

## 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.

### Fourth Sunday of Easter 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE 2023 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Dear brothers and sisters, dear young people!

*“Chosen before the creation of the world”*

The apostle Paul opens before us a remarkable horizon: in Christ, God the Father “chose us before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will” (Eph 1:4-5). These words allow us to glimpse life at its fullest: God has “conceived” us in his image and likeness and desires us to be his sons and daughters. We were created by love, for love and with love, and we are made for love... This is the fundamental structure of what we mean by vocation: God calls us in love and we, in gratitude, respond to him in love. We realize that we are beloved sons and daughters of the one Father, and we come to see ourselves as brothers and sisters of one another. Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, when at last she “saw” this clearly, exclaimed, “At last I have found my calling: my call is love. Indeed, I have found my proper place in the Church... In the heart of the Church, my Mother, I will be love”.

*“I am a mission on this earth”:* There is no vocation without mission.

There is no happiness and full self-realization unless we offer others the new life that we have found. God's call to love is an experience that does not allow us to remain silent... Five years ago, in the Apostolic Exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate*, I spoke to every baptized person, saying, “You need to see the entirety of your life as a mission” (No. 23). Yes, because each and every one of us is able to say: “I am a mission on this earth; that is the reason why I am here in this world” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 273).

Our shared mission as Christians is to bear joyful witness wherever we find ourselves, through our actions and words, to the experience of being with Jesus and members of his community, which is the Church. That mission finds expression in works of material and spiritual mercy, in a welcoming and gentle way of life that reflects closeness, compassion and tenderness, in contrast to the culture of waste and indifference. By being a neighbour, like the Good Samaritan (cf. *Lk* 10:25-37), we come to understand the heart of our Christian vocation: to imitate Jesus Christ, who came to serve, not to be served (cf. *Mk* 10:45).

This missionary activity does not arise simply from our own abilities, plans and projects... it is the result of a profound experience in the company of Jesus. Only then can we testify to a Person, a Life, and thus become "apostles"... Within the Church, all of us are servants, in accordance with the variety of our vocations, charisms and ministries. Our common vocation to give ourselves in love develops and finds concrete expression in the life of lay men and women, devoted to raising a family as a small *domestic church* and working as a leaven of the Gospel to renew the different sectors of society; in the testimony of consecrated women and men who are completely committed to God for the sake of their brothers and sisters as a prophetic sign of the kingdom of God; in ordained ministers – deacons, priests and bishops – placed at the service of preaching, prayer and fostering the communion of the holy People of God. Only in relation with all the others, does any particular vocation in the Church fully disclose its true nature and richness.

**Grace and mission: a gift and a task:** Dear brothers and sisters, vocation is a gift and a task, a source of new life and true joy. May the initiatives of prayer and of activity associated with this Day strengthen an awareness of vocation within our families, our parish communities, our communities of consecrated life, and our ecclesial associations and movements. The Spirit of the risen Lord dispels our apathy and grants us the gifts of sympathy and empathy. In this way, he enables us to live each day born anew as children of the God who is love (cf. *1 Jn* 4:16) and in turn to offer that love to others. To bring life everywhere, especially in places of exclusion and exploitation, poverty and death, in order to enlarge the spaces of love, so that God may reign ever more fully in this world.

**PRAYER OF POPE FRANCIS FOR VOCATIONS:** LORD of the Harvest, BLESS young people with the gift of courage to respond to your call. Open their hearts to great ideals, to great things. INSPIRE all of your disciples to mutual love and giving – for vocations blossom in the good soil of faithful people. INSTILL those in religious life, parish ministries, and families with

the confidence and grace to invite others to embrace the bold and noble path of a life consecrated to you. UNITE us to Jesus through prayer and sacrament, so that we may cooperate with you in building your reign of mercy and truth, of justice and peace. Amen.

**MARCH FOR LIFE – MONDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY.** Bank Holiday Monday, 1st May, 2pm. Marching in Dublin from St. Stephen's Green to Leinster House to witness to positive alternatives to abortion. It will be a Family Friendly Event.

**LOURDES PILGRIMAGE FROM ST MOCHTA'S PARISH, PORTERSTOWN**  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023, Spiritual Director Fr. Paul Ward, full religious programme, direct return flights, 5 nights full board at Hotel La Solitude, €899 pps, single room supplement of €35 per night. Please contact St Mochta's Parish Office – 01 821 3218, [secretary@stmochtasparish.ie](mailto:secretary@stmochtasparish.ie)

**LOUGH DERG PILGRIMAGE FROM ST MOCHTA'S PARISH, PORTERSTOWN**  
Friday, 7th July to Sunday 9th July, departing from St. Mochta's Church Courtyard at 8am. If you are interested in going, please phone St. Mochta's Parish on 01 8213218, email [secretary@stmochtasparish.ie](mailto:secretary@stmochtasparish.ie) or contact Ellen on 087 9668356.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of Brendan McKenna whose funeral took place in our parish church this week. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers and all who are carrying the burden of grief.

**MULHUDDART CEMETERY MASS:** Sunday 11th June at 3pm.

Vincent de Paul collections at all Masses this weekend.

**THIRD WORLD PARTNERSHIP (TWP) – OUR LINK WITH A PARISH IN METCHA BORRODO, ETHIOPIA.** We have been supporting this Ethiopian parish 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.