

CHURCH SERVICES

The Eucharist

Sunday: Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 10.00am and 12.00pm

Weekday: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 10.00am
Tuesdays and Thursdays 7.30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

After 10.00am & 6.00pm Mass on Saturday and on request.

Baptism:

Normally on 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month at 1.00pm.
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: 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 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

1st Sunday of Advent 28th November 2021

Advent

‘On the First Sunday of Advent our Church, and many others, begin a new Church year. The Church begins its year with a time of hope, and Advent—so frequently ‘lost’ in the preparation for Christmas—is the season of hope *par excellence*. It is the season of hope, because our God who gave himself to us by creating us, and who came to us in the coming of his Son, will come again.

Our God “comes to enrich our personal and collective histories, our dashed hopes and our sterile yearnings.” (*Pope Francis, Homily for the First Sunday of Advent, November 2015*). Our God comes to save us. “Unless the Lord comes to us, we are completely helpless,” as St Maximus the Confessor, so dramatically put it.

In Advent, we proclaim and celebrate our hope and our trust that our God is faithful: that the Lord will come again and again to rescue us, to heal us, to console us, to be with all that he has called into life. God calls us forward to a new world, to embrace a new future.’

The above extracts are from Archbishop Dermot Farrell’s Pastoral letter for Advent. You can read his full message here:

<https://dublindiocese.ie/advent-2021/>

Advent Wreath and Jesse Tree

On the sanctuary of our church in these four Advent weeks we will see our Advent wreath. It is of circular form, the shape of eternity, reminding us that God’s love has no beginning or end. Often it features evergreens, reminding us too of God’s faithful, unchanging love. Three

purple candles remind us that Advent is a time of repentance, of enlarging our hearts. One pink candle symbolizes joy, the message of the scriptures of the 3rd Sunday of Advent.

Perhaps you might like to make your own four canded wreath to light at home and pray as you light it: “Lord our God, over these weeks of Advent may your radiance and joy increase in our hearts as we deepen our welcome of the certain coming of your Son.” In our need, we pray: “Come, Lord Jesus.”

We will also see our Jesse Tree, representing the family tree of Jesus. It is named after Jesse, the father of King David, ancestors of Jesus [see also Isaiah 11:1 and Matthew 1:1-17]. Each Advent Sunday at the 10am Mass we will place more symbols on the tree, reminding us of significant moments and important people in the Old Testament as they waited and longed for God’s promised Saviour.

Other important dates this Advent:

- **Sunday 12th December:** 12 noon Mass with the Blessing of our statue of St Joseph
- **Sunday 19th December:** Baminelli Sunday – bring your Christ child figure from your crib for it to be held up and blessed at all Masses this last Sunday before Christmas Day.
- **Monday 20th December:** Advent Penitential Service 7.30pm with several visiting priests in attendance.

Online Calendar

From this Sunday the Irish Bishops Conference offer an **Online Advent Calendar**, featuring an audio thought for the day and a wide range of resources, which you can visit at:

www.catholicbishops.ie/adventcalendar/

I wait. I watch. I hope.

If you are looking for a little spiritual input straight to your smartphone this Advent, why not join a **WhatsApp group to receive an Advent reflection every day**. For further details and if you would like to join **contact Christina on 0857162152**

Another smartphone favourite of mine is the daily ‘**Taizé readings**’ **app** – available free from both the Apple App and Google Play stores.

7.30 Evening Mass in Dublin 15

Beginning this Advent, St Luke’s parish, Mulhuddart, will have 7.30pm Mass on Mondays; St Brigid’s, Blanchardstown, will have 7.30pm Mass on Wednesdays and St Patrick’s, Corduff, will have 7.30pm Mass on Fridays. These will nicely complement our Tuesday and Thursday evening Masses here in Castleknock. These extra celebrations in parishes of our Deanery are being offered on a trial basis and their continuing will be reviewed in the light of attendance and demand sometime after Christmas.

Mobile phones

Please do your best to remember to turn off your mobile phone (or turn it to totally silent) when in church out of respect for God’s house and the prayer of others around you.

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

The SVP monthly collection takes place after all Masses this weekend, **Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th November**.

Our Annual Christmas Appeal for St. Vincent de Paul will take place in all parishes on **Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th December**. It will be in place of the usual Share Collection. Please give as generously as you can to make Christmas a happier and less worrying time for so many families who struggle with the basics every day of the year. Thank you so much from your local St. Vincent de Paul conference. We wish you a happy and holy Christmas, and a peaceful New Year.

Ministers of the Word

The new rota for Ministers of the Word is available on the Parish website and in the Sacristy.

Annual Night Vigil in Knock

in honour of The Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Bus leaves Church Ave, Blanchardstown on Tuesday 7th December at 4.30pm. For booking, call Michael Frawley 086 8650708. Intention: Healing for all those suffering from the virus & an end to the pandemic.

Scoil Mhuire Mount Sackville Junior School

Scoil Mhuire Mount Sackville are open for enrolment for junior infants commencing September 2022 until **November 30th**.