



BOOTERSTOWN PARISH

WEEKLY NEWS

16th December 2018

Third Sunday of Advent

In Brief

Booterstown Parish Website is regularly updated. Visit www.booterstownparish.ie to keep up to date with parish news.

St. Joseph's Young Priests' Society will meet on Thursday, 20th December at 10.30am.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul – Annual Appeal: Members of our local conference extend their sincere gratitude to all those who contributed to their indoor church collection last weekend in response to the Annual Appeal. It is still possible to make a contribution to SVP if you did not have an opportunity to do so last weekend. SVP Donation envelopes are available in the church porch.

Churches Together Serving the Gospel

This series will conclude on **Thursday 20th December** in our home parish, Church of the Assumption at 8.00 pm. It offers a short introduction to Christian Meditation followed by a period of Christian Meditation. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Service of Reconciliation

The Advent Service of Reconciliation in this parish takes place on Wednesday, 19th December at 7.30pm with visiting celebrants and the opportunity for individual confession.

Stewarding at Christmas Masses

Please leave your name with the Assistant Sacristan, Tom Colgan, after Mass today or with the Parish Secretary (Tel. 01 283 1593) if you can assist with stewarding at Christmas Masses. Please indicate your preferred Mass. The stewards provide a great service ensuring that parishioners are seated in good time for Christmas Masses and overseeing the Health & Safety of all who are in attendance.

The reason for the season

In his encyclical *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel), Pope Francis issues a warning that might resonate with us as we continue our Advent journey. Caught up in consumerism, he says, it is easy for us to forget what is truly important:

‘The great danger in today’s world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience. Whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God’s voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades.’

In the lead-up to Christmas we often get caught up in a flurry of ‘interests and concerns’. True, much of the joy of Christmas comes from giving to others, but there is so much focus on material goods and spending money that it can be difficult to remember the good news at the heart of the season. It is so easy to become distracted by the bright lights and advertising.

This Sunday is *Gaudete Sunday* – *Gaudete* means ‘Rejoice’. It’s the perfect time to recapture some of the ‘quiet joy’ that Pope Francis talks about – ‘The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus’. It is this personal encounter with Jesus that we celebrate at Christmas, God becoming man, the Good News announced by John the Baptist in today’s Gospel. This is the reason for our joy – the reason for the season!

Triona Doherty

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LITURGY NOTES

Eucharistic Adoration continues on Tuesdays from 10.30am until 10pm. Why not come to Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesdays between 10.30am and 10pm as something positive for Advent. Our lovely church is a little oasis of peace in these busy days leading up to Christmas. Take time out with Our Lord and seek peace and consolation in His presence.

Advent Wreath: the Liturgical Season of Advent continues and today is **Gaudete (Joyful) Sunday**. You will notice that the celebrant’s vestments, the Lectionary cover and the church banners are pink/rose coloured which reflect the note of **JOY**. **Jesse Tree** symbols which are added today are: Joseph (coat symbol), Moses (Ten Commandments symbol) and The Passover (lamb symbol).

Memory Tree: Once again it is time to remember our loved ones, at home and abroad and living and deceased. Nametags and pens, kindly provided by the Altar Society, are on the small table to the side of the Altar if you wish to record the name(s) of loved ones and hang them on the Memory Tree.

Anniversaries next week

Mon 17th 7.30am: Mary Hourigan;
 Tues: 10am: Gerard McNamara.
 Thurs: 20th 10am: Rita Moran.
 Fri. 21st Dec. 7.30am Paddy Haugh;
 10am: Tom & Mona O'Reilly.
 Sat. 22nd: 10am: Donal & Rosaleen O'Sullivan.
 Sat. 22nd: Vigil: Jack O'Neill and his sister, Karen Morris.
 Sun. 23rd: 10.30am: Declan Burke (3rd);
 12 Noon: Dolores O'Neill, Jim O'Dwyer, remembering his deceased mother, Margaret.



Delivery of Christmas Cards

If you can assist with delivery of the Christmas cards on your road / in your apartment complex, **we would be delighted**. The cards will not have a name and address in accordance with GDPR. During the coming week I will mainly be in the temporary office at 52, Booterstown Avenue. Please phone 01 283 1593 or email info@booterstownparish.ie and let me know in which area you can deliver. As always we will be most appreciative of your help.

