

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.



OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK

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

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 24TH DECEMBER 2023

Mass Times over Christmas

Masses as usual on Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th December, the 4th Sunday of Advent: 6pm Saturday, 10am and 12 noon Sunday.

Christmas Eve - Sunday 24th:

- Family Mass 6.00pm
- Night Mass 9.00pm

Christmas Day - Monday 25th:

- Family Mass 10am
- Day Mass 12 noon

Daily Mass as usual next week - 7.30pm on Tuesday and Thursday, 10am on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

The Meaning and Importance of the Nativity Scene

The presence of the poor and the lowly in the nativity scene remind us that God became man for the sake of those who feel most in need of his love and who ask him to draw near to them. Jesus, 'gentle and humble in heart' (Mt 11:29), was born in poverty and led a simple life in order to teach us to recognise what is essential and to act accordingly. The nativity scene clearly teaches that we cannot let ourselves be fooled by wealth and fleeting promises of happiness. From the manger, Jesus proclaims, in a meek yet powerful way, the need for sharing with the poor as the path to a more human and fraternal world in which no one is excluded or marginalised.

Pope Francis

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

1. 'Do not be afraid'. Mary was perplexed by the words of the angel. Perhaps you too have sometimes been perplexed by life's path and wondered what it all meant. Perhaps at times you have doubted if God was really with you. In your troubled moments who has been an 'angel' helping to lower your anxiety?
2. Mary was taken by surprise by the invitation, but she did not tell the angel she was not ready, nor ask him to return later. She was prepared to go with the invitation even though it was not the 'right moment'. 'Here I am Lord'. What invitations have come to you at the 'wrong time' and how have you responded?
3. Mary's response serves as a model for us – as one saying 'yes' to what life offers. What is it like for you to say 'yes' to life? Perhaps at this moment in your life you are being invited to say: 'Here I am, Lord'?

Lectio Divina Our spiritual reading, meditation, prayer and contemplation of the Gospel for the following Sunday, an opportunity to listen, share, discuss and pray the Living Word, will resume in the New Year. For information, contact Marian on 087 2958363

Eternal Rest: Please pray for the souls of Elizabeth Leonard and Mary Lynch McKeever, whose funerals took place in our Church last week. May the Lord sustain all who mourn.

Child Safeguarding & Protection

There is a new Child Safeguarding Policy. Copies are available upon request from the Child Safeguarding & Protection Service, Archdiocese of Dublin. A digital copy is accessible on our parish website:

<https://www.castleknockparish.ie/our-parish/safeguarding/>

Please click on the Dublin Diocese link on this page:

<http://csps.dublindiocese.ie/policies>

Mount Sackville Secondary School – 160 years anniversary

In 2024 Mount Sackville will proudly celebrate 160 years of education in Ireland. The school was founded by the Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny in Chapelizod, Dublin in 1864. As part of the celebrations, we invite past pupils and staff to share your stories, photographs or any archival materials of your time here or your association with the school. You may contribute items: By email: memories@mountsackville.ie, by post: Mary Delaney, Mount Sackville Secondary School, Chapelizod, Dublin 20, D20 WP68, or in person: please present the material to the school reception in a sealed envelope with your name and address to ensure you have the original material returned safely.

Chroí Mháire Foodbank

We wish to express our sincere thanks to all those parishioners who kindly donated non-perishable food items for the foodbank over the last months. The collection of food will resume in the New Year. May we wish you and all parishioners a Joyful Christmas and a Blessed New Year. Thank you, Martin 086 1591188

Christmas GOAL Charity Mile

Join fellow-parishioners and friends for a run/walk/jog in aid of GOAL'S humanitarian and development work in developing countries on **Christmas Day at the Pope's Cross, Phoenix Park**, any time from **10.30 to 12 noon**.

Children's Rosary, 4pm Saturdays

The children's rosary will take a break for the Christmas period, and will resume at 4pm on Saturday January 6th. Looking forward to seeing our young children then.

Crosscare Christmas Food Poverty Appeal

Crosscare, our Archdiocesan social care agency, is seeking support for its Christmas Food Poverty Appeal at this challenging time for many families and individuals. This year, they have worked with almost 1,000 families, not just giving them essential food and supplies but advising them and guiding them out of food poverty in the long term, giving a hand up, not just a handout. They have revamped the Community Café in Portland Row, where this year they delivered over 5,000 nutritious meals. Any donation received will help the Food Poverty team help others move forward in life and enjoy the independence of supporting themselves. Donate online at www.crosscare.ie, call 01 8360011, or send a cheque or postal order to Crosscare Christmas Appeal, 2 St Mary's Place North, D07 Y768, Dublin.

Castleknock Tidy Towns

We wish to fill three volunteer roles, Secretary, Events Manager, and Social Media and Website Manager. These are **not** paid positions. To apply, please email your details to castleknocktidytowns@gmail.com and indicate in the subject line the role for which you wish to be considered. Closing date 31st December 2023.

Third World Partnership (TWP) – Metcha Borrodo, Ethiopia

We have been supporting this Ethiopian parish including its school and students since 2008. 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. 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. Please contact the TWP at TWP@castleknockparish.ie, or use the DONATE button on the parish website, or phone Stephanie at (086) 821 1141.