

## 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

.SUNDAY MASS TIMES IN OUR PARISH PARTNERSHIP: - St Mochta's, Porterstown - Saturday Vigil 6pm, Sunday 11am. St Thomas the Apostle, Laurel Lodge - Saturday Vigil 6.30pm; Sunday 9.30am, 11.30am.

For those seeking an evening Sunday Mass, St Philip the Apostle, Mountview have one at 6pm.

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 [ourladysparish@gmail.com](mailto:ourladysparish@gmail.com)

Written notices may be handed in to the Parish Office. The deadline for submissions is Thursday evening.

### SAFEGUARDING OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

Our Parish follows the Safeguarding policies of the Archdiocese of Dublin.

All policies relating to the Safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults are available on the Dublin Diocesan website.

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

CHURCH NOTICE BOARD, BOOKSHELF OR TABLE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH

Please do not leave any material (notices/leaflets/books/publications, etc.) on the table, bookshelf or on the Church notice board without checking with Fr Damian or the parish office.



# OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK

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

## SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026

**THOMAS AND THE RISEN LORD:** Today, Divine Mercy Sunday, the Gospel recounts two apparitions of the Risen Jesus to his disciples, and in particular, to Thomas, the "doubting Apostle" (cf. *Jn* 20:24-29). In reality, Thomas is not the only one who struggles to believe. In fact, he represents all of us a little bit. Indeed, it is not always easy to believe, especially when, as in his case, one has suffered a tremendous disappointment... He had followed Jesus for years, running risks and enduring discomforts. But the Teacher was put on a cross like a criminal, and no one freed him. No one did anything! He is dead and everyone is afraid... How can he trust the news saying He is alive? There was doubt inside him.

Thomas, however, shows that he is courageous. While the others are closed up inside the Upper Room out of fear, he goes out, running the risk that someone might recognize, report and arrest him. We could even think that, with his courage, he would have deserved more than the others to meet the Risen Lord. Instead, precisely because he is away, Thomas is not there when Jesus appears to the disciples for the first time, on Easter evening, thus missing that opportunity. He had distanced himself from the community. How could he get [the opportunity] back? Only by going back to the others, returning there, to that family he had left behind, scared and sad. When he does so, when he returns, they tell him that Jesus had come, but he struggles to believe. He wants to see his wounds. And Jesus satisfies him: eight days later, he appears again in the midst of his disciples and shows them his wounds, his hands, his feet, these wounds that are the proof of his love, that are the ever-open channels of his mercy.

In order to believe, Thomas wants an extraordinary sign – to touch the wounds. Jesus shows them to him, but *in an ordinary way*, coming in front of everyone, in the community, not outside. As if saying to him: if you want to meet me, do not search far away; remain in the community, with the others, and don't go away. Pray with them. Break bread with them.

And he says this to us as well. That is where you will find me; that is where I will show you the signs of the wounds impressed on my body: the signs of the Love that overcomes hatred, of the Pardon that disarms revenge, the signs of the Life that conquers death. It is there, in the community, that you will discover my face, as you share moments of doubt and fear with your brothers and sisters, clinging even more strongly to them. Without the community, it is difficult to find Jesus. *Pope Francis*

**DIVINE MERCY - THIS SUNDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL:** Divine Mercy Sunday devotions will be hosted in our Deanery again by our friends in St Philip the Apostle Church in Mountview this Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April starting at 2pm. The Divine Mercy chaplet will be prayed followed by Mass at 3.30pm. All are very welcome.

**THE JOY OF HOPE – STARTING NEXT WEDNESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL** ‘The Joy of Hope’ is a four-part video course filmed on the Greek Island of Patmos where St John wrote the Book of Revelation. It begins on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 pm in Our Lady’s Parish Centre, Castleknock. Admission is free; to reserve a place text /phone Marian 087 295 8363 or Aengus 087 216 1199.

**PARISH PARTNERSHIP PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK JOINING THE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE - SATURDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL. LAST FEW PLACES REMAINING!** The pilgrimage includes workshops, Confession, Pilgrimage Mass including Sacrament of the Sick - Chief Celebrant - **Archbishop Dermot Farrell**. A bus will be going from the churches in our parish partnership of Castleknock (leaving at 8am), Porterstown (leaving at 8.15am) and Laurel Lodge (leaving at 8.30am) - **please arrive 15 mins early**. There will be stops for refreshments in The Radisson Blu, Athlone, on the way to Knock and on the way back. The price per person is €60, including these refreshments. Please book by mailing [parishoffice@castleknockparish.ie](mailto:parishoffice@castleknockparish.ie) with your name, tel. no., and the number going, or phone 01 640 9601. Please pay by calling in or leaving an envelope marked Knock Pilgrimage into Castleknock parish office or sacristy, with your name and tel. no. All age groups welcome.

