

## 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 10am and before 6pm Mass on Saturdays and on request.

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

**Marriage:** By arrangement with one of the Priests.

### Other Evening Weekday Masses 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](mailto:parishoffice@castleknockparish.ie)

**Church Sacristy** – Phone: 01-8214652

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

**Parish Website** – [www.castleknockparish.ie](http://www.castleknockparish.ie)

**Parish Newsletter** – Notices may be emailed to [ourladysparish@gmail.com](mailto: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 DONATE BUTTON ON OUR PARISH WEBSITE** This button, which can be found on the website homepage, is a convenient and easy way to donate to our parish, contribute to Christmas, Easter or Summer Dues. You can also contribute to the usual weekend first and/or second collections, towards our parish running costs and also to donate to our Third World Partnership (TWP) project.

**TAIZE READINGS APP:** available for free download for your smartphone from the App Store and Google Play, featuring a simple passage from Scripture and a reflection of Brother Roger of Taizé for each day of the year.



## OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK

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

## Divine Mercy Sunday

16<sup>th</sup> April 2023

### THE RISEN CHRIST, THOMAS AND DIVINE MERCY

Peace be with you! The Lord says these words... when, eight days later, he appears to the disciples and strengthens the flagging faith of Thomas. Thomas wants to see and touch. The Lord is not offended by Thomas's disbelief, but comes to his aid: "Put your finger here and see my hands" (v. 27). These are not words of defiance but of mercy. Jesus understands Thomas's difficulty. He does not treat Thomas with harshness, and the apostle is deeply moved by this kindness. From a disbeliever, he becomes a believer, and makes the simplest and finest confession of faith: "My Lord and my God!" (v. 28). These are beautiful words. We can make them our own and repeat them throughout the day, especially when, like Thomas, we experience doubts and difficulties.

For the story of Thomas is in fact the story of every believer. There are times of difficulty when life seems to belie faith, moments of crisis when we need to touch and see. Like Thomas, it is precisely in those moments that we rediscover the heart of Christ, the Lord's mercy. In those situations, Jesus does not approach us in triumph and with overwhelming proofs. He does not perform earth-shattering miracles, but instead offers us heartwarming signs of his mercy. He comforts us in the same way he did in today's Gospel: he offers us his wounds. We must not forget this fact. In response to our sin, – the ugliest of sins, whether ours or someone else's – the Lord is always present offering us his wounds. The wounds of the Lord are stronger than sin.

Jesus makes us see the wounds of our brothers and sisters. In the midst of our own crises and our difficulties, divine mercy often makes us aware of the sufferings of our neighbour. We think that we are experiencing unbearable pain and situations of suffering, and we

suddenly discover that others around us are silently enduring even worse things. If we care for the wounds of our neighbour and pour upon them the balm of mercy, we find being reborn within us a hope that comforts us in our weariness. Let us ask ourselves whether of late we have helped someone suffering in mind or body; whether we have brought peace to someone suffering physically or spiritually; whether we have spent some time simply listening, being present, or bringing comfort to another person. For whenever we do these things, we encounter Jesus. From the eyes of all those who are weighed down by the trials of life, he looks out at us with mercy and says: Peace be with you! *Pope Francis*

### **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS**

In our Deanery this year, Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated with a special programme of events at St Philip the Apostle Church, Mountview, this Sunday, 16th April. Commencing at 2pm with Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Reading from the Diary of St Faustina, Blessing of the Divine Image, Chaplet of the Divine Mercy at 3pm, Confessions 2pm to 3pm. Holy Mass will follow the Divine Mercy Chaplet. This is being supported by priests across our Blanchardstown Deanery. All are welcome.

### **EASTER DUES**

Our sincere thanks to those who have handed in contributions to the Easter Dues. All these contributions are sent directly to the Diocesan Common Fund from which priests working in our Diocese receive their monthly stipend and towards the care of sick and retired priests of the Archdiocese of Dublin.

### **THIRD WORLD PARTNERSHIP (TWP) – OUR LINK WITH A PARISH IN METCHA BORRODO, ETHIOPIA**

We have been supporting this Ethiopian parish including its school and students since 2008. Over the Covid epidemic you have helped us build toilets, showers and a water tower. Our partners in Ethiopia have asked us to help them to replace the final two dilapidated classrooms in the school. With severe inflation in Ethiopia since we last built classrooms, the cost of this building has been set at over €79000. We have €35000 towards this from donations to date. If any parishioners know of any source of funds including employers and company funds, or are willing to support us by running marathons or any other way, please contact the

TWP at [TWP@castleknockparish.ie](mailto:TWP@castleknockparish.ie), or use the DONATE button on the parish website, or phone Stephanie at (086) 821 1141.

**SPINA BIFIDA HYDROCEPHALUS IRELAND:** church gate collection this weekend

**D 15 EARTHQUAKE APPEAL: THANK YOU** for your generous support to the Table Quiz at Castleknock Tennis Club on 30 March which raised over €5830. Also for the generous response to the earlier appeal which resulted in the collection, sorting and packing of in excess of 250 boxes of clothing, blankets, sleeping bags, nappies, toiletries and other aid items and their delivery to the Turkish Embassy.

### **DUBLIN DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK – SATURDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

Led by Archbishop Farrell. A bus is being organised from: - Navan Road Parish - [info@navanroadparish.com](mailto:info@navanroadparish.com), or 01 8380265  
- Mulhuddart Parish - [mulhudoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mulhudoffice@gmail.com), or 01 8205480

### **LOURDES PILGRIMAGE FROM ST MOCHTA'S PARISH, PORTERSTOWN**

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023. Please contact St Mochta's Parish Office – 01 821 3218, [secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie](mailto:secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie)

### **LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR**

Continue on Tuesdays at 8pm in St Brigid's Church Blanchardstown extension. featuring Fr Pat Collins CM. All are welcome.

### **ST FRANCIS HOSPICE – SPRING MEMORIAL WALK**

Walk your own 5K anytime, anyplace in the months of March and April to raise funds for the hospice – registration fee €25. Call 01 832 7535 for t-shirt, sponsor cards, etc.

### **MULHUDDART CEMETERY MASS**

Sunday 11th June 2023 at 3pm

**ANAM CARA:** Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 19th April at 7:15pm in the Hilton Hotel, Malahide Rd, Northern Cross, Dublin, D17 Y924.

### **PARISH CENTRE ACTIVITIES**

Tai Chi 6-week term starting 25<sup>th</sup> April, Tuesday, 8.15-9.45pm.