

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.

Other Evening Weekday Mass availability in our Deanery:

St Luke's parish, Mulhuddart, 7.30pm Mass on Mondays,
St Brigid's, Blanchardstown, 7.30pm Mass on Wednesdays
and St Patrick's, Corduff, 7.30pm Mass on Fridays.]

N.B. From the beginning of July 2022 the 7.30pm evening Mass on Mondays will be hosted by St Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown and the 7.30pm on Wednesdays will be hosted by St Luke's in Mulhuddart.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Fr. Denis O'Connor CSsR – 32 Auburn Drive, 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 to ourladysparish@gmail.com

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

THE DUBLIN DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2022

Wednesday 7th to Monday 12th September. Join hundreds of Dublin pilgrims led by our Archbishop, Dr. Dermot Farrell, on this visit to Our Lady's Shrine in Lourdes in the south of France, that features a full programme of liturgies and services. From 759 euro p.p.s. Book through Joe Walsh Tours Office: 01-2410800. <https://joewalshstours.ie>



OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK

13TH SUNDAY, ORDINARY TIME, 26TH JUNE 2022

29th June next is the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. Here are some extracts from Pope Francis' homily on that day last year:

Two great Apostles of the Gospel and two pillars of the Church: Peter and Paul. Let us take a closer look at these two witnesses of faith. At the heart of their story is not their own gifts and abilities; at the centre is the encounter with Christ that changed their lives. They experienced a love that healed them and set them free. They then became apostles and ministers of freedom for others. Peter and Paul were free because they were set free. **Peter, the fisherman from Galilee**, was set free above all from his sense of inadequacy and his bitter experience of failure, thanks to the unconditional love of Jesus. Although a skilled fisher, many times, in the heart of the night, he tasted the bitterness of frustration at having caught nothing (*cf. Lk 5:5; Jn 21:5*) and, seeing his empty nets, was tempted to pull up his oars. Though strong and impetuous, Peter often yielded to fear (*Mt 14: 30*). Albeit a fervent disciple of the Lord, he continued to think by worldly standards, and thus failed to understand and accept the meaning of Christ's cross (*Mt 16:22*). Even after saying that he was ready to give his life for Jesus, the mere suspicion that he was one of Christ's disciples led him in fright to deny the Master (*Mk 14: 66-72*).

Jesus nonetheless loved Peter and was willing to take a risk on him. He encouraged Peter not to give up, to lower his nets once more, to walk on water, to find the strength to accept his own frailty, to follow him on the way of the cross, to give his life for his brothers and sisters, to shepherd his flock. In this way, Jesus set Peter free from fear, from calculations based solely on worldly concerns. He gave him the courage to risk everything and the joy of becoming a fisher of men. It was Peter whom Jesus called to strengthen his brothers in faith (*cf. Lk 22:32*). He gave him – as we heard in the Gospel – the keys to open the doors leading to an encounter with the

Lord and the power to bind and loose: to bind his brothers and sisters to Christ and to loosen the knots and chains in their lives (*Mt 16:19*). All that was possible only because – as we heard in the first reading – Peter himself had been set free. The chains that held him prisoner were shattered and, as on the night when the Israelites were set free from bondage in Egypt, he was told to arise in haste, fasten his belt and put on his sandals in order to go forth. The Lord then opened the doors before him (*Acts 12: 7-10*). Here we see a new history of opening, liberation, broken chains, exodus from the house of bondage. Peter had a Passover experience: the Lord set him free. **The Apostle Paul** also experienced the freedom brought by Christ. He was set free from the most oppressive form of slavery, which is slavery to self. From Saul, the name of the first king of Israel, he became Paul, which means “small”. He was also set free from the religious fervour that had made him a zealous defender of his ancestral traditions (*Gal 1:14*) and a cruel persecutor of Christians. Formal religious observance and the intransigent defence of tradition, rather than making him open to the love of God and of his brothers and sisters, had hardened him: he was a fundamentalist. God set him free from this, yet he did not spare him the frailties and hardships that rendered his mission of evangelization more fruitful: the strain of the apostolate, physical infirmity (*Gal 4:13-14*); violence and persecution, shipwreck, hunger and thirst, and, as he himself tells us, a painful thorn in the flesh (*2 Cor 12:7-10*). Paul thus came to realize that “God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong” (*1 Cor 1:27*), that we can do all things through him who strengthens us (*Phil 4:13*), and that nothing can ever separate us from his love (*Rom 8:35-39*). For this reason, at the end of his life – as we heard in the second reading – Paul was able to say: “the Lord stood by me” and “he will rescue me from every evil attack” (*2 Tim 4: 17*). Paul had a Passover experience: the Lord set him free. Dear brothers and sisters, the Church looks to these two giants of faith and sees two Apostles who set free the power of the Gospel in our world, only because first they themselves had been set free by their encounter with Christ. Jesus did not judge them or humiliate them. Instead, he shared their life with affection and closeness. He supported them by his prayer, and even at times reproached them to make them change. To Peter, Jesus gently says: “I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail” (*Lk 22:32*). And to Paul: “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” (*Acts 9:4*). He does the same with us: he assures us of his closeness by praying and interceding

for us before the Father, and gently reproaching us whenever we go astray, so that we can find the strength to arise and resume the journey. We too have been touched by the Lord; we too have been set free. Yet we need to be set free time and time again. Like Peter, we are called to be set free from a sense of failure before our occasionally disastrous fishing, from the fear that paralyzes us, makes us seek refuge in our own securities, and robs us of the courage of prophecy. Like Paul, we are called to be set free from hypocritical outward show, free from the temptation to present ourselves with worldly power rather than with the weakness that makes space for God, free from a religiosity that makes us rigid and inflexible.

SUMMER DUES: There has been a significant fall in our usual Sunday collections over the last two years, primarily due to the pandemic. The First Collection goes to the Diocesan Common Fund. It is from this central fund that Fr Denis and I receive our monthly stipend. It supports all priests ministering throughout our Diocese and also funds the care of our sick and retired priests. Our parish contribution to the Common Fund in 2021 was down 32% in comparison to that of 2019, a pattern seen right across our Diocese. For that reason, Archbishop Farrell last year introduced a third Dues collection, called “Summer Dues”, to give another opportunity for those who may have missed the Christmas or Easter Dues to support the Common Fund. Fr Denis and I are conscious that this seems to be inviting the same group of faithful people - who always contribute generously - to make yet another offering and that this may be burdensome when so many other demands are being made on your resources at present. If you are able to make a contribution to the Summer Dues, envelopes will be available on the table at the back of our Church and as ever your support of priests ministering in our Diocese is greatly appreciated. *Fr Damian*

THE 16TH ALL IRELAND RALLY FOR LIFE 2022 will meet at 2pm on Saturday July 2nd at the Garden of Remembrance on Parnell Square in Dublin city centre. The Rally theme for 2022 is to urge the nation to ‘Rethink Abortion’. All are welcome to come and take a stand for life.

CHILD SAFEGUARDING: Parishes across Dublin, including our own, are currently finalising their annual Child Safeguarding audits. The latest documents outlining reporting procedures and good practice in our Archdiocese can be found here: <https://csps.dublindiocese.ie/policies/>