

CHURCH SERVICES

THE EUCHARIST

Sunday: Saturday 6.00pm
 Sunday 10.00am and 12.00 noon
Weekdays: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 10.00am
 Tuesday, Thursday 7.30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: After 10.00am and before 6.00pm Mass on Saturdays and on request.

Baptism: Normally on 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 1.00pm. Enquiries to the parish office.

Marriage: By arrangement with one of the Priests

SUNDAY MASS TIMES IN OUR PARISH PARTNERSHIP: - St Mochta's, Porterstown - Saturday Vigil 6pm, Sunday 11am. St Thomas the Apostle, Laurel Lodge - Saturday Vigil 6.30pm; Sunday 9.30am, 11.30am. For those seeking an evening Sunday Mass, St Philip the Apostle, Mountview have one at 6pm.

Evening Weekday Mass availability in our Deanery:

- St Brigid's, Blanchardstown, 7.30pm Mass on Mondays
- St Luke's, Mulhuddart, 7.30pm Mass on Wednesdays
- St Patrick's, Corduff, 7.30pm Mass on Fridays

CONTACT INFORMATION

Fr. Damian McNeice – Phone: 089 445 3987

Fr. Denis O'Connor CSsR –Phone: 01-8214003

Parish Office – Monday to Thursday, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Phone: 01-6409601 Email: parishoffice@castleknockparish.ie

Church Sacristy – Phone: 01-8214652

Our Lady's Parish Centre – Phone: 01-8209907

Parish Website – www.castleknockparish.ie

Parish Newsletter – Notices may be emailed to ourladysparish@gmail.com

Written notices may be handed in to the Parish Office. The deadline for submissions is Thursday evening.

CHURCH NOTICE BOARD, BOOKSHELF OR TABLE AT THE BACK OF THE

CHURCH Please do not leave any material

(notices/leaflets/books/publications, etc.) on the table, bookshelf or on the Church notice board without checking with Fr Damian or the parish office.

LOST PROPERTY: There are a number of unclaimed items in Lost Property - glasses, umbrellas, etc. An item which may be of sentimental value was found in the church after **10am Mass on Sunday 30th November**. Also, a sum of money was found recently. If you think this or the other items may be yours, please contact the sacristy or parish office



OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PARISHES OF
ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE, LAUREL LODGE
AND ST MOCHTA'S PORTERSTOWN.

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8 February 2026

SALT AND LIGHT: In today's Gospel Reading (cf. Mt 5:13-16), Jesus says to his disciples, "You are the salt of the earth. ... You are the light of the world" (vv. 13-14). He uses a symbolic language to indicate to those who intend to follow him some criteria for living presence and witnessing in the world.

First image: Salt is the element that gives flavour and which conserves and preserves food from corruption. The disciple is therefore called to keep society far from the dangers, the corrosive germs which pollute the life of people. It is a question of resisting moral degradation, sin, bearing witness to the values of honesty and fraternity, not giving in to worldly flattery of careerism, of power, of wealth. "Salt" is the disciple who, despite daily failures — because we all have them — gets up again from the dust of his errors, and begins again with courage and patience, every day, to seek dialogue and encounter with others. "Salt" is the disciple who does not look for consensus and praise, but strives to be a humble, constructive presence, faithful to the teachings of Jesus who came into the world not to be served, but to serve.

The second image that Jesus proposes to his disciples is that of light: "You are the light of the world". Light disperses darkness and enables us to see. Jesus is the light that has dispelled the darkness, but it [darkness] still remains in the world and in individuals. It is the task of Christians to disperse it by radiating the light of Christ and proclaiming his Gospel. It is a radiance that can also come from our words, but it must flow above all from our "good works" (v. 16). A disciple and a Christian community are light in the world when they direct others to God, helping each one to experience his goodness and his mercy. The disciple of Jesus is light when he knows how to live his faith outside narrow spaces, when he helps to eliminate prejudice, to eliminate slander, and to bring the light of truth into situations vitiated by hypocrisy and lies. But it is not my light, it is the light of Jesus: we are instruments to enable Jesus' light to reach everyone.

Jesus invites us not to be afraid to live in the world, even if sometimes there are conditions of conflict and sin there. In the face of violence, injustice, oppression,

the Christian cannot withdraw into self or hide in the security of his own enclosure... Jesus, at the Last Supper, asked the Father not to take the disciples out of the world... but to guard them from the spirit of the world. The Church expends herself with generosity and tenderness towards the little ones and the poor: this is not the spirit of the world, this spreads light, it is salt. The Church listens to the cry of the least and the excluded, because she is aware that she is a pilgrim community called to prolong Jesus Christ's saving presence in history. May the Blessed Virgin help us to be salt and light in the midst of the people, bringing to everyone, by example and word, the Good News of God's love. *Pope Francis 2020*

ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR RELATIONSHIP CARE/ ACCORD DUBLIN

The Annual Collection for Relationship Care / Accord Dublin, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family, will be made at all Masses next weekend, 14th and 15th February. Relationship Care throughout the Diocese continues to offer:

- Marriage Preparation courses – online, small group
- Counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships, currently online or by phone
- A Relationship and Sexuality Programme for schools.

Relationship Care needs your support this year. Please give generously on 14th and 15th February.

BAPTISMS in January - Please keep Oliver, Luke and Barra and their families in your prayers

ETERNAL REST: Please pray for the soul of our parishioner James Toland whose funeral took place last Wednesday. May the Lord grant him eternal rest, and may the Holy Spirit comfort and sustain all those who mourn.

