



BOOTERSTOWN PARISH

WEEKLY NEWS

17th December 2017

Third Sunday in Advent

7.30 am Weekday Mass: there will **not** be a 7.30 am Mass from 18th December to 5th January inclusive. The 7.30 am Mass will resume on Monday, 9th January.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Members extend their sincere thanks to all those who contributed to their indoor church collection last weekend. It is still possible to make a contribution to SVP if you did not have an opportunity to do so last weekend.

Crosscare Food Appeal: Many thanks to all those who so generously responded to the appeal.

Christmas Timetable and Cards: My very sincere thanks to all those who so kindly and willingly assisted with the packing and delivery of these. I deeply appreciate it.... *Therese*

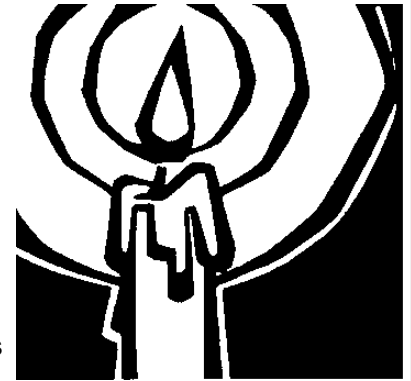
Booterstown Parish Website is regularly updated. Please visit www.booterstownparish.ie and don't forget the **webcam** option which broadcasts live all ceremonies from our church. Please let your friends, relatives and former parishioners living abroad to "tune in" to the parish if they wish to join with us during the Advent and Christmas Season.

Gaudete Sunday 17th December, we celebrate **Bambinelli Sunday today** by blessing the **Baby Jesus figure** from our crib at home at 10.30 am Mass. A beautiful Icon of the Holy Family, designed by the Redemptoristine Sisters, is being distributed after Masses today to mark our preparation for the World Meeting of Families. Please be sure to collect an icon.

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

John 1:6-8, 19-28

1. 'There is one among you whom you do not know'. We can know about Jesus but do we know him? What helps you to know Jesus in a way that enables you to follow in his footsteps, trusting God as he did, and seeing other people as he did?
2. John the Baptist came to bear witness to Jesus. Who have been the people who have borne witness to you of the good news that God loves you – a friend, a parent, a teacher, etc.? To whom have you borne that witness?
3. John appears in the story as one who had the courage to be himself in the face of loud and aggressive people. He was also a person who knew his own value, did not make exaggerated claims and was content with his mission. Can you recall times when you have been able to be yourself, even in the face of criticism from others?
4. John was 'the voice of one crying out in the wilderness' – announcing confidently to those in the wilderness that they must not despair because God's grace may come to them at any moment. Have you had the experience of being in the wilderness, feeling lost? From whom did you hear a voice that gave you hope? Have you been able to give hope to other people when they were in the wilderness?



LITURGY NOTES

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

Advent: For the final Saturday of Advent, Eucharistic Adoration will take place from 5 pm – 5.40 pm. This is a lovely way to prepare for the Christmas season, as well as to pray for our priests before they celebrate weekend Masses in our church. Please consider spending 40 minutes in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament before Mass

Eucharistic Adoration will take place, as usual, on Tuesday, 19th December. It will not take place on Tuesdays 26th December or 2nd January. A sincere Thank You to all our registered volunteers and visitors for your commitment. May the Adoration of the Shepherds and the Wise Men inspire us all in the New Year. Adoration will resume on 9th January 2018.

Christmas Eve Masses will take place on Sunday evening at **5.00 pm, 7.00 pm and 9.00 pm**. **9.00 pm Mass** will be preceded by Christmas Carols at 8.30 pm so please arrive in good time to join in the singing!

Christmas Mass / New Year timetable additional copies of the card are available in the church porch for visitors and those living outside the parish area. Please note that the regular Sunday Mass times apply next week-end.

Note: Weekday Mass times after Christmas: Please note the weekday Mass times on Tuesday 26th December and Monday 1st January (both public holidays) will be at 11.00 am. On all remaining weekdays there will be one morning Mass at 10 o'clock.

