

PARISH OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

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December 9th/10th 2017 – Second Sunday of Advent

Mass for the coming week: Monday to Friday at 10.00a.m.

❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation

Our Christmas Penance Service (Pardon Sunday) will take place at all Masses **next** weekend.

❖ Second Sunday of Advent

In the first reading there is a message of hope for the exiles in Babylon. The prophet assures them that God will help them and lead them back to their own land in a new exodus.

In the gospel John the Baptist announces the coming of the Messiah.

First Reading: (Is 1:1-5; 9-11)

The people are encouraged to prepare a way for the Lord who is coming to save them.

Second Reading: (2 Peter 3:8-14)

If the Lord appears to be slow in coming, it is to give people an opportunity to be ready to meet him when he comes.

Gospel: (Mark 1:1-8)

John the Baptist encourages the people to prepare for the imminent coming of the Saviour.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul’s annual **Christmas Appeal** will take place during all Masses **this** weekend. It will replace the Share collection. Thank you very much for your continued support.

World Meeting of Families – Crib Project

Leaflets for the World Meeting of Families Crib Project are still available at the back of the church and on the parish website www.laurellodgeparish.ie Please encourage children to bring the crib or crib figures to Mass next Sunday to be blessed.

Our **Christmas Carol Service** will take place on Monday next 11th December at 7.30p.m. here in the church. All welcome. Mince pies and a cup of tea in the Day Chapel following the service.

❖ Christmas Pastoral Offering Envelopes (Dues)

An envelope containing the Christmas Schedule has been distributed to parishioners’ homes. If you do not live in the parish and would like to know our Mass times please take an envelope from the tables at the back of the church. Thank you.

Tickets for a **Ford Escort Zetec** are available in The Oratory and in the Blanchardstown Centre in aid of St. Francis Hospice Blanchardstown. Draw will take place 18th January, time to be confirmed.

Volunteers needed to help with our Christmas ‘**Clean-Up**’ in the church on Friday next 15th December after the 10am Mass. All welcome.

➤ Outdoor Collections for 2018

Charitable groups with a connection to the parish are invited to apply by 31st January 2018 to the Parish Finance Committee c/o Parish Office for approval to hold outdoor collections during 2018. Please note that approval will be based on strict criteria and that there are only a limited number of available slots. Only approved collections are permitted on church grounds. Any queries should be directed to the Finance Committee, c/o Parish Office.

❖ MASS INTENTIONS:

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| Saturday: | 6.30pm | Eamonn Carroll 3rd Anniversary |
| Sunday: | 10.00am | Matthew Bowens and Fr. Ted Smyth Anniversaries |
| | 11.00am | Jerry O’Neill Anniversary |
| | 12.15pm | Anne Marie Corcoran Anniversary |

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

We extend our sympathy to the families of **John Bourke, Peter Keogh and Terry Lawless** (husband of Margaret, C/knock Elms), all recently deceased.

Also, **Sadie Niblock, Sophie Ryan and Richard and Bridget Lucey** whose anniversaries occur at this time and all those whose names are on the Altar List of the Dead.