CHRISTMAS DUES: Sincere thanks to all who have returned their Christmas Dues. All these contributions, as do Easter and Summer Dues, go directly to the central Diocesan Common Fund administered by the Diocesan Finance Secretariat out of which your priests are paid their monthly stipend, and the sick and retired priests of our Diocese are cared for.

CHURCH SHOP – Open this Sunday morning after both Masses. Come in and browse our new stock!

ROSARY TIMES - OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH: After daily Mass Monday to Saturday. A box in which you can place your written intentions to be lifted up during the Rosary is at the back of the Church. Rosary for children continues next Saturday 14th February at 4.30pm

LECTIO DIVINA: Prayer and contemplation of the Gospel for the following Sunday. Wednesday 11th February from 10:30 to 11am in Our Lady's Parish Centre, Castleknock

PARISH CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP: our weekly family Meditation continues in our Church next Wednesday 11th February from 2.35pm till 3pm. We look forward to welcoming you then.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION PRAYER GROUP

Continuing next Thursday 12th February in St Thomas the Apostle day Chapel - 10.30am to 11.10am.

World Community for Christian Meditation was founded by Benedictine monk John Main (1926-1982). A teaching of ancient tradition of prayer, rooted in the Gospels. Meditation is a way of pure prayer, marked by silence, stillness and simplicity.

TAIZÉ PRAYER – 13TH FEBRUARY Our meditative Taizé prayer will take place in our church at 7pm next Friday 13th February. All are welcome, with an extra warm welcome for the young and the young at heart.

DIVINE MERCY MEETINGS: on Tuesdays at 6.30pm in our Parish Centre. All welcome.

'JESUS AND THE JEWISH ROOTS OF HOLY WEEK' IS A SERIES OF FOUR SHORT LENTEN VIDEO TALKS by Dr Brant Pitre in which he connects the events of Holy Week with the Old Testament persons and events that prefigure and foreshadow them. It starts Monday 16th February (two days before Ash Wednesday), 7.30pm, St Mochta's Parish Centre, Porterstown, D15 Y580 for four Monday nights. Admission is free. To reserve a place, phone or text Aengus on 087 216 1199 or Marian on 087 295 8363.

THEWAY.IE: is a new digital platform set up by the Irish Bishops' Conference dedicated to sharing the Good News and the witness of the Catholic Church in Ireland. It is intended to help people discover the faith, live the faith and pass on the faith. It is for both seekers and followers. www.theway.ie.

CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY WEBINAR – ONLINE, TUESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY, 6PM
Learn more about studying the M.Phil. in Christian Theology at Trinity College Dublin. Includes a briefing on course content from lecturers, and info. on the application process and scholarships available. Hear from past and present students and ask any questions you might have. Register using the following link:
https://tcd-ie.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_drx7xxQYReO80vtWv-eSwA

PORTERSTOWN, LAUREL LODGE & CASTLEKNOCK PARISHES – PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES Departing Monday 24th August for 4 nights staying in the 4* Hotel Padoue. €725 pp sharing / €905 single rooms (limited). Spiritual Director, Fr. Paul. If you are interested in travelling with us, please contact June - secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie. A deposit of €200 will secure your place. **There are only a few places available.** Please see the poster on the church noticeboard or www.stmochtasparrish.ie.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock - Saturday, 25th April. A bus will be going from our parish partnership of Castleknock, Laurel Lodge and Porterstown. Further details soon.

TOTUS TUUS 2026 FATIMA PILGRIMAGE - 28TH AUGUST TO 4TH SEPTEMBER - €915
Learn about the Fatima Message, the Rosary, the First Saturdays, the lives of the three visionaries, and visit the tomb and home of Blessed Alexandrina Da Costa, who lived solely on the Eucharist for 13 years. €915 includes flights, half board accommodation, airport transfers, day trip to Balasar, trip to Valinhos and Adjustrel, trip to the Irish Dominican Sisters' Convent. Fly from Dublin or Cork Airports. Limited places are available. For more information call 087 20 49 048.

ESCORTED TOUR TO WESTPORT, KNOCK & CO MAYO, 8TH MARCH, €699.00 PPS
Price includes return train, 5 nights' in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Ballintubber Abbey, Fr. Peyton Centre, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick. Single supplement on enquiry. Contact 094 900 6426 or 087 1890 236 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

VOCATIONS Please keep our seminarians and those discerning a vocation to priesthood in your prayers. If you or someone you know is interested in finding out more about becoming a priest, please contact the Vocations team, Fr Séamus or Fr Bill, vocations@dublindiocese.ie or bill.oshaughnessy@dublindiocese.ie

FUNDRAISING PUB QUIZ FOR KILTEGAN FATHERS, SOUTH SUDAN IN KAVANAGHS (RESCHEDULED DATE)
This Monday 9th February, 8pm in aid of the schools run by St Patrick's Missionary Society (Kiltegan Fathers) in Riwoto, South Sudan. Table of 4 - €40. Contact Fran Leahy 087 947 3333 for further details.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR AVISTA! Are you looking to make a difference in 2026? Avista (formerly the Daughters of Charity) provide supports for individuals with intellectual disabilities in your area and we **urgently** need volunteers to enhance our work. We have volunteering opportunities in a wide range of locations throughout your parish such as providing companionship to individuals or assisting in group activity sessions. **No experience necessary** and ongoing support will be provided. We have options for people to volunteer their time for as little as two hours per month. If you are interested in finding out more, contact **Liz Farrell**, Volunteer Partner Lead, on 087 3792009 or email liz.farrell@avistaclg.ie for an informal chat