

St Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

Easter Sunday – Sunday 9th April 2023



What does Resurrection mean?

"The Lord is truly risen, alleluia"

The Church celebrates Easter, not just for today but for fifty days, over a period that's called 'The Great Sunday'. Why? What does the Resurrection mean?

It means that this person, this extraordinary person Jesus of Nazareth, who was nailed into timber, hammered into the ground, buried under stone, put death completely into reverse and rose to new life. Death is so prevalent, in our experience so final and irreversible, that it really takes beating. He beat it.

It means that the Resurrection is not just an historical fact, it's a continuing experience. We do not say 'Christ rose'; we say 'Christ is risen'. He is risen now. 'Where two or three are gathered in my name...' He is present in his Spirit – in his Word, in the Mass, in Holy Communion, in the Sacraments, in other people. He's here as our inspiration, our Saviour and Lord.

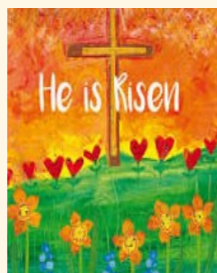
It means that Resurrection is ours. It's not just a personal achievement on Our Lord's part. It's a public company in which we all have shares. And according to himself, the cost of a share, the price of a share, is faith.

Not uninformed swallowing of everything, but a basic if sometimes faltering faith in him, 'I am the resurrection. Anyone who believes in me, even though that person dies, will live' (Jn 11:25).

It means that life is not a dead-end. It's not a cul-de-sac. We've all met situations in life, indeed in our own community, where people died young, in an accident perhaps or from an unforgiving disease. Life can be so uneven, and death is so indiscriminate, that we need something to balance the scales. That something is the Resurrection. You need it to round things off. It's the one thing that rounds off our jagged existence.

And God 'will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness or pain. The world of the past has gone' (Apoc 21:4) Resurrection means that we should be improving things now. Resurrection cannot be for the sacristy. It has to be for society, a risen world. An Easter people can never be complacent in the face of poverty, injustice and starvation.

It is to be hoped that the Resurrection will be recognisable in its familiarity, that we'll welcome it not because it's new and different but because it's something we've already begun to know. The resurrection of Jesus is at the heart of the Christian message. Death is called, in scripture, 'the final enemy', and it completes the final and eternal victory of Jesus. It is that victory that our hope lies. 'by your cross and resurrection you have set us free...Dying, you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life...' The only thing we are sure of is that every single one of us is going to have to take that final leap of faith that we call death. When Jesus bowed his head on Calvary he trusted the Father to catch him, as it were. He returned, and spent forty days with his apostles to impress on them that he had overcome death, and there was no longer any gamble or uncertainty in it for them. We already share in resurrection, as we await our own entry into the fullness of that new and eternal life. (Source: *These might help – Bishop Joseph Cassidy*)



Easter Monday 10th April

is a Bank Holiday. Mass will be at **11am** with No evening mass.

We pray for our recently deceased:

Kathleen Jordan



A Reflective Sentence

"For surely I know the plans I have for you" says the Lord, "plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope" – Jer. 29:11-14

Lenten Penitential Liturgy

Thank you to the priests from our Partnership Parishes of Corduff and Mulhuddart who assisted with the Lenten Penitential Liturgy. Thank you to the Choir for their beautiful singing. Thank you to all who came to either this liturgy or attended confessions in preparation for Easter.

Car Park

Last Sunday – Palm Sunday there was a huge turnout at the morning 10.30am Mass, so much so that the car park was full – a good complaint! Can I remind you that we have another, a second or an overflow car park, on the Castleknock Road side of the Church, with the entrance opposite the Bell Pub. There are rarely many cars in it on Sundays. By the way, the Vigil Mass had an above average gathering as well.

A wonderful start to Holy Week in St Brigid's Blanchardstown

Easter Dues Envelopes

If you did not receive Easter Dues envelope and would like to contribute to the Priests of the Parish, please take one from the tables around the Church. A sincere thank you to all who have returned their Easter Dues envelopes. Your continued generosity is very much appreciated. *If you have not made a return and would like to there are dues envelopes available at the back of the Church. If you are not a regular contributor to the Parish and would like to do so, please leave your name and contact details with myself or in Sacristy or Parish Office.*

Divine Mercy

An individual can receive complete forgiveness of sin and all punishment due to sin if they receive Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday (the first Sunday after Easter), and confession within the octave. The Divine Mercy Novena begins on Good Friday and Divine Mercy leaflets are available at the doors of the church. Divine Mercy devotions will be held in St Philip the Apostle Church in Mountview starting **TODAY** at 2 pm on Divine Mercy Sunday. At exactly 3 pm, the Divine Mercy chaplet will be prayed followed by Mass. We encourage everyone to take part.

