

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.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 21ST JANUARY 2024

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD – MARY ACCOMPANIES US

Just as we have a day in our Liturgical year, Corpus Christi, to particularly celebrate Christ's loving and adorable presence coming to us in the blessed Eucharist, on this Sunday of the Word of God we venerate Christ's presence and communication of his very self to us in the Sacred Scriptures.

"The Church has always venerated the divine Scriptures just as she venerates the body of the Lord, since, especially in the sacred liturgy, she unceasingly receives and offers to the faithful the bread of life from the table both of God's word and of Christ's body... For in the sacred books, the Father who is in heaven meets His children with great love and speaks with them; and the force and power in the word of God is so great that it stands as the support and energy of the Church, the strength of faith for her children, the food of the soul, the pure and everlasting source of spiritual life." *Dei Verbum* #21, 2nd Vatican Council.

"Along our path of welcoming God's word into our hearts, the Mother of the Lord accompanies us. She is the one who was called blessed because she believed in the fulfilment of what the Lord had spoken to her (cf. Lk 1:45). Mary's own beatitude is prior to all the beatitudes proclaimed by Jesus about the poor and those who mourn, the meek, the peacemakers and those who are persecuted, for it is the necessary condition for every other kind of beatitude. The poor are not blessed because they are poor; they become blessed if, like Mary, they believe in the fulfilment of God's word. A great disciple and master of sacred Scripture, Saint Augustine, once wrote: "Someone in the midst of the crowd, seized with enthusiasm, cried out: 'Blessed is the womb that bore

you' and Jesus replied, 'Rather, blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it'. As if to say: My mother, whom you call blessed, is indeed blessed, because she keeps the word of God. Not because in her the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, but because she keeps that same word of God by which she was made and which, in her womb, became flesh" (*Tractates on the Gospel of John, 10, 3*). May the Sunday of the Word of God help his people to grow in religious and intimate familiarity with the sacred Scriptures. For as the sacred author taught of old: "This word is very near to you: it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance" (Dt 30:14). *Pope Francis*

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2024

"Let us thank all those who teach in Catholic Schools. Education is an act of love: it is like giving life." – Pope Francis Catholic Schools Week takes place from 21st to 27th January 2024. The theme this year is "Catholic Schools as Communities of Service". Pray for all who work and serve in our parish schools. Among their activities this week, St Brigid's will be inviting 'Senior Friends' in to talk with the children and are planning a celebration of the Eucharist for the forthcoming Feast of St Brigid.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

It was indeed a singular honour for our parish to host the Inaugural Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity for the entire Dublin area last Thursday night. We were blessed by the beautiful prayer, by the presence of our Archbishop, Dr Dermot Farrell, Archbishop Michael Jackson of the Church of Ireland, as well as leaders and representatives from the Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Greek Orthodox and Moravian Churches, the Salvation Army and the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). Rev Dr Livingston Thompson, from the Moravian Church in Belfast, gave a very stimulating sermon inviting us to allow 'butterflies' within of God's tenderness to move us past just having good intentions, to live 'the Samaritan difference' of caring for others. Huge thanks to all who put themselves at the service of this important event with their gifts of music, singing, preparation of the church space, welcome and distributing leaflets, serving and hospitality in the Parish Centre. I have received many messages about the warmth of welcome from those who travelled from Co Kildare and the south of the city to be present. May the Lord reward you. *Fr Damian*

CHILDREN'S ROSARY, 4PM SATURDAYS The children's rosary is recited every Saturday in our church at 4pm. Looking forward to seeing our young children then. All are welcome!

LECTIO DIVINA - WEDNESDAYS, 10.30 TO 11AM

Spiritual reading and contemplation of the Gospel for the following Sunday - an opportunity to listen, share, discuss and pray the Living Word. Wednesday 24th January from 10.30 to 11.00am in our parish centre. For information, contact Marian on 087 2958363.

CHRISTMAS DUES Sincere thanks to all who have returned their Christmas Dues. All these contributions, as do all Easter and Summer Dues, go directly to the Common Fund administered by the Diocesan Finance Secretariat out of which the priests of our Diocese are paid their monthly stipend and our sick and retired priests are cared for.

CHROÍ MHÁIRE FOODBANK We wish to express our sincere thanks to parishioners who kindly donated non-perishable food items for the foodbank over the last months. The collection of food will resume this weekend - 20th and 21st January. We wish you and all parishioners a Blessed New Year. Thank you, Martin. 086 1591188

KNOCK PILGRIMAGE - SAVE THE DATE

Archbishop Dermot Farrell will lead our annual pilgrimage to Knock on Saturday, April 27, from 11.45am onwards.

YOUNG ADULT CAMINO 2024 - JUNE 26TH TO JULY 3RD-See Parish Website

Testimony: On Friday 26th January a wonderful priest Fr. John Walsh from Limerick will give his testimony during the 7.30 mass in St Patrick's Church Corduff, Blanchardstown. Fr. John has worked as a chaplain in Limerick prison for many years and now works in a disadvantaged area in Limerick. His testimony is well worth hearing. Refreshments will be served after the Mass.

Icon Found: At a function that was held in our Church last year, a hinged double icon was found. It can be claimed by ringing Mary at 085-252-4529.