St. Joseph's Young Priests' Society: the final meeting of the year will take place on Thursday, 21st December in the Parish Centre, Room 3 at 10.30 am.

Music for Advent: • Frascati Singers, Blackrock will perform Vivaldi's 'Gloria' and A Festival of Carols in St. John the Baptist Church, Blackrock on Sunday, 17th December – **today!** - at 4.00 pm. Tickets €15 to include tea/coffee in the Parish Centre after the performance. • Moya Brennan, the voice of Clannad and special guests will perform *An Irish Christmas* in Monkstown Parish Church on Thursday, 21st December at 7.30 pm. Tickets € 15/€10.

Advent Reflection We are the people of Advent, for Advent is now, and not just back then. Therefore we can see all the characters of the Advent that was 'then' in our Advent which is 'now'. Where in our lives is John the Baptist, provoking us to become aware of new things happening in our lives? Where is Zachariah in our lives, not immediately open to what is so new, so hard to understand? Where is Elizabeth, so ready, through the wisdom of living, to appreciate the coming of the Lord? Where is Joseph, so gracious when all was so strange? And where is Mary in us, trusting in the providence given to her, welcoming the word in her heart? For, where we find Mary in ourselves, there we find Christ being born in our souls. (*Prayer for Parish Groups – Donal Harrington and Julie Kavanagh*)

Annual Service of Reconciliation - Wednesday 20th December at 7.30 pm this service is quiet and reflective with scripture readings, a helpful Examination of Conscience, a Homily, background music and individual confession with visiting priests. (If you cannot attend on 20th December, alternative services are available within our Pastoral Area – St. John the Baptist, Blackrock on Monday, 18th December and Church of the Guardian Angels, Newtown park Avenue on Tuesday 19th December. All services take place at 7.30 pm. All are welcome

Boosterstown Parish Planning: Parishioners may have seen notices fixed to the church railings stating that a planning application was being made for works to the Pastoral (Parish) Centre. DunLaoghaire Rathdown County Council has now decided to give us permission so, after the statutory period of one month, we hope the final permission will be issued. Further information on the project will be issued to all parishioners shortly.

Stewarding at Christmas Masses: Please leave your name with the Assistant Sacristan, Tom Colgan after Mass today or with the Parish Secretary (Tel. 01 2831593) if you can assist with stewarding at Christmas Masses. The stewards do a great job ensuring that parishioners are seated in good time for Christmas Masses and they ensure the health and safety of all those in attendance.

Anniversaries for the coming week: Wed 20th - Rita Moran (18th); Friday 22nd 7.30 am Tom & Mona O'Reilly; Sat. 23rd - 10 am Declan Burke (2nd); Vigil: – Karen Morris and her brother, Jack O'Neill; Paddy Haugh; Sunday 24th 10.30 am – Gráinne McGovern (1st A); 12 Noon: Mary, Joseph & Thomas Moran; Jim O'Dwyer, remembering his mother, Margaret, deceased. Thursday 28th – 10.00 am – Catherine Cotter. Sat. 30th – Vigil: Des McHale, Eithne Carroll; Sunday 31st December – 12 Noon The Knowles & Flood Families deceased.

Blackrock Meals on Wheels is urgently seeking volunteers to help on Thursdays. Commitment is 10.30 am onwards for approximately one hour. Please phone Padraic Cronin on 086-8150501 or Mary Hennigan at 01 2834 989.

Priests of the Parish		Confessions
Fr. Gerry Kane 52 Booterstown Ave.	Parish Priest 086 8220956	After 10 am Mass & 6 pm Vigil Mass every Sat After 10 am Mass on Thursday before the First Friday
Mgr. Seamus Conway, Boosterstown Ave.	Pastor Emeritus Tel. 01 288 2889	Other times by arrangement with parish clergy Special arrangements are available for those with a disability. Please contact clergy
Email & Website		Baptisms
info@boosterstownparish.ie		Third Saturday of the month @ 12 noon
www.boosterstownparish.ie		Marriages
Mass Times		By arrangement, 3 months notice required
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 – 10pm		Our Lady of Mercy Girls School 288 4223