



CURRENT SCHEDULE *

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:

Mass at 10am preceded by the Rosary at 9.30am, Church closes at 5pm

Monday: Area Mass at 7.30pm preceded by Rosary and Novena at 7pm

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 at 8pm, all welcome

Bank Holiday: Mass 11am only, no evening mass

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 7.30pm

Mon: Blanchardstown

Tues & Thurs: Castleknock

Wed: Mulhuddart

Fri: Corduff

* Please note that our standard schedule may be subject to some change in the current circumstances.



Esker Cemetery Mass, Lucan

The Annual Mass and blessing of Graves will be on Sunday 1st September at 3pm.

St Mary's Clonsilla—Church of Ireland

Ecumenical Graveyard Service with Blessing of the Graves—Sunday 8th September at 3pm. All are welcome!

St John the Baptist

Thursday 29th August is the feast 'The Passion (Beheading) of St. John the Baptist'. He was the son of Zechariah and Elizabeth. Luke tells us the angel Gabriel announced his birth to his father Zechariah and gave him the name John, which means "God is gracious." (Luke 1:8-23) Even while still in his mother's womb he recognised the presence of Jesus by leaping when Mary visited Elizabeth (Luke 1:41). It is the moment when John the Baptist was cleansed of original sin. The angel Gabriel had previously promised Zechariah that John would be filled with the Holy Spirit even while in the womb (Luke 1:15), and this promise was fulfilled when he was cleansed of original sin when Mary visited his mother Elizabeth. John left his parents to live the life of a prophet in the desert. He preached in the desert dressed like an Old Testament prophet, wearing a garment of camel-skin and eating locusts and wild honey (Mark 1:6; Matt 3:4). He proclaimed the kingdom of God and a coming judgment, and invited people to accept baptism as a sign of their repentance.

His ministry resembled that of the prophets in that he disturbed the comfortable and comforted the disturbed.

We see him disturbing the comfortable when he said to the Pharisees and Sadducees, "Brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the coming retribution? Produce fruit in keeping with your repentance and do not presume to tell yourselves we have Abraham as our father." (Luke 3:7-8) His message obviously disturbed people so some of the powerful did repent, including tax-collectors and soldiers. Tax-collectors asked him what they must do and he replied, "Exact no more than the appointed rate." (Luke 3:13) Soldiers also repented, and his advice to them was "No intimidation! No Extortion! Be content with your pay!" (Luke 3:14). His message spread far and wide. Mark says all Jerusalem and Judea made their way to him and as they were baptised in the Jordan they confessed their sins (Mark 1:5). We see John's humility when he did not want attention on himself but directed people to Jesus. People began to wonder if John was the Messiah so he reassured them that he was not.



He declared that his ministry was preparing for the coming of the Messiah, "I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit." (Mark 1:8) When Jesus came to John asking for baptism, John recognised Jesus at once and said, "Look, there is the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world". These words have found their way into the prayer of Mass; when the priest holds up the Sacred Host as we prepare for Holy Communion he says, "This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world."

Jesus began his public ministry after he had been baptised by John. An expectation had developed among the Jews that the prophet Elijah would return to earth once again to prepare them for the coming of the Messiah and Jesus later declared that John was that Elijah type person they were expecting (Mark 9:13). After Jesus' baptism once again we see John turning the attention to Jesus as he declared, "He must increase, I must decrease." (John 3:30) We are reminded of this fact celebrating John's birth just days after the summer solstice since the daylight will now decrease and we will celebrate the birth of Jesus just days after the winter solstice when the daylight will increase.

Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes



Those travelling on our Pilgrimage to Lourdes this September, are invited to attend the mass at 7.30pm on Monday 26th August

which will be followed by a short meeting and refreshments. For those who cannot travel this year to Lourdes, there will be an opportunity next week/weekend to write a petition to Our Lady of Lourdes which will be placed at the Grotto during the pilgrimage by our Parish Group. You can also become an associate member and keep all pilgrims in your prayers.

