



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 candle

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

Christmas with Fineálta Choir
 featuring special guests **Vicini Vocal Ensemble**
 conducted by Shauna Donnelly
 12 December 2024
 Concert at 8pm
 Doors at 7:45pm
 Tickets on the door €10 (€8 Concession) Kids go free!
St Brigid's Church, Castleknock Village

Advent – How spelling it helps!
A is for ALERT - Be ready to welcome God at any time.
D is for DO - Do something for someone else every day to show you care.
V is for VIOLET - The colour that shows we await our King.
E is for EFFORT—Give it your best to prepare for the Lord.
N is for NICE - Try to be nice to those 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.

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 faithfully await the chance to celebrate 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'?

Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa
 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'*, 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!

A Time to Remember
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.

Children's Corner: 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
 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 things
 say a prayer
 care for others
 speak kindly
 help at home
 try hard
 smile
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
 The cards will be available for distribution during the week. We would be grateful if our usual volunteers would offer their 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 Michael & Kathleen Kelly Michael Cody (MM)	Patrick & Sheila Fitzpatrick Aileen Madden Phyllis & Mick Lynch
Sun	John Brennan (MM) Myra Murphy Bridget & Patrick Keane	Kevin Nugent Bridie Farrell 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.