

PARISH OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

Fr. Damian McNeice Parish Priest – Tel: 089 4453987

Fr. Brendan Quinlan – Tel: 01-8208144 or 087-2460033

Parish Office: (Secretary: 01-820 8112)

email: office@laurelodgeparish.ie

Fr. Dan Joe O’Mahony OFM Cap. 01-8200915 / 086-8090633

4th / 5th December 2021

Mass times for the coming week

MONDAY TO FRIDAY AT 10.00 A.M.

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS: 6.30PM SUNDAY MASSES: 9.30 A.M. 11 A.M. AND 12.30 A.M.

(ST PHILIP THE APOSTLE, MOUNTVIEW - 6PM)

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

The vigil Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be at 6.30 on Tuesday 7th December.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – 5TH DECEMBER 2021

In today's Gospel we hear the lonely and honest voice of John the Baptist; encouraging us to prepare a way for the Lord. The Lord comes to us in the Eucharist; let us prepare ourselves to receive him.

First Reading: (Bar. 5:1-9)

Jerusalem is told to forget the sufferings of the past because God is going to bring back her exiled children to her.

Second Reading: (Phil. 1:3-6, 8-11)

Paul urges his fellow Christians to prepare for the second coming of Christ by blameless lives..

Gospel: (Lk. 3: 1-6)

John the Baptist encourages the people to prepare a way for the Lord through repentance.

REFLECTION

For each of us life is a journey.

Birth is the beginning of this journey,

And death is not the end but the destination.

It is a journey that takes us from youth to age,

From innocence to awareness, from foolishness to wisdom,

From weakness to strength and often back again,

From loneliness to friendship, from fear to faith.

Until looking backward or ahead we see that victory does not lie at some high point along the way, But in having made the journey, stage by stage.

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS – DECEMBER 2021

Intention for evangelisation – Catechists

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to all the girls and boys from Scoil Thomáis who received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on the 4th December.

A big Thank You to everyone who helped prepare the children so well.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL WILL TAKE PLACE AT ALL MASSES THIS WEEKEND. IT WILL REPLACE THE SHARE COLLECTION.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

THE JESSE TREE - CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP

The Jesse tree is an Advent tradition that introduces Jesus' ancestors, and tells the story of God and of God's people in the Old Testament, connecting the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history.

The image of the Jesse tree originates from the words of the prophet Isaiah: "A shoot will spring from the stock of Jesse, and from his roots a bud will blossom."

(Isaiah 11:1) - On this Second Sunday of Advent our decorations symbolise:

Jacob's ladder – a Ladder

Joseph feeds God's people – a Sheaf of Wheat

Moses leads the people out of Egypt – a Staff

God gives the people the Law – Stone Tablets showing the Ten Commandments

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday:	6.30pm	Eamonn Carroll (Anniversary)
Sunday:	9.30am	Dan and Martha Kelly (Anniversary)
	11.00am	Terry Lawless (5th Anniversary) and Margaret Lawless (recently deceased)
	12.30pm	John Bourke (4th Anniversary)

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Michael Donnelly, Sadie Niblock, John and Gerry Fallon, Claire Comerford, John and Jean McGivern, Bridie McGivern, Tony Reilly, Nicholas Hennigan

Whose anniversaries occur at this time

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Parish Financial Report 2020

Below is a summary of the 2020 accounts for the Parish. A brief talk will take place regarding the parish finances at masses this weekend.

€000s	2019	2020	Comment
Planning Giving/ Online Donations	78.4	84.8	Increased standing orders plus online donations
Tax back	30.8	5.2	2019 includes 2 years' claims – 2020 only late claims
Other Income	33.0	28.9	Lower shrine income
Income	142.2	118.9	
Staff costs	54.3	54.5	
Depreciation	29.6	22.4	Reduction due to sale of Fr Kennedy's house
Repairs & Maintenance	15.9	38.3	Reflects Covid expenditure, upgrade to electrical and lighting
Other costs	50.3	40.5	Timing of payments
Costs	150.1	155.7	
Net change	7.1	(36.5)	Deterioration reflects reduced tax back amount in 2020 plus Covid and other maintenance expenditure
Sale of house		108.2	Gain on sale of Fr Kennedy's house
Overall change	7.1	71.7	
Cash position	156	539	Improvement reflects sale of house

Trócaire Gifts of Love



Trócaire Gifts of Love help some of the poorest people in the world to work their way out of poverty. There are 21 gifts to choose from starting at €5 for the Gift of Soap for families in war-torn South Sudan. All the gifts are real items, sourced in-country which go to families in need of our support. For further information go to <https://www.trocaire.org/gifts>.

Adoration

Adoration takes place in the Church every Wednesday from 8p.m. to 9p.m. All welcome.
Also available on the parish webcam: www.laurellodgeparish.ie

OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK

MASS TIMES

Saturday: Vigil Mass at 6pm
Sunday: Mass at 10am and 12 noon
(St Philip the Apostle, Mountview - 6pm)
Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: Mass at 10am
Tuesday, Thursday: Mass at 7.30pm

TAP AND GO

You will notice in our church that a new possibility of making 'cashless' donations to the Dublin Diocese is now available to you. This is not replacing our usual Sunday church collections. It's just another way of contributing for those of us now more used to not carrying cash with us and paying in shops by tapping a credit or debit bank card. You can select one of the pre-set amounts offered or choose a custom amount, and pay by tapping your card or inserting it and entering your pin number.

The amount you donate goes straight to our Diocesan Finance Secretariat who split the contribution between supporting the Common Fund (our usual 1st collection, for the priests of our Archdiocese, including those who are sick and retired) and Share (our 2nd collection, providing essential services in the Diocese and supporting disadvantaged parishes).

SHOULD YOU WISH TO DONATE SPECIFICALLY TO OUR PARISH, YOU CAN FIND THAT AS AN OPTION ALREADY THROUGH THE "DONATE" BUTTON ON OUR PARISH WEBSITE: laurellodgeparish.ie.

Please contact the parish office if you have any difficulty with the "Donate" button.