

CHURCH SERVICES

The Eucharist

Sunday: Saturday Vigil 6 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m., 10.30 a.m., 12.15 p.m. & 6 p.m.

Weekday: Monday to Saturday 10 a.m. daily.
Monday to Friday 7.30 p.m. daily.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

After 10 a.m. & 6 p.m. Mass on Saturday and on request.

Baptism

Normally on 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month at 1.15 p.m.
Enquiries to the parish office.

Marriage

By arrangement with one of the Priests.
A minimum notice of 3 months is required.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Fr. Damian McNeice – 6 Beechpark Lawn, Castleknock, Dublin 15
Phone: 089 445 3987

Fr. Denis O'Connor CSsR – 32 Auburn Drive, Castleknock, Dublin 15
Phone: 01-8214003

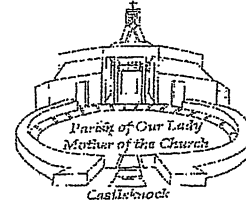
Parish Office – Monday to Thursday, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Phone: 01-6409601 Email: castleknockparish.olmc@gmail.com

Church Sacristy – Phone: 01-8214652

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

Parish Website – www.castleknockparish.ie

Parish Newsletter – Notices may be sent by email to ourladysparish@gmail.com
Written notices may be handed in to the Parish Office during office opening hours.
Deadline for submissions is Thursday evening.



OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH
CASTLEKNOCK, DUBLIN 15

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
5th September 2021

Thank you - Táim an-bhuoích

Dear friends, thank you so much for the fulsome welcome I've experienced these past few days as I take up my appointment as Parish Priest of both Castleknock and Laurel Lodge parishes.

Thanks particularly to those who organised the cup of tea after Masses last weekend. The prayerfulness in Our Lady Mother of the Church and the ease with which so many people carry out their ministries so competently and quietly has already left such a deep impression on me.

Hearty thanks in particular to Fr Denis, Olive in the sacristy, Mary in the Parish Office and the whole team for being so patient and gracious as I gradually find my feet and my bearings.

My sincere thanks too to Fr Kieran Coghlan who was most helpful even in the midst of the burdens of his own move to Clondalkin. Looking forward to walking the road together with hope, in the light of the Lord.

Fr. Damian McNeice

Update on COVID Restrictions

Last Tuesday the Government announced that, from Monday 6th September, "All religious ceremonies can proceed with 50% of venue capacity." That sounds as if we can move to half full church capacity. However, this change only really benefits very large church buildings as we are still obliged to observe "social distancing between groups."

There has been no indication from government as to whether that social distancing can be reduced from 2 metres to 1 in our churches as is the case in other community settings.

Until that happens, we will continue to gather safely just as we have been over the past few months, whilst being able to fit just a few more people into the body of the church. So please continue to be patient and kindly follow the guidance of our volunteer stewards. Without their commitment we simply could not gather for worship.

The Cry of the Earth – The Cry of the Poor

THE CLIMATE CATASTROPHE – CREATION'S URGENT CALL FOR CHANGE

This is the title of a new Pastoral Letter from our Archbishop, Dr Dermot Farrell, for the Season of Creation 2021 which begins on 1st September every year, taking inspiration from Pope Francis' wonderful document Laudato Si. It's available (in PDF format) as a free download from our diocesan website: www.dublindiocese.ie

In this year of St Joseph, here's one of my favourite prayers to him:

*"O Saint Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong,
so prompt before the throne of God,
assist me by your powerful intercession,
and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings...
I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms;
I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart.
Press him in my name and kiss his fine head for me
and ask him to return the Kiss when I draw my dying breath."*

A Blessing of School Backpacks

As many of our children and grandchildren return to school, here is a simple blessing that anyone can use at home or in class for the blessing of school bags as we start a new academic year:

- As you carry your bag, may you know that Jesus is walking with you always looking after you.
- May you keep safe in all you do, may you be more aware of others too.
- May you know the warmth of God's protecting presence in all you say and do.
- May the Lord help you at school, to grow in every way.

After these prayers, sprinkle the bags with some Holy Water, if you have some.

We pray that like the Christ-child, the young people in our parishes will grow in maturity, be filled with wisdom and that God's favour will be with them (cf *Luke 2:40*).

Anam Cara would like to invite you to join us for an online Bereavement Information and Support Evening taking place 16th September at 7pm. This event will give you an opportunity to hear a bereavement professional talk about the difficult challenges and many milestones grieving a child of any age has on you and your family. If you would like to join us, please register here <https://bit.ly/3Dzyphc> or contact us on info@anamcara.ie or 085 288 8888.

PLATFORM STAGE SCHOOL re-commence classes on Wednesday 22nd September in the Parish Centre. Class times are directly after school. We collect Junior/Senior infants from the class room and 1st – 6th class pupils meet us on the grass patch in the school yard just at the back entrance to the Parish Centre. We enter the Parish Centre through the back door. Check out our website www.platformstageschool.ie You can contact Liz on 086 2245113 or liz@platformproductions.ie