

## 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 [ourladyparish@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyparish@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, as well as 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.

6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2025

**THE BEATITUDES OF LUKE:** At the centre of the Gospel of today's Liturgy are the Beatitudes (cf. *Lk* 6:20-23). If we ask ourselves what a disciple of Jesus is like, the answer is precisely the Beatitudes. Let us take a look at the first one which is the basis for all the other ones: "Blessed are you poor, for yours is the Kingdom of God" (v. 20). *Blessed are you poor.* Jesus says two things of his people: that they are blessed and that they are poor; indeed, that they are blessed because they are poor.

In what sense? In the sense that Jesus' disciples do not find their joy in money, power, or other material goods; but in the gifts they receive every day from God: life, creation, brothers and sisters, and so on. These are gifts of life. They are content to share even the goods they possess, because they live according to the logic of God. And what is the logic of God? Gratuitousness. The disciple has learned to live in gratuitousness. This poverty is also an attitude towards the meaning of life, because Jesus' disciples do not think they possess it, that they already know everything, but rather they know they must learn every day. And this is poverty: the awareness of having to learn every day. Because they have this attitude, Jesus' disciples are humble, open people, far from prejudice and inflexibility.

Faced with *the paradox of the Beatitudes*, disciples allow themselves to be challenged, aware that it is not God who must enter into our mindset, but we into his. This requires a journey, sometimes wearisome, but always accompanied by joy. Because the disciple of Jesus is joyful, with the joy that comes from Jesus... By freeing us from the slavery of self-centredness, the Lord breaks our closures, dissolves our hardness, and opens up to us true happiness, which is often found where we do not expect it to be. It is he who guides our life, not us, with our preconceptions

and our demands. Disciples, in the end, are those who let themselves be led by Jesus, who open their heart to Jesus, who listen to him and follow his path.

We might then ask ourselves: do I – each one of us – have the disciple's readiness? Do I allow myself to be "inwardly unhinged" by the paradox of the Beatitudes, or do I stay within the confines of my own ideas? And then, with the logic of the Beatitudes, setting aside the hardships and difficulties, do I feel the joy of following Jesus? This is the decisive trait of the disciple: the joy of the heart. May Our Lady, the first disciple of the Lord, help us live as open and joyful disciples. *Pope Francis*

#### **ACCORD ANNUAL COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND – 15<sup>TH</sup> AND 16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

The annual collection for ACCORD Dublin, our Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family, will be made at all Masses this weekend, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025. It is traditionally taken up on the Sunday closest to Valentine's Day. ACCORD Dublin offers, throughout the Diocese, marriage preparation courses (both online and to small groups), counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships, and a relationship and sexuality programme for schools. ACCORD Dublin needs your support this year more than ever. Please support their good work generously. For more information, see [accorddublin.ie](http://accorddublin.ie)

**PARISH PARTNERSHIP PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK, JOINING THE DUBLIN DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE - SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL.** The pilgrimage includes workshops, outdoor walks, the Sacrament of the Sick and our pilgrimage Mass, which will be celebrated by Archbishop Farrell. A bus will be going from our parish partnership of Castleknock, Laurel Lodge and Porterstown, collecting at each parish. There will be stops for light refreshments in The Radisson Blu, Athlone, on the way to Knock and also on the way back. The price per person is €50, including these refreshments. To register your interest, please email your name, telephone number and the number of people going to [parishoffice@castleknockparish.ie](mailto:parishoffice@castleknockparish.ie). All age groups are very welcome; our Diocese is encouraging young people in particular to come along - why not make it your first visit to Knock Shrine!

**SONGS OF PRAISE, DOMINICAN COVENT CHAPEL, CABRA, D07 N47, MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 8PM** The music will be led by Fr Pat O'Donoghue and members of the Dublin Diocesan Music Group, featuring a selection from Laudate 25 and Emmanuel 25. Teresa O'Donnell – concert harp, Ciarán Donegan - Violin.

**PORTERSTOWN, LAUREL LODGE AND CASTLEKNOCK PARISHES - PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES:** Tuesday 19th August 2025 for 4 nights staying in the 4\* Hotel Padoue. **Update - this pilgrimage is now full.** Please email June at [secretary@stmochtasparish.ie](mailto:secretary@stmochtasparish.ie) if you wish to be added to the waiting list.

**SYCAMORE** in St Mochta's parish centre, Porterstown, this Monday 17th February at 7.30pm. The Sycamore retreat day will be on Saturday 1st March, starting at 9.30am with refreshments, all welcome to join in. Video talks, discussions, reflection; Spiritual Director, Fr Adrian Crowley. The afternoon closes with Mass at **3pm**. Please phone Marian on 087 295 8363.

**LECTIO DIVINA** Spiritual reading, prayer and contemplation of the Gospel for the following Sunday. Next Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February from 10.30 to 11am in Our Lady's Parish Centre, Castleknock.

**CHURCH PARKING:** The standard and safety of parking close by our Church has worsened in recent months. Please **do not park on the areas marked by double yellow lines** in the vicinity of our Church. The yellow lines are there to make sure emergency vehicles can access our parish buildings if needed, to allow a safe flow of traffic and to ensure the safety of pedestrians. Please respect them.

**MOBILE PHONES:** Please be respectful of others and of the prayerfulness in our Church by ensuring that your mobile phone is either switched off or on silent when entering God's house.

**PILGRIMAGE OF HOPE – A JOURNEY WITH POPE FRANCIS** - Pilgrimage is an important component of a Jubilee year. Many travel abroad for pilgrimage, but a pilgrimage can also take place with the abundant Christian locations we have within our own Diocese. An exhibition 'Pockets of Hope' has been set up in the four Jubilee Churches in our Archdiocese: St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral, Marlborough Street; Our Lady of Lourdes, Sean McDermott Street; Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, City Quay; and St. Andrew's Church, Westland Row. There is a further display in St. Kevin's Parish Church, Glendalough. You are invited to journey the pilgrim path of Pockets of Hope in Dublin city and reflect on the message of Hope this Jubilee Year. All details are on the designated 'Jubilee 2025' page on the Diocesan website – <https://dublindiocese.ie/jubilee2025>

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

**DIGITAL TRAINING FOR OLDER PEOPLE, LAUREL LODGE COMMUNITY CENTRE** Age Action is hosting free Digital Training for Older People in Castleknock Community Centre, Laurel Lodge on Fridays from 10:15 - 12:15. Please call the Getting Started team on 01 475 6989 to sign up.

**Tai Chi** – 6 week introductory term starting in Our Lady's Parish Centre on 18th February 2025, Tuesday, 8.15-9.45pm. Beginners welcome. Adult class for mixed age levels. Slow and gentle exercise regime. For more information, visit our website [www.taichiclassesdublin.com](http://www.taichiclassesdublin.com) or phone Nicole/Declan at 086 397 5979