

St Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter Second Sunday of Advent - Sunday 8th December 2024



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.

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

Week 2 - Light the second purple <u>candle</u>

Child: Jesus, our brother, we ask you to bless our family during this Advent time. We light these candles to remind us that you bring light into our lives and into the world. We thank you for showing us how to show love and be kind and help those who need help. Adult: God, your story of love for people all through time reminds us that you are with us, offering us light and hope.

Help us to trust in you this week.

All the family: Come Lord Jesus into our hearts and into our home.

Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is significant in that unlike holly or floral wreaths, it has candles

standing upright, representing the four Sundays of Advent and the thousands of years that God's people awaited the Messiah. The round ring of the Advent Wreath represents eternity- time without end. As the circle is never ending, so time with God goes on and on. The evergreens are for eternal life, life without end. Evergreens do not die in the winter and like them God is always fresh and new. The candles remind us of Christ 'Light of the World'.

JESSE TREE

This tree is named after Jesse the father of David, the great king of Israel. 'A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse and from his roots a bud shall blossom' (Is 11.7). The symbols represent the promises God made throughout the Old Testament concerning the birth of His Only Son. Some of the most important promises of all were made to Jesse and his son David. They were promised that God's only Son would be born in their family.

Fr Frank Drescher will celebrate mass in our Church next Saturday 14th December at 10am. All welcome



around you, remembering that God lives within them too.

T is for TIME - Jesus said, 'You do not know the day nor the hour your Lord will come.' So let's try to make the most of the time we have.

Advent – How spelling it helps!

A is for ALERT - Be ready to welcome

for someone else every day to show

E is for EFFORT—Give it your best to

N is for NICE - Try to be nice to those

V is for VIOLET - The colour that

God at any time.

D is for DO - Do something

shows we await our King.

prepare for the Lord.

After a chaotic year, there is comfort to be found when we pause to read, pray, and reflect over the course of the Advent season, a time when we eagerly anticipate the celebration of Christ's birth. The second Sunday of Advent gives us the opportunity to prepare our hearts in faithful waiting, to celebrate the birth of Jesus, and to ready ourselves for his second coming. During this second week of Advent, we pause to remember who God is and what He has done for us. When our lives are hurried, we only have the chance to focus on our to-do lists. Making space in our schedules for prayer and meditation helps us to better see God at work in our lives and in our world. As we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Jesus' arrival as a gift to all humanity, let's stir up in our hearts and homes a sense of anticipation. May God's spirit transform the days leading up to Christmas into a time of holy anticipation; preparing our hearts, as we

the arrival of our king.

How to Pray?

The adult discussion group will run for the next two Wednesdays (ie for Advent). All are welcome this

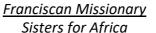
Wednesday 11th Dec at 7pm (in the Jubilee Room) as we explore: Who is 'Our Father'?

faithfully await the chance to celebrate

Parish Contacts: Parish Priest: V Rev Fr. John Gilligan 087 410 3239 Deacons: Rev Jim Adams 086 223 2411 Rev Michael O'Connor 087 294 1729 Sacristy: 8238354 Parish Finance Christine Carleton / Parish Secretary Jean Rogers: 8115412

email: office@blanchardstownparish.ie website: www.blanchardstownparish.ie https://www.facebook.com/St-Brigids-Parish-Blanchardstown-44438662375848/

St Brigid's Church, Castleknock Village



A huge thank you from the Sisters for our recent generous donation of €6.210 which helps them carry out their valuable work in Africa.



Our Christmas Teen Hope meeting will take place on Friday 13th December at

7pm. We look forward to a night of games, prayer and pizza!

Unfortunately, Our Christmas Carol Service (listed for 12

Dec) will not be taking place, however we will have carols on Christmas Eve before the Vigil Mass.



The Eyes of the Storm The Trócaire photo exhibition, which includes important messages from Pope Francis' Encyclical Laudato Si',

try hard

continues in the Parish Pastoral Centre. Please take a few minutes to visit after mass this weekend.

Saturday—after 6pm mass. Sunday after 1030 mass. Monday after 7.30pm mass.



St. Vincent de Paul

This weekend St Vincent de Paul will hold their Annual Church Collection in the hope of raising funds for people who are struggling this Christmas.

Funds raised will be spent in the local community helping those who need it most with food, heating and education costs. This collection will replace the usual Share Collection. Thank you for your support!



St Francis Hospice At Christmas we remember all those we have cared for through our Tree of Life Ceremonies held in December. The Tree of Life is symbolised by large Christmas Trees in the grounds of the Hospice. Lights on the Christmas Tree may be sponsored until the end of December, €6 per light.

Bayside Alpha are hosting on Zoom a two part series: St Francis of Assisi: Sign of Contradiction with Bishop Barron and Franciscan Friar Fr Dave Pivonka on Sunday the 15th & 22nd of Dec- 7:30pm. To join this free series email Paul alphabayside@gmail.com



Christmas Warmth Concert

Sunday 15th December at 6pm in St Mochta's Church Porterstown. The Church choir and Mary Flynn will provide an evening of carols and 'Songs

for a Winter's Evening'. Tickets are €10 each or €20 for a family. Refreshments will be provided afterwards.

In the Gospel Today

John the Baptist wants us to get ready to welcome Jesus. We can welcome Jesus by being sorry for anything we have done wrong and being even more loving and kind.

Listen to John the Baptist

Children's Corner:

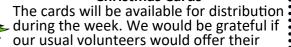
John the Baptist says it is our job to make Jesus' path straight and smooth. We need to get ready for Jesus. What is John saying to you? Put the words in one or more of the speech bubbles. Colour the bubbles you are going to do this week share my thing: say a prayer care for others speak kindly

PREPARE A WAY!

Think of some ways we can say sorry. Write a card? Give a Hug?

I am so excited that you are coming soon, Jesus. Help me to get ready to welcome you by being kind and loving. Amen

Christmas Cards



services once more. We are also looking for some new recruits for our ever expanding parish! You can collect your bundle from the Pastoral Office during the week. Thank you to George Maybury and the parishioners who organise the Christmas cards and dues envelopes •

Choir Director/Organist

Thank you to James Murphy our outgoing director! We wish him every success in his new role! Is there someone in our community or among a wider circle that you think might be interested in the position of Choir director/ organist? If so, please contact the office for further details. Kindly note that remuneration will be determined in accordance with Diocesan guidelines.

Relaunch of the Basket Collection We are pleased to announce the relaunch of the basket collection during all weekend Masses. To ensure this runs smoothly, we are looking for regular Mass-goers to volunteer to help distribute and collect the baskets as part of the offertory. If you can assist, please leave your name on the sign-up sheet in the church or extension after Mass. Training / instructions will be provided. Your support would be greatly appreciated as we continue to build our parish community.

Mass intentions for the week

sat Kevin Kilmurry Patrick & Sheila Fitzpatrick Michael & Kathleen Kelly Aileen Madden Michael Cody (MM) Phyllis & Mick Lynch John Brennan (MM) **Kevin Nugent** Myra Murphy **Bridie Farrell** Bridget & Patrick Keane Mairead Barrett

Mon Thomas, Maura & Declan Maundsley Seán, Maud & Thomas Reidy

We pray for our recently deceased



Tony Long Patricia O'Sullivan Sheila McNulty



Always loved, never forgotten.