

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

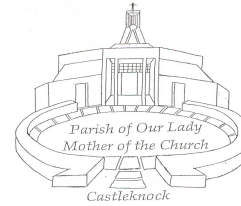
Parish Office – Monday to Thursday, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Phone: 01-6409601 Email: castleknockparish.olmc@gmail.com

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

4th Sunday of Advent 20th December 2020

We have come to the final Sunday of Advent and the last few days before Christmas. In the Gospel today we read St. Luke's account of the Annunciation. It's an important and significant biblical story in which we hear of the key role played by Mary in facilitating the revelation of God's love for all humanity through the birth of Jesus.

The Annunciation story is deserving of considerable reflection by every Christian person. Here we see Mary open to the call from God to cooperate in his plan of salvation. Naturally Mary had concerns and struggled to grasp the meaning of what was being proposed. Ultimately Mary trusted in God and said yes to God.

Like Mary, we too are invited today to hear the call of God and to work at making known to the whole world, especially at Christmas time, the birth of Jesus who comes to save us. If we say yes to God, as Mary did, wonderful things can happen as the grace of God works in us. Christ is born anew every day in the hearts of people as they come to know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

In a world which has become very secular, and which during this past year has been devastated by the Covid-19 virus, the birth of Jesus is a message of love that offers hope. It's a message of light in a time of darkness for many people, a joyful message that brings meaning and perspective and helps us cope with all the trials and tribulations we face in daily life.

Fr. Kieran Coghlan

Happy Christmas

We wish all parishioners and visitors to our parish at this time every blessing as we celebrate the birth of Jesus our Saviour this coming week.

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.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

St. Michael's Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul thanks parishioners for the very generous response to the annual Christmas collection at Masses last weekend which amounted to just over €13,000.

Peace Light of Bethlehem

An eternal flame burns in the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. A light from that flame has recently arrived in Ireland and we are blessed to have a light here in our own Church in these closing days of Advent. You are welcome to bring along your own candle and light it from the flame and bring it to your own home.

Christmas Mass Cards

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

Christmas Mass Schedule

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

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 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 very 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 this pandemic.

Please consider alternative ways to 'attend' Mass for Christmas. All 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 might come and visit the Church and the crib or 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 time outlined above.

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