

CHURCH SERVICES

THE EUCHARIST: NEW MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 10am and 12 noon.
No 6pm Vigil Mass on Saturday for July and August 2026

Weekdays: Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 10am
Tuesday, Thursday 7.30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: After 10am on Saturdays and on request.

Baptism: Normally on 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 1pm.
Enquiries to the parish office.

Marriage: By arrangement with one of the Priests

SUNDAY MASS TIMES IN OUR PARISH PARTNERSHIP:

St Mochta's, Porterstown - Sunday 11am (no 6pm Vigil Mass on Saturday for July and August)

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

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.

SAFEGUARDING OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

Our Parish follows the Safeguarding policies of the Archdiocese of Dublin. All policies relating to the Safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults are available on the Dublin Diocesan website.

See <http://csp.dublindiocese.ie/policies>

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.



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 JULY 2026
14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Today the Gospel contains a very beautiful prayer of Jesus, who addresses the Father, saying, "I thank thee, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to babes" (Mt 11:25). But what things is Jesus talking about? And then, who are these "babes" to whom such things are revealed? *The things* for which Jesus praises the Father. Just before this, the Lord had recalled some of his works – "the blind receive their sight [...], lepers are cleansed [...], the poor have good news preached to them" (Mt 11:5) – and revealed their meaning, saying that these are the signs that God is at work in the world. The message, then, is clear: God reveals himself by liberating and healing the human person. Let us not forget this: God reveals himself by liberating and healing the human person, and he does this with a gratuitous love, a love that saves. This is why Jesus praises his father, because his greatness consists in love and he never works outside of love. But this *greatness in love* is not understood by those who presume to be great and who fabricate a god in their own image – powerful, inflexible, vindictive. In other words, those who are presumptuous are not able to accept God as Father; those who are full of themselves, proud, concerned only about their own interests – these are the presumptuous ones – convinced they do not need anyone. In this regard, Jesus names the inhabitants of three rich cities of his time: Chorazin, Bethsaida, Capernaum, where he had accomplished many healings, but whose inhabitants remained indifferent to his preaching. For them, his miracles were only spectacular events, useful for making news and feeding gossip. Once passing interest in them was over, they archived them, maybe in order to occupy themselves with other novelties of the moment. They did not know how to welcome the great things of God. The little children, instead, know how to welcome them, and Jesus praises the Father for them: "I bless you," he says, because you have revealed the Kingdom of Heaven to the little ones. Jesus praises him for the simple people whose hearts are free from presumption and self-love. The little ones are those who, like children, feel their need and are not self-sufficient. They are open to God

and allow themselves to be amazed at his works. They know how to read his signs, to marvel at the miracles of his love! I ask all of you, and even myself, do we know how to marvel at the things of God or do we take them for passing things? Brothers and sisters, if we think about it, our lives are filled with miracles. They are filled with deeds of love, signs of God's goodness. Before these, however, even our hearts can remain indifferent and become habitual, curious but not capable of being amazed, of allowing themselves to be "impressed". A closed heart, an armoured heart, is incapable of being amazed. To impress is a beautiful verb that brings to mind photographic film. This is the correct behaviour to have before God's works: to take a photograph of his works in our minds so that they may be impressed in our hearts, and then developed in our lives through many good deeds, so that this "photograph" of God, who is love, becomes ever brighter in us and through us. And now, let us all ask ourselves: In the deluge of news that overwhelms us, do I, as Jesus shows us today, know how to stop before the great things of God, those that God accomplishes? Do I allow myself to marvel like a child at the good that silently changes the world? Or have I lost the ability to be amazed? And do I bless the Father each day for his works? May Mary, who exulted in the Lord, make us capable of being amazed by his love and of praising him with simplicity.

