



BOOTERSTOWN PARISH

WEEKLY NEWS

11th December 2016

Third Sunday of Advent

In Brief

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Members of the society are speaking at Masses this weekend about the work of the society and are taking up the annual indoor collection. This replaces the usual Share (second) collection. Sunday morning hospitality following 9am and 10.30am Masses will **not** take place this weekend as the Parish Centre is closed today.

Christmas Card Delivery in your area – if you can assist with the delivery of cards on your road/in your apartment complex, kindly call to the Parish Office during the coming week.

Finance Committee Annual Report copies of the report continue to be available in the church porch for those who did not yet receive it. Please take a copy home with you.

Altar Service Training for new Servers will take place on Friday 16th December @ 2.45pm

The next meeting of the **Legion of Mary – Frank Duff Prayer Group** will take place on **Wednesday 14th December at 3pm** in the Parish Centre, Room 3. A DVD on Fatima will be shown as seen on EWTN. Festive refreshments will be served. Everyone welcome!

Crosscare Food Appeal – Many thanks to all those who have so generously responded to this appeal.

Rest in Peace

We pray for those who have died. We especially pray for the soul of Rev. Colm Kenny, Co-Parish Priest of Our Lady of Victories. Ballymun Road. Fr. Colm Kenny was a curate in this parish from 1992 – 1999. He was Chairperson of the Board of Management of St. Mary's Boys' School and Chaplain to St. Mary's and to Our Lady of Mercy Primary School. We extend our deepest sympathy to Fr. Colm's father, his family, friends, neighbours and parishioners. Rest in Peace Fr. Colm.

THE DEEP END

Jesus asks the crowd in today's Gospel why they ran to see John the Baptist. Sometimes when we go to hear a famous speaker or go to someone we admire we are looking for answers. Our expectations are often not grounded in reality. Jesus asks the people what did they expect when they went to see John. Were they looking for someone nicely dressed? No, they were looking for a prophet and John was the greatest of these. Jesus's words are almost like a eulogy for John.

John announces and makes way for Jesus, marking the end of one era and the beginning of another. John announces a new time. John names the question we so often ask when a new exciting leader comes on the scene: Is this the one? Is this the person we've been waiting for? And if it is, how will we know? Our expectations can often be so great because we are constantly in need of renewal. Where in your life today do you need to experience fresh hope and newness?

The Gospel ends with a paradox: John is the greatest that has ever been born; yet the people who are considered the 'lowest' or the 'least' in this world are considered even greater than John by God. A statement that no doubt would have left a few people scratching their heads.

'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, come forth from deep within me with Christmas luminous beauty. For my heart has become the sacred crib, the birthing place of God among us.'

Edward Hays (Prayers for a Planetary Pilgrim)

Jane Mellet

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LITURGY NOTES **Eucharistic Adoration important note:** as essential lighting maintenance work will be carried out in the church on Tuesday 13th we regret that it will not be possible to have Eucharistic Adoration.

Ministers of Holy Communion ...please collect your Christmas roster from the Sacristy.

Weekly Prayer of the Faithful and rosters for Ministers of the Word and Holy Communion are now available on the parish website. Click on Parish Groups, then click on Liturgy and click on the appropriate link.

Advent Wreath: Today is **Gaudete (Joyful) Sunday** and the Liturgical Season of Advent continues. The vestments and the third candle of the Advent wreath are pink/rose coloured, which reflect the note of **JOY**. We rejoice because the Lord is near. The **Jesse Tree** symbols which will be added today during the Family Mass are: Joseph (coat symbol), Moses (Ten Commandments) and The Passover (lamb).

Advent Prayer

O Lord, in this season of Advent open my eyes to where you would lead me. Awaken my ears that I would hear your voice guiding me. Inspire my mind that I may comprehend your love for me. Soften my heart that I would offer grace to those I meet. Watch my feet that I would tread upon your kingdom paths. Guard my heart from selfishness that I would give freely. Inspire my words that I may speak of hope and healing. O Lord, I follow you.

Amen.

Spiritual Preparation for Christmas

On Tuesday, 13th December at 8pm in the Parish Centre the Faith Formation and Spirituality Group will host an evening to help us spiritually prepare for the Christmas Season.