Farewell to Sr. Veronica

We extend our best wishes and our prayers to Sr. Veronica Hanratty, M.M.M. who will leave Rosemount House and go to live at the M.M.M Convent in Drogheda. We will miss her greatly. For as many years as I can remember she has made, and iced the Christmas Cake for the parish Social Group's November Cake Sale and Raffle. She also made Jubilee and Retirement Cakes for Monsignor Conway – the icing was a GAA match – Kildare hammered Dublin! and for Fr. Cormac when he was leaving – you may remember the icing was in the form of a golf course! At the **Thursday teas on 20th December**, we will have an opportunity to say goodbye to Sr. Veronica. She is going to be a Philatelist (Stamp Collector!) in Drogheda – so if you save used postage stamps and would like to donate them, please do so

The New Pastoral Centre

The building was formally transferred to the parish last week! Some furniture has been retrieved from storage and more furnishings and equipment are on the way! The centre is a hive of activity as visitors call in for a look around. We packed the Christmas cards in the café area and enjoyed tea and coffee (from the new coffee machine!). Some pupils from Mount Anville had a retreat in the centre on Thursday St. Mary's BNS used the venue as a "backstage" area while waiting to perform their Christmas Play. Our Lady of Mercy Convent School will do likewise this week. Our Sacristan, Paul, is settling in to the new sacristy. The antique storage unit for the vestments, which was such a prominent feature of the old sacristy, has been restored to its former glory. It has been French polished and the brass fittings and handles have been restored also and are gleaming. It really is a work of art. Many thanks to the NET Ministry Team who have been so helpful during this past week in assisting Paul with the move of the Sacristy. They also helped Adrienne in returning the stored furniture to the Pastoral Centre. The NET team are returning to their respective families for Christmas and we look forward to their return in January.

Café: The new Café in the Pastoral Centre is open for business! Initially, the opening hours will be from 10am-Noon from Tuesday-Thursday inclusive - until more volunteers are available, have their Garda Vetting clearance and have attended the mandatory Information Session on Safeguarding. Commencing **10th January**, there will be a **€2 charge** for tea/coffee (including a re-fill and a biscuit!). We hope that you will understand that we need to make this charge as there is an outlay to buy tea/coffee/sugar/biscuits and the centre needs to be self-financing!

Win a Car! Booterstown Pastoral Centre Fundraising Committee invites you to buy a Christmas Gift with a difference: This weekend, raffle tickets will be on sale at the Reception Desk in the new Pastoral Centre for a **Car Draw!** The car is a **2019 Toyota C-HR Hybrid Sport!** The cost of a ticket is €100 and it will make a most original gift!- A Godchild, an unusual birthday present, a special anniversary....there is a very good chance of winning in this small, exclusive raffle!.....and you have an opportunity to support your parish!

Packing of Christmas Cards and Dues Envelopes

My very sincere thanks to all those who so kindly and willingly assisted with the packing of the Christmas cards and timetable last week and who have already delivered in some areas. I am deeply appreciative. *Therese*

<i>Priests of the Parish</i>		<i>Confessions</i>
Rev. Gerry Kane	P.P.	After 10 am Mass & 6 pm Vigil Mass every Sat
52 Booterstown Ave.	Tel: 086 822 0956	After 10 am Mass on Thursday before the First Friday
Mgr. Seamus Conway,	Pastor Emeritus	Other times by arrangement with parish clergy
Booterstown Ave.	Tel. 01 288 2889	Special arrangements are available for those with a disability. Please contact clergy
<i>Email & Website</i>		<i>Baptisms</i>
info@booterstownparish.ie		Third Saturday of the month @ 12 noon
www.booterstownparish.ie		<i>Marriages</i>
<i>Mass Times</i>		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
<i>Rosary</i>		(Mon - Fri: 9-10 am & 10.30-1.30 pm)
Mon – Sat at 9.40 am		Sacristan: Paul Lyng 288 8586
<i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>		St. Marys Boys School 288 6830
Tuesday after 10 am Mass – 10 pm		Our Lady of Mercy Girls School 288 4223