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

Resurrexit sicut dixit



'He has risen as he said'. Risen Lord, kindle again in our hearts the fire of faith. May we be bearers of the light and joy of Easter faith to all whom we meet. The Lord is risen – he is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Easter Sunday

Our Easter celebration calls us to seek to strengthen our belief that new Life comes from an empty tomb. Our Easter celebration calls us to seek encounters with the risen Lord and believing that we in turn can be that presence of new Life for others. Our Easter amazement does not centre so much on whether or not we believe in Jesus' resurrection – we do! Our amazement is over the fact that we can encounter the risen Lord ourselves, that Jesus' new life is our own Life, and that he works through us to bring his risen Life to others

Easter Blessing

On behalf of myself, the Parish Team, the Parish Staff and the Parish Pastoral Council, I would like to extend to all Parishioners of St Brigid's Blanchardstown and readers of this newsletter, the grace and blessings of the Easter Season. Happy Easter – the Lord is Risen. Alleluia!



Thank You

Thank you to the Sacristans, to John White and the Choir, the Liturgy Team, to Jean and Christine, and to the many parishioners who volunteered their time and energy to help prepare the Church's for the Easter Ceremonies and to all who exercised a Liturgical Ministry during these self same ceremonies. Thank you also to all attended the ceremonies during this Easter/Paschal Triduum.

God's Housekeepers

Thank you to the Church cleaners who keep the Church beautiful throughout the year and I welcome the new members to this group.

Flowers

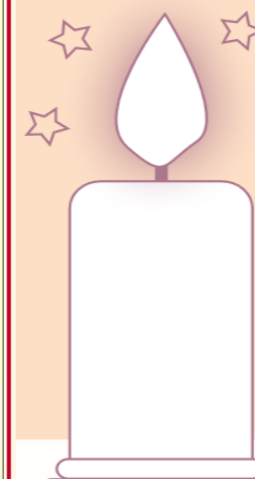
The Easter flowers are beautiful. Thank you to our wonderful arrangers: Dolores O' Leary; Mary Ronayne and Jean Hamilton. What is in the display involved hours of dedicated work!

Easter Cards

Thank you to all who helped distribute the Easter Cards. It takes time to deliver and it is much appreciated – it makes a difference!

Fr Michael Carey PP

Paschal Candle



Last night the Easter candle was blessed and set alight. Jesus, our light, is risen! He is alive in 2023. Write the year to match the one in your church. Colour in the flame and candle.

JESUS IS ALIVE!



A PRAYER TO SAY

I am so happy, Jesus, that you are alive! Now I know that good things can come out of the worst situation. Thank you for showing me that love will always win. Amen.

St. Vincent de Paul

The outdoor monthly collection for St Brigid's Blanchardstown, VdP, will be taken up **next** weekend at all Masses

Mass intentions for the week

Sun 1030am	Clare Molloy Ethna Teeling (MM) Nancy Purtill Simon Hilliard George Farmer
Mon 11am	Christina Downey Angela Goodwin
Tues	Anne Gilhooley
Wed	Peter Foley
Thurs	Rosemary McGrath John Crowley

CURRENT SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
Mass at 10am preceded by the Rosary at 9.30
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*

*Last Sunday of each month will also have a midday Family Mass **

1st Saturday of the month – 10am Mass followed by confessions

Last Tuesday of the month – Prayer Group Mass 8pm, all welcome

Bank Holidays: Mass 11am only
All services available on

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

Wed: Mulhuddart **Fri:** Corduff

Sunday Mass Collections

Many thanks for your continued support of these collections which are vital for the support of the priests of the diocese. You can contribute to the Mass collections by: Putting your offerings in the 'white boxes' around the Church or by leaving your Envelope into Parish Office during the week. Using the 'Tap and Go' machines. Many parishioners find this quite handy – especially in these 'cashless' days. Using the online 'Donate' facility on the Parish Website.

See www.blanchardstownparish.ie where you can select both one-off and recurring payments. The Mass collections are divided – 60% to the 1st – Common Fund for Priests; 40% - to the 2nd – Share.

Thank you so much for your generosity

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