

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.

"We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience." - Pierre Teilhard de Chardin



OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK

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

1ST SUNDAY IN LENT : 18TH FEBRUARY 2024

LENTEN ASHES: The ashes placed on our head invite us to rediscover the secret of life. They tell us that as long as we continue to shield our hearts and hide ourselves behind a mask, to appear invincible, we will be empty and arid within. When, on the other hand, we have the courage to bow our heads in order to look within, we will discover the presence of God who loves us and has always loved us. At last those shields you have built for yourself will be shattered and you will be able to feel yourself loved with an eternal love.

Sister, brother, I, you, each of us, is loved with an eternal love. We are ashes on which God has breathed his breath of life, we are the earth which he has shaped with his own hands (cf. *Genesis 2:7; Psalm 119:73*), dust from which we will rise for a life without end prepared for us from all eternity (cf. *Isaiah 26:9*). And if, in the ashes that we are, the fire of the love of God burns, then we will discover that we have indeed been shaped by that love and called to love others in turn. To love the brothers and sisters all around us, to be considerate to others, to feel compassion, to show mercy, to share all that we are and all that we have with those in need. Almsgiving, prayer and fasting are not mere external practices; they are paths that lead to the heart, to the core of the Christian life. They make us realize that we are ashes loved by God, and they enable us to spread that love on the "ashes" of so many situations in our daily lives, so that in them hope, trust and joy may be reborn.

Saint Anselm of Aosta has left us these words of encouragement that this evening we can make our own: "Escape from your everyday business for a short while, hide for a moment from your restless thoughts. Break off from your cares and troubles and be less concerned about your tasks and labours. Make a little time for God and rest a while in him. Enter into your mind's inner chamber. Shut out everything but God and whatever helps you to seek him; and when you have shut the door, look for him. Speak now to God and say with your whole heart: I seek your face; your face, O Lord, I desire" (*Proslogion*, 1). *Pope Francis*.

ACCORD COLLECTION The annual collection for Accord Dublin, our Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family, will be made at all Masses this weekend. All across our Diocese, Accord Dublin offer: Preparation courses for

couples getting ready for the sacrament of marriage; Counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships and Relationships and Sexuality Programmes for primary and secondary schools. ACCORD Dublin needs your support this year more than ever as people experience greater pressures on marriage and family life in today's culture. Please give generously to their excellent work.

LENTEN EARLY MORNING AND EVENING MASSES: During Lent there will be 7am Mass Monday to Friday in St Philip the Apostle Church Mountview. As usual there is also Evening Mass available across our Deanery, at 7.30 in our parish on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 7.30pm on Monday nights in Blanchardstown parish, Wednesdays in Mulhuddart parish and on Fridays in Corduff.

CHROÍ MHÁIRE FOODBANK – DUBLIN 15 Thank you to all parishioners who kindly donated non-perishable food items for the Foodbank. There will be a collection over the next two weekends – 24th/25th February, and 2nd/3rd March. Thank you, Martin (086 1591188).

Divine Mercy Conference 2024. 23rd to 25th February. RDS Main Hall.
Speakers: Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan DD, Fr. Pat Collins CM, Fr. Brendan Walsh SAC, Fr. Eunace McDonald SDB, Fr. Jamie Twohig SAC, Sr. Donate Farbaniec OLM, Sr. Mary Claire Kenneally OLM. Holy Mass, Adoration, Confessions, Testaments and lots more. [www divinemercuryconference.com](http://www.divinemercuryconference.com)

Special Fundraiser - Local GAA: Cake sale of freshly homemade cakes and buns in aid of the St. Brigid's U15 Boys & Girls GAA Teams. At the Parish Centre, following both Masses on Sunday February 25th 2024. Míle buíochas.

Trocaire Ireland Appeal for Gaza. Coffee Morning, Cake Sale and Monster Raffle after 10am and 12noon Masses in the Parish Centre on St Patricks Day. Please come and support these devastated people. Let us show them that we care. Please bake or make a donation. Contact: Ellen Troy 0860610686

Daring to Hope: A Photographic Exhibition of the pioneering work of Irish Religious Sisters since the foundation of the State is coming soon to Precious Blood Church, Fassagh Avenue in Cabra, Dublin D07 X825. Weds 21st and Thurs 22nd Feb 11am to 3pm. Fri 23rd 11am to 8pm, Sat 24th Feb 12 noon to 6pm. Sun 25th Feb 10am to 4pm.

Children's Liturgy Team. We are thrilled to announce that our next Faith Camp will be held on Saturday, March 16th, from 2:00pm to 4:30pm in the Parish Centre. This time the focus will be on Easter and the significance of Holy Week. All ages are welcome and parents are welcome to stay also. There will be something that suits every child; 'signing' at Mass, drama, arts & crafts, singing, music, fun and games, Treats and more. Spaces are limited so please book: <https://form.jotform.com/232152033665348>

A Special Mass and Testimony by a young Dominican priest, Fr. Anthony Kavanagh, in St Patrick's Church, Corduff on Friday 23rd February 2024 at 7.30pm. All are welcome. Refreshments afterwards in the Pastoral Centre.

Trócaire : Trócaire boxes are available for you to take home should you wish to use this well-established way of contributing to their excellent development and justice work caring for the poorest of the earth. Salome Mumba, from the Malawi Office of Trócaire, will give a presentation on this year's Lenten Campaign "Climate Crisis Water Justice" on Friday 23rd February in Precious Blood Church, Cabra at 7pm.

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 there. All are welcome!

Lectio Divina: Wednesdays, 10.30 to 11am - Spiritual reading, meditation and contemplation of the Gospel of the following Sunday - an opportunity to listen, share, discuss and pray the Living Word. Please come on Wednesday from 10.30 to 11.00am in our parish centre. For information, contact Marian on 087 2958363.

Knock Pilgrimage: Save This Date: Archbishop Dermot Farrell will lead our annual pilgrimage to Knock on Saturday, April 27, from 11.45am onwards. This year we are celebrating 145 years since the apparition in 1879. A series of workshops with interesting and thought-provoking speakers is being planned;

Young Adult Camino 2024 – June 26th to July 3rd Our Diocese are delighted to launch their Young Adult trip to the Camino June 2024. Completing the last 110km of the Camino from Sarria to Santiago, this is a pilgrimage not to miss! Preparation dates: 16th March, 20th April, and 19th May. Places are limited and all details can be found on our parish website and on the poster in the church noticeboard. If you wish to book, contact natalie.doherty@dublindiocese.ie.

INTERESTED IN STUDYING THEOLOGY? Webinar - Tuesday 20th Feb 2024 6-7pm - M. Phil. Christian Theology. Featuring Prof. Fáinche Ryan and Prof. Michael Kirwan (course coordinator and director of Loyola Institute, Trinity College), in conversation about the M Phil in Christian Theology. This will be a chance to learn more about postgraduate study with the Loyola Institute. You can register for this event here: <https://forms.office.com/e/XBx7w9Lqr3>

FAMILY CARERS IRELAND. Are you caring for a loved one at home with additional needs? A spouse, partner, child, close relative or neighbour? Then you are a family carer! Become a member of Family Carers Ireland, the national charity supporting Ireland's 500,000+ family carers nationwide. Contact 057 93 70221 and hear how we can support you or for more info visit www.familycarers.ie.