

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

1st Sunday of Advent 1st December 2019

We begin our new liturgical year this weekend with the relatively short season of Advent. Advent is focused on an active waiting for the coming of the Lord. During Advent we get ourselves ready and organised with the aim of being properly prepared and suitably disposed for the great feast of Christmas when we will celebrate with joy the birth of Jesus who comes to us as the Saviour of all humanity.

We have all been caught out at some time when a visitor calls on us unannounced and unexpected. We are not prepared. We are caught off-guard. All too easily we get flustered and bothered as we try to quickly provide suitable hospitality for our guest. "If I knew you were going to call ..." we say to the visitor, "... I would have been better prepared."

The Advent message is a wake-up call. The time for procrastination is over. Now is the time for getting ready and preparing ourselves to worthily welcome the Lord. We are invited to be alert, to stand ready, because, as the Gospel starkly points out, the Lord is coming at an hour we do not expect.

This is a busy time of year for many people. There's a lot to be done in the run up to Christmas. The danger is that we can lose our focus and become preoccupied with the material dimension of Christmas. We then neglect to do any spiritual preparation. May the Lord open our hearts in these Advent days so that we can be truly ready for him when he comes. Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus, come.

Fr. Kieran Coghlan

Masses. Please note!

- (i) Mass “as Gaeilge”. The 9.00am Mass on Sunday, 1st Dec will be celebrated in Irish.
- (ii) Masses 2nd December. Mass at 10.00am only. No evening Mass on the 2nd December.

First Friday – 6th December.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 10.30am to 7.15pm.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick available during 7.30pm Mass.

Ecumenical Advent Service.

To mark the beginning of Advent and the time of preparation for Christmas, our parish will host an ecumenical Advent Service on Sunday 1st December at 4.00pm. Choirs from Laurel Lodge parish and St. Brigid’s Church of Ireland parish will participate. All are welcome.

Society of St Vincent de Paul.

The annual Christmas collection will take place at all Masses on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December.

Night Vigil in Knock!

In honour of the feast of the Immaculate Conception. The Bus will leave Church Avenue, Blanchardstown on Saturday 7th December at 4.30pm. Booking with Michael Frawley on 086-8650708.

Priesthood.

Time of prayer and fraternal gathering 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

Gianna Care

Christmas Party in aid of Gianna Care in Castleknock Tennis Club on Saturday 7th December at 7.30pm. Tickets €30. Hot food, live music and raffle. Call Rosemary on 085-7370255 or Ann on 087-7818935. Help establish a nationwide network of life-affirming crisis pregnancy centres.

St Brigid’s GAA. Our Annual Club AGM for 2019 will be held on Sunday week, 8th December, 2019 in Russell Park. Another date for your diary is the 14th February, 2020 - Our Club Dinner Dance in the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Blanchardstown! Tickets to go on sale very soon! Our Club Nursery, in association with Sherry Fitzgerald continues this Saturday morning INDOORS

in our Club Hall from 9.30am. All boys and girls aged between 4 and 7 are welcome, especially new families! Just arrive down and speak to any of our friendly coaches or email us at: pro.stbrigids.dublin@gaa.ie for more information. M: 087-3378495.

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. More recently they have been used as Gospel acclamation verses at Mass. A team of presenters will guide participants through a series of reflections on these great ‘O Antiphons’ from 17th to 23rd December.

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

Special Novena.

- Advent is about personal preparation for Christmas. So we all need to prepare well for the celebration of the holy season of Christmas. (See: Fr Kieran’s Homily on Page 1.)
- In this context a Novena in preparation for the feast of the Immaculate Conception is being proposed. Dates: From Saturday 30th November to Monday 9th December.
- It will be an opportunity for us to pray for the atonement of sin and for an increase in the number vocations to the Religious Life.
- Please note also that “prayers for the grace to open our hearts to the coming of the Lord, as Mary did, and for personal intentions” will be said at all Masses during the period of the Novena.

Songs for a Winter’s evening

A Christmas celebration with Mary Flynn, Mary O’Donnell and Friends. Sunday 8th December at 7.30pm in St. Mochta’s Church, Porterstown. Tickets €15 from the Parish Office at St. Mochta’s or from Mary at 087-2585398.

St. Vincent’s Castleknock College

- 2021 Admissions: Closing date for applications for First Year Students in 2021 is the 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.