

CHURCH SERVICES

The Eucharist

Sunday: Saturday Vigil 6 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 12.15 p.m. & 6 p.m.

Weekday: Monday to Friday 10 a.m. & 7.30 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

After 10 a.m. & 6 p.m. Mass on Saturday and on request.

Baptism

2nd & 4th Sunday of the month at 1 p.m.
1 month's notice required. Book a baptism at the sacristy or parish office.
Preparation meeting, 1st Thursday of the month, 8 p.m. in the Parish Centre.

Marriage

By arrangement with one of the Priests.
A minimum notice of 3 months is required.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Fr. Kieran Coghlan – 6 Beechpark Lawn, Castleknock, Dublin 15
Phone: 01-6408595 Email: kcoghlan@eircom.net

Fr. Denis O'Connor CSsR – 32 Auburn Drive, Castleknock, Dublin 15
Phone: 01-8214003

Parish Office – Monday to Thursday, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Phone: 01-6409601 Email: castleknockparish.olmc@gmail.com

Church Sacristy – Phone: 01-8214652

Our Lady's Parish Centre – Phone: 01-8209907

Parish Website – www.castleknockparish.ie

Parish Newsletter – Notices may be sent by email to ourladysparish@gmail.com
Written notices may be handed in to the Parish Office during office opening hours.
Deadline for submissions is Thursday evening.



OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK, DUBLIN 15

3rd Sunday of Advent 15th December 2019

Today, the 3rd Sunday of Advent, is also known as *Gaudete* Sunday from the Latin word to rejoice. We rejoice that the day of the Lord draws ever nearer and very soon we will be celebrating the birth of Jesus who comes to us as the Saviour of all humanity.

John the Baptist features again this Sunday in the Gospel reading. When he asks the question of Jesus, “Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?”, Jesus points to his own life and ministry as testament that he is indeed the fulfillment of all the ancient prophecies heralding the coming of the Messiah. Jesus is the one whose coming John was announcing and encouraging the people to prepare for.

The anticipation of the coming feast of Christmas is getting stronger each passing day. The secular world never fails to remind us daily of how many days we have left to get everything done. There is a growing sense of urgency. The clock is counting down and time is running out.

Many people will be totally caught up in the coming days with the materialism and commercial side of Christmas. In all the rushing about and fussing over things, they will not give a moment's thought to preparing their hearts and souls for Christmas. In these final ten days to Christmas this year, there is still time to pray, to ponder, to reflect on the core meaning of Christmas which is God's wonderful love for us made visible in Jesus. May that love touch your hearts as we await with joyful hope the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Fr. Kieran Coghlan

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The Society wishes to thank parishioners for their very generous help at the annual appeal at Masses last weekend. The amount collected was €20,925.00 We wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

Christmas Carol Service

Our Christmas Carol Service, featuring all three parish choirs, soloists and the children, will take place on Sunday **December 15th**, starting at 4 p.m. All are welcome, and admission is free. We hope that as many of you as possible will come along to join with your fellow-parishioners and others in this joyful celebration as we prepare for the festive season.

Reconciliation

A Service of Reconciliation in preparation for Christmas will take place in the Church on Monday **December 16th** at 8 p.m. Visiting priests will be present for Confession.

Christmas Mass Schedule

The timetable for Christmas Masses is being distributed to as many homes as possible in the parish at present. The timetable is also on the noticeboards in the main Church porch and on the parish website.

Christmas Cards

Parish cards with greetings from Castleknock are now available. €5 for a packet of six cards. The intentions of people will be remembered in our Christmas Masses.

Online Advent Retreat

This year, the Priory Institute, Tallaght, offers an online retreat based on the 'O Antiphons' of Advent which were composed in the sixth or seventh century to accompany the Magnificat Evening Prayer for the last seven days of Advent.

This retreat will be offered entirely online with one reflection per day beginning with an introduction on **16th December** and ending on Christmas Day itself, comprising ten reflections in all. For more information phone Frances O'Loughlin on 01-4048129 or email enquiries@prioryinstitute.com

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.

Evening of Music and Melody

St. Francis Xavier Senior School together with the Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind invite you to join them for an evening of music and melody in Westmanstown Sports and Conference Centre on Wednesday 18th December at 8 p.m. Among the performers are Castleknock Folk Group and Castleknock Tennis Club Choir. €10 individual or €20 Family tickets available at the door. More details on the notice board in the Church porch.

St. Vincent's Castleknock College

2021 Admissions: Closing date for applications for First Year in 2021 is 31st December 2019.

2020 Scholarships: Application form available on the College website. Closing date for applications is 31st December 2019. See www.castleknockcollege.ie for information.

Bambinelli Sunday

A tradition where the Pope invites children to bring the baby Jesus figure from their family crib for a blessing in St. Peter's Square on the 3rd Sunday of Advent. Children are invited to bring their baby Jesus figures to our Family Mass at 11 a.m. this Sunday for a blessing.

Time of prayer exploring the call to Priesthood

The Vocations Office of the Dublin Diocese would like to invite men interested in discerning a call to priesthood to an evening of prayer and fraternal gathering in St. Andrew's Church, Westland Row, Dublin 2 on Friday 13th December from 7 to 9 p.m.

Please RSVP to Fr. Enda at enda.cunningham@dublindiocese.ie or Fr. Séamus at seamusmcentee@yahoo.com

TWP Calendars on sale this weekend - 14th/15th Dec

The Castleknock Third World Partnership (TWP) calendars which help fund projects in our partner Parish of Metcha Borroddo in Ethiopia, will be on sale at all masses this weekend 14th/15th December. This year the proceeds from these calendars will support the re-building of the 6th and final classroom in the local school, in our partner parish. The calendars costing €10, feature photos of the local community and many of the projects supported by the TWP, since it was established 11 years ago. Please consider buying a calendar for your home or as a lovely Christmas gift for friends and family and help support this worthy cause.