

CHURCH SERVICES

The Eucharist

Sunday: Saturday Vigil 6 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m., 10.30 a.m., 12.15 p.m. & 6 p.m.

Weekday: Monday to Saturday 10 a.m. daily.
Tuesday, Thursday & First Friday 7.30 p.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 1.15 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: kcoghlandublin@gmail.com

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

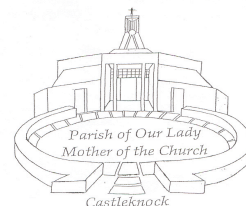
Parish Office – Monday to Thursday, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Phone: 01-6409601 Email: castleknockparish.olmc@gmail.com

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 13th December 2020

The Third Sunday of Advent is also known as *Gaudete* Sunday. This Latin word translated into English means *Rejoice*. We rejoice in anticipation as the feast of Christmas draws ever nearer.

Again this week, John the Baptist features as the central character of the Gospel reading at Mass. John tells his listeners that he is the voice crying in the wilderness urging people to prepare a way for the Lord.

Our preparations and indeed our celebrations this year are markedly different from any other year. The Covid-19 virus has placed severe restrictions on our social interactions with other people and will change the whole dynamic of how we will celebrate Christmas in 2020.

Despite the limitations imposed on us at this time, there is a joy in knowing that Christmas will, as always, speak to us of God's enduring love for all humanity. Knowing that we are loved by God and saved in Jesus Christ is the reason for our joy. In preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus we are preparing to welcome the God who is with us in Jesus who comes as our Saviour offering us the wonderful gift of eternal life.

I will finish with a lovely prayer of St. Paul for the Christian community in Thessalonika which is part of the Second Reading at Mass today.
May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Fr. Kieran Coghlan

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The annual Christmas collection takes place at all Masses **this weekend, 12th/13th December**. For people unable to attend Mass and who may wish to donate, you may leave your donation into the Parish Office or sacristy and it will be passed on to the SVP.

Christmas Carol Service

This Sunday 13th December at 7.30 p.m. Online only via the parish webcam.

Christmas Reconciliation Service

Monday 21st December at 7.30 p.m. This will be online only via the parish webcam. Individual confession available after 10 a.m. Mass on Tuesday 22nd, Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th December.

Christmas Mass Cards

Cards with *Greetings from Castleknock* are available now in the Parish Office and sacristy. €5 for a pack of 6 cards.

First Holy Communions

Congratulations to the children from Beechpark RE Class, Our Lady's RE Class and Scoil Mhuire, Mount Sackville who received First Holy Communion this past week.

Children from St. Brigid's N.S. will receive First Holy Communion in the New Year. Dates to be arranged.

Trócaire

An agency of the Irish Catholic Church, Trócaire seeks your support to continue its work in helping people in need in many parts of the world. See www.trocaire.org

St. Elizabeth Convent, Minsk, Belarus

The Sisters are unable to hold their usual Christmas markets due to the current travel restrictions. They now have an online Christmas Market where you can purchase gifts and support the work of the Convent. See <https://catalog.obitel-minsk.com/christmas-market>

Christmas GOAL Virtual Charity Mile

Register at <https://www.goalglobal.org/goal-mile/>.

Christmas Masses

Mass on Christmas Eve at 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Mass on Christmas Day at 9 a.m., 10.30 a.m. and 12.15 p.m.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions currently in place, there will be a limited number of people allowed in the Church for Mass on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Many people and families will therefore be unable to physically attend Mass on the day. The obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days remains suspended during the pandemic.

Please consider alternative ways to 'attend' Mass for Christmas. Masses will be live-streamed on the parish webcam. Perhaps you could gather as a family at home to watch Mass on the webcam. Create a sacred space in your home for the occasion. Have a candle lighting and a crib scene present. Perhaps then in the days after Christmas you may come and visit the Church and the crib and attend a weekday Mass during the Christmas period.

To facilitate as many people as possible to receive Holy Communion at Christmas, Holy Communion will be distributed in the Church for a period of time on both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

On Christmas Eve Holy Communion will be distributed in the Church after the 6 p.m. Mass until 9 p.m.

On Christmas Day Holy Communion will be distributed in the Church after the 12.15 p.m. Mass until 2 p.m.

Perhaps you could watch Mass at home on the webcam and then come to the Church to receive Holy Communion during the times outlined above.

If you are elderly, housebound or cannot come to the Church for the above reasons, please contact the Parish and we will arrange for you to receive Holy Communion at home during the Christmas season.