



BOOTERSTOWN PARISH

WEEKLY NEWS

5th January 2020

Second Sunday of Christmas

The Priests of the Parish Fr. Gerry Kane, P.P. and Monsignor Seamus Conway, P.E., wish parishioners and friends of the parish a very happy, blessed and peaceful New Year.

Weekday Mass at 7.30 am will resume on Monday, 6th January. This is the **Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord** Mass will be celebrated at 7.30 am; 10.00 am and at 7.30 pm.

The Pastoral Centre will reopen on Monday, 6th January. Thursday morning hospitality will resume on 9th January – why not make it a new year's resolution to come and join us for tea and chat in the Pastoral Centre on Thursday mornings at 10.30 am? Everyone is welcome! Mothers and Babies also very welcome for tea/coffee and chat from 11.15 am.

Parish Ministries and Parish Groups: co-ordinators are requested to email the Manager of the Pastoral Centre, Adrienne Hughes, with a list of the dates on which they intend to hold their 2020 meetings in the Pastoral Centre. Adrienne needs to know these dates, otherwise she is unable to allocate a room for your meeting if it is requested at short notice.

Parish Christmas Cards: My sincere thanks to all those who so kindly and willingly assisted with the packing and delivery of the parish Christmas Cards and timetable. I deeply appreciate your assistance and could not have managed without it. *Therese*

Parish Office Telephone: remains at 01 283 1593. **Email** info@booterstownparish.ie

Booterstown Parish Website is regularly updated. Visit www.booterstownparish.ie

Webcam: click on the webcam button on our website homepage

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

John 1 : 1-18

1. John opens his Gospel with a profound reflection on the meaning of creation, of life and of Jesus. Remember when you had a special awareness of the gift of life that filled you with gratitude to God for creation, and the beauty and wonder of the world: *'All things came into being through him and without him not one thing came into being.'*

2. We often listen to a reading from the gospels. Sometimes it goes in one ear and out the other. Then there are occasions when it made us feel more alive, times when it helped us see the way ahead, like *a light that shines in the darkness*. Recall when the gospel gave you hope in the midst of anxiety or sadness and helped you to see what action would be most life-giving for you and for others

3. Bring to mind people who have had a prophetic voice in the world – speaking the truth for the world to hear, *as a witness to testify to the light*. Some of these may have been public figures. Others were ordinary people who have helped you see the 'light' by the witness of their own lives and words.

4. *'No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son of God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him know.'* Jesus came to us to teach us about God and put a human face on God for us. For the people of his day, and for us, that was a mission of getting us to think again about how we see God, and to believe in a God of love. Recall how the life and ministry of Jesus have changed your picture of God.

John Byrne OSA Email jbbyrneosa@gmail.com

Liturgy Notes: The Eucharistic Adoration committee thanks all volunteers and visitors, who, following in the footsteps of the shepherds and the magi, come to spend time in the presence of Jesus, in the Blessed Sacrament. Eucharistic Adoration will resume on Tuesday, January 7th, 2020 at 10.30 am and will conclude at 10.00 pm.

Thank you: our church is looking really beautiful during this Christmas Season. Many thanks to all those who are responsible for this, including our Sacristan, Paul Lyng, who designed and decorated the lovely Crib. Paul also erected the Christmas Memory Tree. He was assisted and supported by the members of the Altar Society (church Flower Committee) who were also responsible for the decoration of the church, the arrangements of the wreaths on the church pillars, the holly on the pulpit and the exquisite displays of flowers adorning the main Altar and the side Altars. We extend grateful thanks to the Altar Society ladies for all their preparatory work in preparing the Memory Tree. In November they began the cutting and inserting the red ribbon ties in the nametags in preparation for the large number required. There must be almost 1,000 names on the Memory Tree – each tag represents a loved one, living or deceased, at home or abroad, written in our hearts. We are very grateful to all those who help to maintain our beautiful church. Although our volunteer cleaners can no longer Hoover, they continue to dust and look after the brass names plaques. Thank you also to those who assisted with stewarding at Christmas Masses for ensuring the health and safety of all those who attended at Christmas Mass. It is greatly appreciated.

Facebook: please follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with events in the church and with events, classes and activities in the Pastoral Centre.

Benemerenti Award: Our parish secretary of many years, Mrs. Therese O'Donoghue, was presented with the Papal Award Benemerenti in acknowledgment of her many years of dedicated service to the parish. The presentation took place at 11.00 am Mass last Sunday.

Alpha Programme in the Pastoral Centre Why not Pause Netflix and Try Alpha? Commencing on Wednesday, 15th January and taking place weekly, in the Pastoral Centre at **7.30 pm**. Alpha enables people to experience a purpose in life, explore the big questions of life in a loving, non-confrontational, trusting place. It explains how the Church can be a place of safety, joy, peace and love, a place where you can belong and where you can experience healing, restoration and unconditional love in a family/faith community. Alpha is free and it is open to all age groups. To register, contact Adrienne on - 01-441 9303 or centre@booterstownparish.ie

Advance Date for your Diary: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity the inaugural Service for the Week of Prayer, organised by the Dublin Council of Churches, will take place on Sunday, **19th January 2020 at 4.00 pm** in Church of the Assumption, Booterstown.

National Concert Hall parishioner, Melissa Jennings, will give a piano recital on Friday, January 10th, 2020 in the John Field Room, National Concert Hall. The programme will include piano music of Mozart, Schumann, Chopin and Brahms. NCH Tel. 01-4170000.

Concerned about Climate Change in Booterstown? Many thanks to all those who participated in the Carbon Footprint Survey. An **Information Evening** will be held on 16th January in the Pastoral Centre with expert guest speakers highlighting small but positive changes we can all make to help make a difference in our own lives and in our community.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal: Members of the local conference extend their sincere thanks to all those who contributed to the SVP Christmas appeal. It is still possible to make a contribution to SVP if you did not have an opportunity to do so in December.

Change to weekday Mass in the New Year: commencing on **Monday, 13th January**, there will no longer be a 7.30 am or a 10.00 am Mass on a **Monday**. The church, Parish Office and Pastoral Centre will remain closed each Monday. **Weekday Mass** is celebrated in the Church of Our Lady Queen of Peace, Merrion Road at 7.30 am; 10.00 am and 12 noon and in Church of St. John the Baptist, Blackrock at 1.05 pm. **New Sunday Mass times** in Church of St. John the Baptist, **Blackrock:** Vigil: 6.30; Sunday: 10 am and 12 noon.

Men's Shed in the Booterstown Area: Would you be interested in being part of a Mens' Shed? ...a dedicated, welcoming meeting place where men can come together, develop new friendships, share your skills and knowledge with others. Learn new skills and redevelop some old skills. If you are interested, please contact Ciarán on 087-6493420. An Information Evening will be held in January to explore the process further.

Archdiocese of Dublin Diocesan Directory: there is a limited number of copies of the directory available from the Parish Office. Cost €10.00

The Gate of the Year: And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way." So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East. So heart be still: What need our little life, our human life to know, if God hath comprehension? In all the dizzy strife of things both high and low, God hideth His intention. *M.Louise Haskins.*

<i>Priests of the Parish</i>		<i>Confessions</i>
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, Booterstown 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
<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 and 11.am		Parish Secretary: Thérèse O'Donoghue
Mon - Fri: 7.30 & 10 am		Parish Office: Tel & Fax 01 283 1593
<i>Rosary</i>		(Mon - Thurs: 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 - 10pm		Our Lady of Mercy Girls School 288 4223