

## 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 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.

Evening Weekday Mass availability 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. 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 online way to donate to our parish or to contribute to Dues. You can also contribute to the usual weekend 1st and/or 2nd collections, towards our parish running costs and also to our Third World Partnership (TWP) project.

**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. Building toilets, showers and a water tower. Two dilapidated classrooms in the school need to be replaced. Cost approximately €79000. We have €35000 towards this from donations to date. If you can help in any way it will be appreciated. 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.



## OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK

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

28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023

**POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER FOR PEACE** – *from a 2014 Vatican event with the presence of both the President of Israel and the President of Palestine*

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer! We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried... But our efforts have been in vain. Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost". Instil in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarrelling into forgiveness.

Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division", "hatred" and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman. Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands. Renew our hearts and minds, so that our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam! Amen.



**THE PARABLE OF THE WEDDING BANQUET** With the narrative of the Parable of the Wedding Banquet, in today's Gospel passage (cf. Mt 22:1-14), Jesus outlines the plan that God envisaged for humanity. The king who "who gave a marriage feast for his son" (v. 2) is the image of the Father who prepared for the entire human family a wonderful celebration of love and communion around his only begotten Son. Twice the king sends his servants to call the invited guests, but they refuse; they do not want to go to the feast because they have other things to think about: fields and business. We often also put our interests and material things ahead of the Lord who calls us — and he calls us to a feast. But the king in the parable does not want the hall to remain empty, because he wants to offer the treasures of his kingdom. So he tells his servants: "Go therefore to the thoroughfares, and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find" (v. 9). This is how God reacts: when he is rejected, rather than giving up, he starts over and asks that all those found at the thoroughfares be called, excluding no one. No one is excluded from the house of God.

However, the Lord places one condition: wear a wedding garment. When the hall is full, the king arrives and greets the latest guests, but he sees one of them without a wedding garment, that kind of little cape that each guest received as a gift at the entrance... That man, having rejected the free gift, excluded himself... he accepted the invitation but then decided that it meant nothing to him: he was a self-sufficient person; he had no desire to change or to allow the Lord to change him. The wedding garment - this little cape - symbolizes the mercy that God freely gives us, namely, grace. Without grace we cannot take a step forward in Christian life. Everything is grace. It is not enough to accept the invitation to follow the Lord; one must be open to a journey which changes the heart. The garment of mercy, which God offers us unceasingly, is the free gift of his love. And it demands to be welcomed with astonishment and joy: "Thank you, Lord, for having given me this gift." *Pope Francis*

**WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2023:** Next weekend the Church celebrates World Mission Sunday, Pope Francis's annual appeal to support the spread of the Gospel overseas and missionaries. This year's theme is the Emmaus Gospel inspired "Hearts on fire – feet on the move." To learn more, visit [www.missio.ie](http://www.missio.ie)

**THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS:** There was a delightful, festive atmosphere in our Parish Centre on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October as we had a

social to thank over 130 people who voluntarily contribute to the life of our Parish. We owe huge debt of gratitude to Maria O'Donoghue and her hospitality team, Bernie and Tony in the Parish Centre, Noel Clarke and his catering staff and the trad music players for such an enjoyable night. Míle buoíchas daoibh go léir!

**BAPTISMS IN SEPTEMBER** Congratulations to the family and friends of the following who were baptised into Christ Jesus in our parish during September: Saoirse, Oscar, Matthew, Amelia, Grace, Alanna, Lisa, Dylan.

**ECUMENICAL BLESSING OF GRAVES – ST BRIGID'S CHURCH OF IRELAND, CASTLEKNOCK:** Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup>, 3pm. Ecumenical Graveyard Service with Blessing of the Graves. A Collection will take place for St Francis Hospice and Churchyard Maintenance. All are welcome.

**CASTLEKNOCK TIDY TOWNS TABLE QUIZ, WEDNESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 8PM** Where: Myos, Castleknock. How much: €50 per table of 4, to be booked and paid for in advance - text James on 087 225 3572. Winning team first prize - €200, cash prizes for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places; raffle and spot prizes.

**ST. MOCHTA'S PARISH GOLF CLASSIC, FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER** in Luttrellstown Castle Resort

- 1: Enter a Team (4 Ball) for the 12 o'clock 'Shotgun' Start (€500), includes dinner
- 2: Sponsor a T-Box or a Golf Hole on the Day - €100
- 3: Attend the dinner and join in the Parish Social Celebration - €50
- 4: Make a donation to the Golf Classic, at your discretion. Individual golfers also welcome. All proceeds are going to support Porterstown Parish Finances. For further enquiries contact: Rita Tighe 087 2868065, Eileen Ring 086 8041342 or Fr. Paul 085 8594049.

**ROAD CLOSURES: THE DUBLIN CITY MARATHON** will take place on the morning of Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October will involve road closures and traffic restrictions on Chesterfield Avenue in the Phoenix Park, on Castleknock Road, College Road, Tower Road and Knockmaroon. If you live in these areas, perhaps consider attending our Saturday evening 6pm Vigil of Sunday Mass that weekend.