Saints in the Church's Calendar

Saint Augustine – Wednesday 28th August. 354-430. He was converted at the age of 33 and baptised by St. Ambrose. He became Bishop of Hippo (Algeria), where he lived with a community until his death. His theological influence has been most significant in the Church, especially on the understanding of God's grace. Patron of theologians.

The Passion of St. John the Baptist– 29th August – The gospels relate how St. John fearlessly condemned Herod Antipas's unlawful marriage to Herodias, who had been previously married to his half-brother. The outraged Herodias had him imprisoned. In a moment of weakness Herod promised to grant the heart's desire of Salome, the daughter of Herodias. She asked for John the Baptist's head, which was promptly fetched for her. Thus the Precursor of the Lord preceded his master through his passion.

Lourdes Collection for sick pilgrims

The Annual outdoor collection will be taken up next weekend, 31st Aug/1st Sept to support the Fund that helps send sick pilgrims to Lourdes. They will stay in the Hospital in the Grotto Sanctuary.



When discouraged and 'down in the dumps'... our dashed hopes and failures we can offer, and say 'These are for love of you, True Lord'. If gloom descends, we can sing still of your love. It sweetens life.

Fr Adrian Crowley. '90,000 Reasons to Love God'

Updating the Parish Website

The Parish Website was last updated about 11 years ago. This is a long time ago in terms of web design and technology. Over the past few months, a small team has been looking at the various options open to us and has now chosen the new design. For various reasons we have gone live a bit quicker than we expected so if you log in to the website today you will see the new layout is already in place. We hope that you will find it more appealing and easier to use. We are confident the update will make it a lot easier for us to manage the site in the background, so that we can more readily add, or remove, content to keep it more current and relevant. Our focus so far was on getting the new technology in place. Over the coming months we will focus on getting the content updated and expanded. Please be patient with us as we work through all these changes, there may be some glitches along the way. Please do provide feedback (to the parish office) if you notice anything unusual or surprising. Happy Browsing!!

Funeral Ministry

The Dublin Diocese is keen to increase the lay involvement in funeral ministry. 3 training sessions are to be held locally on Wed 18 & 25 Sep and 02 Oct. Parishioners with any interest in funeral ministry are very welcome to attend. There is a one page letter available in the Church with more details. Or talk to any of the parish team.

Children's Corner: In the Gospel Today

Jesus' message is just too difficult for some of his friends to understand, so they leave him. Simon Peter chooses Jesus. He knows that following Jesus will give him a life of love and happiness.

My friends

Simon Peter stayed with Jesus when some other friends left him. Who are your friends?

Draw a happy picture of you and your friends with Jesus.



Thank you Jesus, for choosing me to be your friend. Help me to always choose you to be my friend. Help me to make good and loving choices so that I am a good friend to you.

Amen

Jesus has chosen us:

Are we choosing Jesus?

"As a Christian, and a follower of Jesus Christ, I try every day to....." Circle the words below that show us following Jesus' teaching:

think of others

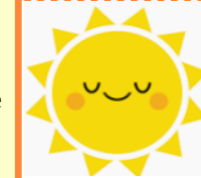
get very cross

share my things

treat my friends badly

say my prayers

be helpful at home



The summer is ending so the schools are reopening this coming week. We hope all are well rested. Sacramentally, it is a particularly im-

portant year for the 2nd and 6th classes. We pray that the journey and prepara-

tions for the Sacrament of 1st Penance, Holy Communion and Confirmation are exciting and rewarding for the pupils, their parents and wider family circle and of course the class teachers. It is also an important, challenging and probably nervous year ahead for the Junior and Leaving Certificate classes 2025 – we wish them well and assure them of the prayers of the whole Parish Community. We might even get an 'Indian Summer' which will delight us all!

We pray for our recently deceased;



Mary (Bernie) Tierney

Always loved, never forgotten

Mass intentions for the week

Saturday	Brendan Kennedy (MM)
	Oliver Sheridan & Patricia Sheridan-Mahassy
	Mary & John (Sonny) Flynn
	Josephine & Thomas Cronin
Sunday	Patricia Gannon (1st A)
	Catherine Darcy (1st A), John Whitty
	Stella, Jimmy & Christy Herbert, Aeneas Lane, Margaret Egan

Parish Contacts:

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