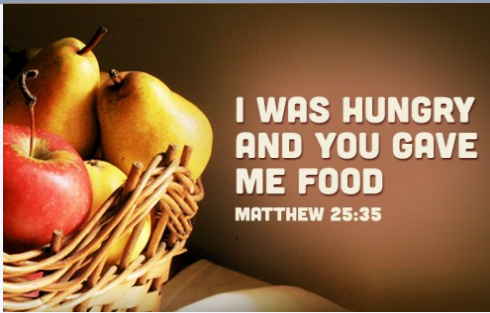


# Feast of Christ the King



### CURRENT SCHEDULE

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:** Mass at 10am preceded by the Rosary at 9.30am, 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**
- Sunday Mass** at 10.30am
- 1st Saturday of the month**– 10am Mass followed by confessions until 11am
- Last Tuesday of the month**–Prayer Group Mass 8pm, all welcome
- Bank Holidays:** Mass 11am only  
All services available on [www.blanchardstownparish.ie/webcam](http://www.blanchardstownparish.ie/webcam)
- Also on Phoenix Radio– 92.5FM
- Eucharistic Adoration**  
Tue & Fri 10.30am-5pm
- Blanchardstown Area evening Mass**  
**Mon:** Blanchardstown 7.30pm  
**Tues & Thurs:** Castleknock  
**Wednesday:** Mulhuddart **Friday:** Corduff

### Synod Retreat

Finishing Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP reflections on the retreat he gave to the participants of the Synod before it began its deliberations.

#### 'The Spirit of Truth'

The disciples see the glory of the Lord and the witness of Moses and Elijah. Now they dare to come down the mountain and walk to Jerusalem.... They encounter the Samaritans who oppose them because they are going to Jerusalem. The immediate reaction of the disciples is the call down fire from heaven and destroy them. Well, they have just seen Elijah and this is what he did to the prophets of Ba'al! But the Lord rebukes them. They still have not understood the journey on which the Lord is leading them....

Our society is filled with burning rage... This pervasive rage springs from fear, but we need not be afraid. The Lord has promised the Holy Spirit who will guide us into all truth. On the night before he died, Jesus said, 'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.' Whatever conflicts we have on the way, we are sure of this: the Spirit of truth is leading us into all truth. But this will not be easy. Jesus warns the disciples: 'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.' Peter at Caesarea Philippi could not bear to hear that Jesus must suffer and die. On this last evening before the death of Jesus, Peter could not bear the truth that he would deny Jesus. Being led into the truth means hearing things that are unpalatable. What are the truths we today find hard to face? It has been deeply painful to face the extent of sexual abuse and corruption in the Church. It has seemed like a nightmare from which one hopes to awake. But if we dare to face this shameful truth, the truth will set us free. Jesus promises that 'you will have pain, but your pain will turn to joy' (v.20), as in the labour pains of a woman giving birth. These days of the Synod will sometimes be painful, but if we let ourselves be guided by the Spirit, these will be the birth pangs of a reborn Church. This is our witness to a society that also flees from the truth. The poet T. S. Eliot said, 'Human Kind cannot bear very much reality'. We are careering towards an ecological catastrophe, but our political leaders mostly pretend that nothing is happening. Our world is crucified by poverty and violence, but the wealthy countries do not want to see the millions of our brothers and sisters who suffer and look for a home. Western society is afraid to face the truth that we are vulnerable mortal beings, flesh and blood men and women. We flee the truth of our bodily existence, pretending that we can just self-identify as we wish, as if we were just minds. Cancellation culture means that people with whom we disagree must be silenced, just as the disciples wished to call down fire on the Samaritans who did not welcome Jesus.

What are the painful truths which our brothers and sisters from the continents fear to face? It is not for me to say. If we dare to be truthful about who we are, mortal vulnerable human beings, and brothers and sisters in a Church that has always been heroic and corrupt, we shall speak with authority to a world that still hungers for truth even when it fears it is unattainable. This requires courage, which for Aquinas was *fortitudo mentis* - the strength of mind - to see things as they are, to live in the real world. When St Oscar Romero returned home to El Salvador, an immigration official said, 'There goes the truth.' He was truthful in the face of death. Sitting on a bench, he asked a friend, if he was afraid to die. The friend said he was not. Romero replied, 'But I am. I am afraid to die.' It was this truthfulness which made his martyrdom so beautiful. Ever since he had looked at the mutilated body of his Jesuit friend Rutilio, he had known what awaited him. When he was martyred, his body was found to be covered with sweat. It seems that he had seen the man about to kill him, and he did not run away. On that last night, Jesus warned his disciples that if they belong to him, the true vine, they shall be pruned that they may bear more fruit... This may mean that we are pruned of illusions and prejudices that we have about each other, pruned of our fears and narrow ideologies. Pruned of our pride. 'There is no greater freedom than that of allowing oneself to be guided by the Holy Spirit, renouncing every attempt to plan and control everything to the last detail and instead letting him enlighten, guide and direct us, leading us wherever he wills.' Letting go of control is not doing nothing! We have a profound instinct to hang on to control...



