

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

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Saturday/Sunday 6th/7th DECEMBER 2025

MASS TIMES FOR THE COMING WEEK

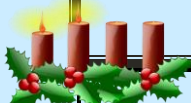
Monday to Friday at 10.00am - Saturday Vigil Mass: 6.30pm

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]



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – 7th DECEMBER 2025

The call of John the Baptist to repentance is central to our readings this weekend. This is a call to each of us to change our ways and to leave space in our lives for God. Advent is a time to renew our relationship with God.

First Reading: (Is. 11:1-10) We hear about the coming of the Messiah and the kind of justice and peace he would bring. **Second Reading:** (Rom. 15:4-9) This talks about the importance of hope and how we should treat each other as Christ has treated us. **Gospel:** (Mt. 3:1-12): We hear once again the voice of John the Baptist saying to us what he said to his contemporaries: “Repent for the kingdom of God is at hand”.

REFLECTION: Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul and sings the tune without the words and never stops at all. And sweetest in the gale is heard; And sore must be the storm that could abash the little bird that kept so many warm. I've heard it in the chilliest land and on the strangest sea; Yet never in extremity it asked a crumb of me (*Emily Dickinson*)

POPE'S INTENTIONS - For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

BAPTISMS
 in our church in November. Please keep Liam, Freya, John, Alex and Phoebe in your prayers.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SURVEY – HAVE YOUR SAY

The current Department of Education survey on the future of patronage in the primary sector is important in that it will shape the discussion on primary school divesting for the years to come throughout the Republic of Ireland. The survey is school specific and **needs to be responded to by all parents and prospective parents locally**. It is important that those who wish for a change in patronage would have their voice heard. It is equally important that those who wish for a Catholic education for their children, and the support for sacramental preparation available in Catholic schools, would have their voice heard also. For those reasons and to ensure that an accurate picture emerges, please participate in this survey if you are a parent or a prospective parent of a Primary school student. **The survey can be accessed at www.gov.ie/primaryschoolsurvey/** It closes on Tues Dec 16th.



THE JESSE TREE: 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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - Our Parish Partnership Penitential Service will be on **Monday 15th December 7.30pm** in St Thomas the Apostle Church.



The St. Vincent de Paul **ANNUAL APPEAL** takes place at all Masses this weekend and replaces the Share Collection. Thank you for your support.

BLAKESTOWN DRIVE COMMUNITY GROUP together with D15 Red Cross and Scouts would like to you know about a special event taking place. **Nollaig le Ciara** in support of St. Francis Hospice. **Ciara Breen**, Soprano, accompanied by cello, violin and guitar. **Venue** – St. Brigid's Church Extension Blanchardstown Date – **Thursday 18th December** Doors Open for 7.30pm start. **Tickets €10** will be on sale **after Mass today** and are also available at St. Brigid's Parish Office. All proceeds and donations go directly to SFH.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY:	6.30pm	Ger Ward and John Bourke (anniversaries)
SUNDAY:	9.30am	Dan and Martha Kelly (anniversary) George Mathew Maliakel (anniversary) Terry Lawless (8th anniversary)
SUNDAY:	11.30am	Gerry Fitzpatrick (6th anniversary) Jerry Twomey (1st anniversary)

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Martin Laverty, Charlie Murphy, Jim Rooney, Norman Grim, Andrew Browne
(recently deceased)

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Anita Leavy, Sadie Niblock, Thomas, Margaret and Thomas Edward Doonan and Family, Seamus and Kit McDonald & Family