

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

Very Rev. Damian McNeice, P.P. – Tel: 089-4453987
Rev. Brendan Quinlan C.C. - Tel: 01-8208144 or 087-2460033
Parish Office: (Secretary: 01-820 8112)
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Fr. Dan Joe O'Mahony OFM Cap. 01-8200915 / 086-8090633
Saturday/Sunday –14th/15th DECEMBER 2024

MASS TIMES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday to Friday at 10.00am - Saturday Vigil Mass: 6.30pm

Sunday Masses: 9.30am and 11.30am

In Porterstown: Saturday 6pm and Sunday 11am

In Castleknock: Saturday 6pm and Sunday 10am and 12 noon

[Mountview parish have a Sunday evening Mass at 6pm]



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 15TH DECEMBER 2024

Gaudete Sunday: There is a clear note of joy in the readings this weekend. This is known as Gaudete Sunday which means rejoice. The reason for this rejoicing is the closeness of the Lord. As we gather for this Eucharist we believe that the Lord is very close to us.

First Reading: (Zeph.3:14-18): Jerusalem is encouraged to rejoice because the Lord is very near. We too can take heart from this message of hope.

Second Reading: (Phil. 4:4-7): Paul urges us to rejoice in the Lord and to let go of anxiety by living in a spirit of prayer and thanksgiving.

Gospel: (Lk. 3:10-18): John the Baptist tells the people what they must do to prepare for the Lord's coming and to escape his searching judgement.

REFLECTION: There is a clear note of joy in today's liturgy. Joy is a blend of laughter and tears. It consists of having a love affair with life. It is having a heart aglow with warmth. For all one's companions on the road of life, it is looking for happiness that comes in small packages. Knowing that big packages are few and far between. It is making the most of the present. Enjoying what is at hand right now. Joy is love bubbling over into life and it can coexist with pain. Joy is the flag we fly when Christ the Prince of peace has taken up residence in our hearts.



SVP
ANNUAL
APPEAL
€10,497.40
WAS RAISED
LAST
WEEKEND.
THANK YOU
VERY MUCH
FOR YOUR
GENEROSITY

Christmas 2024

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Our Parish Partnership Penitential Service - Monday 16th December, 7.30pm
in St Thomas the Apostle Church, Laurel Lodge.

Several visiting priests will assist on the evening.

Christmas Eve - Tuesday 24th December

5pm Family Mass, 7pm and 9pm Night Mass

Christmas Day - Wednesday 25th December

Mass at 9.30am and 11.30am

St. Stephen's Day - Thursday 26th December, Mass at 10am

Friday 27th December, Mass at 10am

Saturday 28th December 6.30pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 29th December - Feast of the Holy Family-Mass at 9.30am and 11.30am

Monday 30th December Mass at 10am

Tuesday 31st December – New Year's Eve, Mass at 10am

Wednesday 1st January - New Year's Day Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, Mass at 10am

CAROL SERVICE – A heartfelt Thank You to all who made our Parish Carol Service such a wonderful event, especially the mammoth work and expertise of Denis Twomey. All who were present were blessed by joy.
Fr. Damian

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 his 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 Third Sunday of Advent our decorations symbolise:

ISAIAH'S PROPHECY – A SCROLL, THE TOWN WHERE JESUS WAS BORN – A BETHLEHEM HOUSE, KING DAVID – A HARP, KING SOLOMON – A CROWN



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY: 6.30 pm William Webster & the Lazenby & Webster Families

SUNDAY: 9.30 am Sophie Ryan & Deceased Members of the Ryan & Griffin Families)

11.30 am Denis Byrne (Anniversary) Liam Kelly (Anniversary)

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Jerry Twomey whose funeral took place during the week

Sean Bergin (*recently deceased*)

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Patrick, Mary and John McManus, Rosaleen Agnew, Elizabeth McGrath

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The Pope's Intentions December 2024 - FOR PILGRIMS OF HOPE

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in our daily lives and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

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 10.00am Mass on the day.



ADORATION: TAKES PLACE IN LAUREL LODGE CHURCH EVERY WEDNESDAY FROM 8PM TO 9PM. ALL WELCOME.

AVAILABLE ON THE PARISH WEBCAM: WWW.LAURELLODGEPARISH.IE

ALSO IN - **ST MOCHTA'S, PORTERSTOWN** - SUNDAYS 7PM TO 8PM
AND **OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH** - THURSDAYS 8PM TO 9PM

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 WITH THE DETAILS.
MASS INTENTIONS CAN ALSO BE BOOKED WITH THE SACRISTAN.
EARLY BOOKING IS RECOMMENDED.

BAPTISMS: Baptism Ceremonies are held on the first Sunday of the month at 12.30pm and the third Saturday of the month at 3.30pm. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

CHRISTMAS WARMTH CONCERT

On Sunday 15th December at 6pm in St. Mochta's Church featuring the Church Choir and Mary Flynn and Friends. Please come along and enjoy the afternoon which will include refreshments in the Parish Centre afterwards.

Tickets €10 per adult/Family Ticket €20 on sale from the Sacristy in St. Mochta's Church after any Mass or from St. Mochta's Parish Office during office hours

Christmas Food Poverty Appeal

This Christmas, let's come together to make a difference in the lives of families in our community. Your generous donations can help us help those most in need of food and support. Donate online at www.crosscare.ie

Thank you for your support!

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR CHRISTMAS FOOD POVERTY APPEAL FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

DONATE ON LINE AT CROSSCARE.IE

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Friday mornings: 9.00am–9.30am

Saturday evenings: 5.00pm–5.45pm:

Rite II (communal celebration) after the 6.30pm Mass on the 1st Saturday of the month.

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 for more information.

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.