Anniversary Masses during the coming week

Saturday 17th December Vigil - James McGoohan; Jack O'Neill (10th A), remembering his sister, Karen and his parents, Dick and Frankie;

Sunday 18th December @ 9am - Mary and Joseph Moran; Austin Cloonan;

10.30am - Margaret Ó hÓgartaigh (2nd A); Noel Jones.

12 Noon - Seamus Cahalane, also remembering his wife, Nellie and their son Conor; Dolores O'Neill; Declan Burke (1st A); Daphne and Edward Finlay.

Friday 16th December @ 7.30am - Máire Boland;

Saturday 17th - Gerard McNamara (1st A). **Month's Mind Masses**

Saturday 17th December, Vigil - Mona Johnston.

Sunday, 18th December at Noon - David Menton

Book Launch

Our versatile Sacristan, **Paul Lyng**, recently launched his new book **'From the Sea to the Mountains'**. Copies of this book are available from the Sacristy after Mass – just call into the Sacristy and Paul will personally sign a copy for you. Cost of book €20.

Annual Service of Reconciliation -Wednesday 21st December

The Annual Service of Reconciliation takes place on Wednesday 21st December at 7.30pm and offers a quiet, reflective service with scripture readings, a helpful Examination of Conscience, a Homily, background music and individual confession with visiting priests. (If you cannot attend on 21st December, alternative services are available in our Pastoral Area – St. John the Baptist Church, Blackrock – Monday 19th December and Church of the Guardian Angels, Newtown park Avenue on Tuesday 20th December. All services take place at 7.30pm.

Our very own 'Bambinelli Sunday'

There is a strong tradition in Italy, 'Bambinelli Sunday', where children (and adults) bring their Baby Jesus figures from the crib at their homes to St. Peter's Square in Rome where Pope Francis blesses both the people and the figurines. This year we will celebrate 'Bambinelli Sunday' at 10.30am Mass on Sunday 18th December. All are invited to bring the Baby Jesus figures from their home to Mass that morning to be blessed. Families can even make their own Bambinelli if they wish. Families may then wish to keep baby Jesus safely ready at home to place in the crib at home on Christmas Day. **Grandparents**, please pass details of the blessing to your family members and invite them to 10.30 Mass on Sunday 18th December.

Stewards and Ushers for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

If you can assist with the stewarding at Masses on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, we would be very grateful if you can attend a short meeting in the Parish Centre on Sunday 18th December at 11.15am. Stewarding is a very important ministry at Christmas Masses to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all those attending the church. If you can assist with stewarding, you will be very welcome to attend the planning meeting. If you are unable to attend, but would like to assist with stewarding, kindly leave your name and contact number with the Parish Secretary. We request Ministers of the Eucharist, rostered for Christmas Masses to assist with stewarding also.



Priests of the Parish		Confessions
Fr. Cormac McLraith, Parish Administrator	52 Booterstown Ave. Tel: 01 288 2162	After 10 am Mass & 6 pm Vigil Mass every Sat
Mgr. Seamus Conway, Pastor Emeritus	Booterstown Ave. Tel. 01 288 2889	After 10 am Mass on Thursday before the First Friday
		Other times by arrangement with parish clergy
		Special arrangements are available for those with a disability. Please contact clergy
Email & Website		Baptisms
info@booterstownparish.ie		Third Saturday of the month @ 12 noon
www.booterstownparish.ie		Marriages
		By arrangement, 3 months notice required
Mass Times		
Saturday: 10am & Vigil Mass at 6pm		
Sunday: 9am, 10.30am and 12 noon		Parish Secretary: Thérèse O'Donoghue
Mon - Fri: 7.30 & 10 am		Parish Office: Tel & Fax 01 283 1593
Rosary		(Mon - Fri: 9-10 am & 10.30-1.30 pm)
Mon – Sat at 9.40 am		Sacristan: Paul Lyng 288 8586
Eucharistic Adoration		St. Marys Boys School 288 6830
Tuesday after 10 am Mass – 10 pm		Our Lady of Mercy Girls School 288 4223