Pope Francis 2023

CHANGES TO OUR PARISH MASS SCHEDULE Because we no longer have Fr Denis ministering among us and there is no sign at present of anyone to replace him, and Fr Brendan Quinlan has also retired in recent months from ministry, it is necessary to reduce the number of Masses here in Castleknock Parish. **From Monday 6th July onwards, there will no longer be a 10am Monday morning Mass in Our Lady Mother of the Church.** Within our partnership, Laurel Lodge Parish and Porterstown Parish both offer 10am Mass on Monday mornings. St Brigid's in Blanchardstown has Mass on Monday evenings at 7.30pm.

It will also be necessary, for the months of July and August, to suspend our Saturday evening 6pm Vigil of Sunday Mass. I am sorry for the upset this might cause to regular worshippers and ministers at these Masses and hope you will be able to adjust. For those travelling to either Laurel Lodge or Porterstown, perhaps you could offer a lift to your neighbour. Thank you for your patience and understanding. *Fr Damian*

Our new Castleknock Mass schedule is: Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays - Mass at 10am. Tuesdays and Thursdays - Mass at 7.30pm. Sundays - Mass at 10am and 12 noon. No 6pm Saturday Vigil of Sunday Mass in Our Lady Mother of the Church in July or August.

ST MOCHTA'S, PORTERSTOWN - SUMMER SCHEDULE (JULY/ AUGUST) 2026

Monday & Friday - Mass at 10am; Wednesday - prayer service at 10am; Sunday - Mass at 11am. No 6pm Mass in St Mochta's on Saturdays in July or August.

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE, LAUREL LODGE Monday to Friday - Mass at 10am. Vigil of Sunday Mass at 6.30pm on Saturday. Sundays - Mass at 9.30am and 11.30am

ARCHBISHOP FARRELL'S MESSAGE ABOUT SUMMER DUES "Please encourage and pray for your priests in their ministry, and pray, too, for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. The Summer Dues appeal contributes to the essential support of priests." *[All Dues throughout the year, Christmas, Easter and Summer Dues - and our 1st Collection at Sunday Mass - go directly to the Diocesan Common Fund administered by the Diocesan Finance Secretariat.]*

ETERNAL REST: Please pray for the soul of our parishioner Joe McAleenan whose funeral took place this Saturday 4th July. May the Lord grant him eternal rest, and may the Holy Spirit comfort and sustain all who mourn.

ROSTER: MINISTERS OF THE WORD The new roster is available on the parish website. Copies are available in the Sacristy.

LECTIO DIVINA Prayer and contemplation of the Gospel of the following Sunday. Wednesdays from 10:30 to 11am in Our Lady's Parish Centre.

PPC CRY OF THE EARTH PARISH ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT NEWS: Work progressed very satisfactorily on the bamboo eradication project. David from Fingal County Council responded positively to our request for support when the rotavator was unsuccessful. He arranged for a mechanical digger and two skilled operators to progress the clearance work. A truck full of excellent topsoil was also donated by FCC. It was a great relief to have the area ready for planting prior to Fr Denis's Thanksgiving Mass. A start has been made on planting the newly reclaimed flowerbed. A yellow Peace Rose takes pride of place, alongside foxgloves, sunflowers, salvias, geums, hostas and nasturtiums, all perennials and excellent pollinators.

Plants were donated from Farmer Gracy, Woodies and Castleknock Tidy Towns. When this season's planting is complete, it will contain plants in appreciation for Fr Denis's 25 years diligent service to the parish, and others in gratitude to Margaret Brady RIP who was very committed to planting trees, shrubs and flowers for many years. Ms Geraldine Fay's 4th class contributed to the project by planting three dozen sunflowers. Many parishioners have commented positively on our parish biodiversity actions, and wild-life is thriving in our fenced-off conservation area. Thanks to Charles for saying 'yes' to my invitation to eliminate the bamboo, and to other local volunteers. The support from FCC and David enabled us to achieve our objectives, and thanks to CTT for the hanging baskets that now enhance our church entrance. Keeping the plants alive and healthy will be a challenge - offers of support for planting, watering, pruning, weeding will be most welcome. Contact Mags Condon at 086 839 2518.