

***PARISH of ST. THOMAS the APOSTLE***  
*in partnership with the parishes of Porterstown & Castleknock*

Very Rev. Damian McNeice, P.P. – Tel: 089 4453987  
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Parish Office: (Secretary: 01-820 8112)  
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Fr. Dan Joe O'Mahony OFM Cap. 01-8200915 / 086-8090633  
**Saturday/Sunday – 9<sup>th</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**MASS TIMES FOR THE COMING WEEK**

Monday to Friday at 10.00 am - Saturday Vigil Mass: 6.30 pm  
Sunday Masses: 9.30 am, 11.00 am and 12.30 pm  
(St Philip the Apostle, Mountview – 6.00 pm)



**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

Again we hear the words of John the Baptist calling us to prepare a way for the Lord. This involves giving time to God. Let us offer that time and space to the Lord now.

**First Reading:** (Is. 40:1-5): The people are encouraged to prepare a way for the Lord who is coming to save them.

**Second Reading:** (2Pet. 3:8-14): If the Lord appears to be slow in coming it is to give people an opportunity to be ready to meet him when he comes.

**Gospel:** (Mk:1:1-8): John the Baptist urges the people to prepare for the coming of our Saviour.

**REFLECTION**

The voice of John the Baptist was a lonely voice  
Which many of his contemporaries ignored  
There are many lonely voices in our world  
Somewhere at this moment a child is crying  
Crying for love or simply food  
Somewhere a young person is crying  
Crying for a listening ear or an understanding heart  
Somewhere an old person is crying  
Dying for a visit or a word from their children  
Lord, help us to listen to these voices



**OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE**  
**WILL BE ON MONDAY DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> AT 7.30 PM**  
**ALL WELCOME**



**RITE II CONFESSIONS**

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December after the 11.00 am Mass  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December after the 09.30 am Mass  
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December after the 12.30 pm Mass  
**Penitential Service - A Communal Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December in Our Lady Mother of the Church, Castleknock at 7.30pm**

**MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

*Our Lady Mother of the Church, Castleknock, Friday Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 10am*

The Jesse Tree is an Advent tradition. It tells us the story of God's plan from the beginning of time to bring His people into saving love. It is a countdown to Christmas, starting with the story of God's people in the Old Testament and ending with Jesus, God's beloved Son. It tells us about Jesus' family tree and reminds us that we are part of his family too.



**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    God gives the people the Law – stone tablets  
out of Egypt – a staff    showing the Ten Commandments

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>SATURDAY: 6.30 pm</b>	<b>JOHN BOURKE (ANNIVERSARY)</b>
<b>SUNDAY: 9.30 am</b>	<b>PETER &amp; MAUREEN KILMARTIN (ANNIVERSARY)</b>
<b>11.00 am</b>	<b>TOM BLAKE (30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY) ELLEN BLAKE (3<sup>RD</sup> ANNIVERSARY)</b>
<b>12.30 pm</b>	<b>BRIDGET BYRNE (6<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY)</b>

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Eugene Moore - *(Recently Deceased)*  
***And those whose anniversaries occur at this time:***  
Jerry O'Neill, Paul McVey, Gerry Fitzpatrick, George Maliakel,  
Lina and JP Connor, Ethel Carr and Sadie Niblock

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**The Pope's Intentions December 2023** - For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation.

**LECTIO DIVINA:** Spiritual reading, meditation, prayer and contemplation of the Gospel for the following Sunday - an opportunity to listen, share, discuss and pray the Living Word. Please come **on Wednesdays** from 10.30 am to 11.00 am in Our Lady's Parish Centre, Beechpark Lawn, Castleknock. For information, contact Marian on 087 2958363.

**Adoration** takes place in the Church every Wednesday from 8 pm to 9 pm.

All Welcome. Also available on the parish webcam: [www.laurellodgeparish.ie](http://www.laurellodgeparish.ie)  
**Mass Intentions:** To arrange an anniversary Mass or Mass for a special intention please phone the parish office (01 8208112) or email [office@laurellodgeparish.ie](mailto:office@laurellodgeparish.ie) with the details. Mass intentions can also be booked with the Sacristan.  
Early booking is recommended.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT**

The Irish Hospice Foundation provides a free Bereavement Support Line. This National Freephone Service is available from 10am to 1pm, Monday to Friday, by calling 1800 807077. Visit [www.hospicefoundation.ie](http://www.hospicefoundation.ie) for more information.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

***Friday mornings - 9.00 am – 9.30 am***  
***Saturday evenings - 5.00 pm – 5.45 pm***  
***Rite II (communal celebration) – after the 6.30 pm Mass on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month***

**AWARE – SUPPORT & SELF CARE GROUPS**

If you or those with whom you work wish to connect with people in relation to your mental wellbeing, consider using Aware's phone-in and Zoom support and self-care groups, support line or support mail. For more information, visit [www.aware.ie](http://www.aware.ie).

**PRAYERS/INTENTIONS**

A basket will be left at the altar for people to place their intentions/prayer requests. These will be prayed for at the 10.00 am Mass on the day.