At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came powerfully upon the disciples who were sent to the ends of the earth. But instead, the apostles settled down in Jerusalem and did not want to leave. It took persecution to ease them out of the nest and send them away from Jerusalem! Tough love!

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

#### Family Mass – This Sunday

I welcome all this weekend to our 10.30am Family Mass especially the Youth/Junior Choir. I thank the Family Mass Team for all the hard work and preparation. You are invited to tea/coffee/juice after the Mass in the Pastoral Centre

#### Prayer for Vocations

**Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe** - In our first reading and psalm the image of a caring shepherd is used to portray God and the way God cares for us, his flock. In the Gospel Jesus tells us how God will separate the sheep from goats – those who lived righteous lives from those who did not. We pray for vocations, that those called by the Lord may hear his voice and respond with generosity to be shepherds of his flock as priests, deacons and religious.

#### Feast of Christ the King

Christ is seated on his throne of glory as king and all the nations are assembled before him. The criterion used by Christ in his judgement is the law of love. Our destiny is worked out in the everyday and ordinary events of life. The Son of God is present in a special way in the poor and needy of our world today. Christ our King is their defender and it is he whom we serve whenever we serve the poor and needy. In the evening of life we will be judged on love. (Source: *Glenstal Sunday Missal*)

**Next Sunday** – is the first Sunday of Advent and the beginning of the Church's Year, -the Church's Liturgical Calendar. Regarding the layout of the Lectionary, the Sunday Readings will come from Year B and the Weekday readings from Cycle 2.

Fr Michael Carey PP

#### Parish Meetings this week In the Pastoral Centre

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November – The Parish Pastoral Council will meet at 7.00pm

#### A REFLECTIVE SENTENCE

Symbols are the language of something invisible spoken in the visible world.. Gertrud Von le Fort (1876-1971)- German Catholic novelist and poet.



### Children's Corner

#### IN THE GOSPEL

Jesus challenges us to look out for people who need our kindness, our help and our friendship. Jesus is in every sick person, every lonely person and every sad person. If we help someone in need in any way we are helping Jesus.

#### We are the Church!

Some kings are very proud. Some kings go to war. Jesus is a different kind of king.



POOR  
HUNGRY  
PRISONERS  
ILL  
FOREIGNER  
THIRSTY  
LONELY

Jesus wants us to honour him by honouring the people in this word search.

#### USE YOUR GIFT!

#### A PRAYER TO SAY

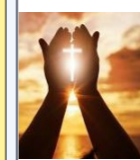
Jesus, I know that you are our king in heaven, but you also need my help here on Earth. I want to help you now so that all people will know and love you. Amen.



**A TIME TO REMEMBER**  
**Tree of Life Ceremony**  
**St. Francis Hospice**  
**Blanchardstown**  
**Thursday, 7th December**  
**@ 8 pm**  
**Refreshments will be served**  
**All Welcome**

**AWAKE DUBLIN—CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE. ROSARY, PRAISE & WORSHIP, WORD OF GOD, HOLY MASS, EUCHARISTIC ADORATION. 2ND DECEMBER 10AM— 1.00PM.**

**CHURCH OF MARY, MOTHER OF HOPE, LITTLEPACE CLONEE. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ANNE 085 7340862**



#### Tuesday Prayer Group

Fr Peter McVerry will be joining us to celebrate mass at 8pm on Tuesday 28th November (last Tuesday of Nov).

#### EXPLORING THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS



#### What is Christian Morality?

St Brigid's Pastoral Centre  
THIS Wednesday  
29th November 7pm to 8.10pm.

Questions for discussion this week: **How do we honour love and fidelity?**  
**Why promote justice?**

**THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER**  
After 10am mass, until 1230pm, there will be a Sale of Christmas crafts and decorations and a book stall, in the pastoral centre. All proceeds will go to preparing care-packs for homeless people to be delivered by MQI Merchants Quay volunteers, at Christmas



#### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday Vigil	John & Josephine Brooks
Sunday 10.30	Tom & Marie Russell and their sons Fr Micheál OFM, Fr Tom OFM, Paul & Kevin Russell Nancy, Theresa & Dinny Flanagan Nellie & Ned Conlon Canice Foley Kevin Bernie
Thursday	John Kelly Joseph Brennan

