

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.

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

Church Sacristy – Phone: 01-8214652

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

Parish Website – www.castleknockparish.ie

Parish Newsletter – Notices may be emailed to 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 our Third World Partnership (TWP) project.

LECTIO DIVINA

Spiritual reading and contemplation of the Gospel for the following Sunday. Join us on Wednesday 22nd November from 10.30 to 11.00am in our parish centre. For information, contact Marian on 087 2958363.



OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK

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

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
19TH NOVEMBER 2023

USE WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN YOU AND DO GOOD

On this penultimate Sunday of the liturgical year, the Gospel presents us the well-known Parable of the Talents (cf. Mt 25:14-30). It parable describes a rich gentleman who has to go away and, foreseeing a long absence, entrusts his property to three of his servants: to the first he entrusts five talents; to the second, two; to the third, one. Jesus specifies that the distribution is made "to each according to his ability" (v. 15). The Lord does so with all of us: he knows us well; he knows we are not all the same and does not wish to favour anyone to the detriment of the others but entrusts an amount to each according to his or her abilities.

During the master's absence, the first two servants are very busy, to the point of doubling the amount entrusted to them. It is not so with the third servant, who hides the talent in a hole: to avoid risks, he leaves it there, safe from thieves, but without making it bear fruit. The moment comes for the return of the master, who calls the servants to settle accounts. The first two present the good fruit of their efforts; they have worked and the master praises them, compensates them and invites them to partake in his feast, in his joy. The third, however, realizing he is at fault, immediately begins to justify himself, saying: "Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours" (vv. 24-25). He defends his laziness by accusing his master of being "hard". This is a habit that we have too: we defend ourselves, many times, by accusing others. But they are not at fault: the fault is ours; the flaw is ours. And this servant accuses others; he accuses the master in order to justify himself. We too, many times, do the same. So the master rebukes him: he

calls the servant “wicked and slothful” (v. 26); he has the talent taken from him and has him cast out of his house.

This parable applies to everyone but, as always, to Christians in particular. Today too is the Day of the Poor, in which the Church tells us Christians: “Stretch forth your hand to the poor. Hold out your hand to the poor. You are not alone in life: there are people who need you. Do not be selfish; hold out a hand to the poor”. We have all received from God a “patrimony” as human beings, a human richness, whatever it may be. And as disciples of Christ we have also received the faith, the Gospel, the Holy Spirit, the Sacraments, and so many other things. These gifts should be used to do good, to do good in this life, in service to God and to our brothers and sisters. And today the Church tells you, she tells us: “Use what God has given you and look at the poor. Look: there are so many of them; even in our cities, in the centre of our city, there are many. Do good!” *Pope Francis*

ACN IRELAND WEEK OF WITNESS This year, the Aid to the Church in Need Week of Witness takes place between Sunday 19th and Sunday 26th of November. The Week of Witness is an invitation to Christians across Ireland to stand in solidarity with and remember the suffering of our persecuted brothers and sisters in faith across the world. In 2022, advocacy group Open Doors estimated that the number of Christians killed for their faith rose to 5,898 in 2022, up from 4,761 in 2021. November 22nd is Red Wednesday: a day highlighting the persecution of Christians worldwide. Our churches are lit up in red and we will offer prayer for those suffering for their faith. On Red Wednesday, there will be Eucharistic Adoration in our church after 10am Mass until 5pm, during which we can pray in solidarity with the Body of Christ suffering around the world.

Other times of Eucharistic Adoration in our Parish Partnership are as follows: Sundays 7pm to 8pm in St Mochta's, Porterstown. Wednesdays 8pm to 9pm in St Thomas', Laurel Lodge. 8pm to 9pm Thursdays in Our Lady Mother of the Church. Please continue to pray before the Lord for an end to war and the breaking out of peace.

OUR ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE MASS - THANK YOU Heartfelt thanks to all those who helped to make last Monday evening's Eucharist in remembrance of parishioners who have died in the past year a very beautiful and prayerful experience. I am most grateful to the members of the Bethany and Funeral Ministry teams for their outreach to bereaved families and attention to so many details; to members of the Family Mass Group and the parish Folk Group for the wonderful music and projections; to Fr Denis and all in the sacristy, those who did the beautiful arrangements of autumnal leaves and colours, and those who provided the hospitality afterwards in our Parish Centre. It was a great example of consolation offered to those who are grieving by the entire community.

Fr Damian

‘REMEMBER ME AT THE ALTAR OF THE LORD’ As St Monica said to her children: “Bury my body wherever you will; let not care of it cause you any concern. One thing only I ask you, that you remember me at the altar of the Lord wherever you may be.” If you would like the names of your beloved dead to be included in our Parish Altar List of the Dead, for whom Mass on the first Friday of every month is offered in our Church, simply fill in the Altar List envelopes available at the back of the church and return them to the sacristy or parish office before the end of November.

ETERNAL REST: Pray for the souls of Sarah Hammond, Susan Jane Raethorne and Bridget McGuirk whose funerals took place in our Church this week. Please also pray for the soul of Kathy McGivern, whose funeral takes place here on Sunday evening (removal at 5pm) and Monday morning. May the Lord comfort and sustain all who mourn them.

CASTLEKNOCK PARISH CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP are running a Family Faith Camp on Saturday 2nd December from 2pm to 4pm in Our Lady's Parish Centre, Castleknock. The program will be centered around Advent. Come and dive into the heart of this season with interactive Bible stories, art, music, games, delightful surprises, treats and more! Open to all ages. Please book in advance as spaces are limited. To sign up phone 086 0610686, 087 7183980 or online at <https://form/jotform.com/232152033665348>

THIRD WORLD PARTNERSHIP (TWP) - 15TH BIRTHDAY! COFFEE MORNING & CAKE SALE

Our partnership with the parish of Metcha Borrodo, Ethiopia will be 15 years old this year. The TWP is having a coffee morning and cake sale after 10am and 12 noon Masses next Sunday 26th November to celebrate this milestone. We are raising funds to support our sister parish in Metcha Borrodo, Ethiopia, to replace their broken water pump that supplies water to the village and the school. We are planning to build another classroom for the school in addition to the six we have already built. We are very grateful for the support of the parishioners for all our work so far. We are asking you now to support us by baking and buying cakes and enjoying a coffee or tea with us to celebrate our 15th Birthday. Please contact us through the parish website or e-mail the TWP at TWP@castleknockparish.ie or phone Stephanie at (086) 8211141.

CHROÍ MHÁIRE FOODBANK A huge ‘Thank You’ to all those parishioners who kindly donated non-perishable food items for the Foodbank over the last two weekends. We will not be collecting this weekend or next weekend. We will resume collections on the weekend of 2nd and 3rd December to assist some families in Dublin 15 who face particular difficulties in the run up to Christmas. Thank you, Martin (086 1591188)

The **children's rosary** is recited every **Saturday** in the church at **4pm**. All are welcome!