**Church Shop:** Open after 10am Mass on Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday, and on Sunday morning after both Masses. Come in and browse our new stock! Card payments are now possible too.

**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION PRAYER GROUP:** Meditation continues this Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> April in St Thomas the Apostle Day Chapel, 10.30 to 11.10am.

**THE POPE’S APRIL PRAYER INTENTION** Pope Leo XIV has urged Catholics across the globe to join him in April in praying for priests in crisis. In his prayer, the Pope entrusted all priests into the Father’s hands, especially those going through moments of crisis, “when loneliness weighs heavily, when doubt clouds

their hearts, and when exhaustion seems stronger than hope”. Archbishop Farrell prayed this prayer at the end of last Thursday’s Chrism Mass.

**ETERNAL REST:** Please pray for the souls of our parishioners Carmel Lucey and Brendan Crosby whose funerals took place on Tuesday and Saturday respectively. Please pray too for Charles (Charlie) Claffey and Michael Daly whose funerals will take place on Monday and Tuesday respectively. May the Lord grant them eternal rest, and may the Holy Spirit comfort and sustain all who mourn.

**LECTIO DIVINA:** Prayer and contemplation of the Gospel for the following Sunday. Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April from 10:30 to 11am in Our Lady’s Parish Centre, Castleknock.

**VOCATIONS SUNDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL** “Every vocation is an immeasurable gift for the Church and for those who receive it with joy.” – Pope Leo XIV, Message for the 63<sup>rd</sup> World Day of Prayer for Vocations 2026.

In his message for this year’s World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Pope Leo XIV reminds us that vocation is an “interior discovery” of God’s gift, planted deep within our hearts and nurtured through prayer, listening, and trust. He encourages all of us to create a spirit of faith, prayer, and support, so that God’s call may be heard and generously embraced.

We give thanks that, in the Archdiocese of Dublin, there are currently three seminarians, along with others discerning a call to the priesthood this year. Their generous “yes” is a powerful sign of hope for our Church and our communities. Let us keep them in our prayers, and also remember all those considering a vocation to the priesthood, religious life, lay ministry, or family life. May they find the courage to pause, listen, and follow the voice of the Good Shepherd.

**PARISH CHILDREN’S LITURGY GROUP:** Our weekly family Meditation continues in our Church next Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April from 2.35pm to 3pm.

**TAIZÉ PRAYER – 17<sup>TH</sup> APRIL** Our meditative Taizé prayer will take place in our church at 7pm next Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April. All are welcome, with an extra warm welcome for the young and the young at heart.

**BLOOD DONOR CLINIC,** Castleknock Hotel - this Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April, 3.45pm to 8pm. Support your local blood drive. Giving blood saves many lives.

**STOP THE PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS DUBLIN 15 GROUP** Two information meetings about the persecution of Christians will be held on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April after the 10am and 12 noon Masses in Our Lady’s Parish Centre, Castleknock. All are welcome. Literature will be available and there will be a short address by a guest speaker

**PPC CRY OF THE EARTH PARISH ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT.** Over the last few weeks you will have seen signs of spring's arrival around you and specifically in the grounds around our parish church. Last autumn, the 6<sup>th</sup> classes from St Brigid's School planted over 2,000 pollinator-friendly bulbs in the sensory garden at the church side edge of Auburn Green - now they are colourfully flourishing! Like last summer the buzzing of many bee types will delight us. Our sincere gratitude to a generous donor who left clumps of almost flowering bulbs in locations in our church grounds. We are grateful to the young people in our community who are taking care of our plants and to their parents who discourage them from playing amongst them, showing respect and care for 'God's Garden'. We are seeking support from parishioners to clear the pampas grass in front of parish centre - it's choking the beautiful mahonia tree, rose bushes and other shrubs. The plan is to have a small sensory garden in its place. Hopefully we'll get sponsorship to dig up/rotavate the area and we'll get a donation of topsoil to renew the area for planting. Parishioners may be in a position to access appropriate equipment to move the plans forward. We need more hands on board too - with longer days you might consider spending some time responding positively to 'The Cry of the Earth' and support all living things. For further information, contact Mags Condon 086 839 2518