

PARISH OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

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18th/ 19th December 2021

Mass times for the coming week

Monday to Friday at 10.00 a.m.
(St Philip the Apostle, Mountview – Sunday 6 p.m.)

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve – December 24th
10.00 a.m. 5.00 p.m. 7.00 p.m. 9.00 p.m.

Christmas Day – December 25th
9.30 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 12.30 p.m.

St. Stephen’s Day is Sunday, the Feast of the Holy Family

Masses at 9.30 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 12.30 p.m.

Mass on the weekdays 27th to 31st December at 10.00 a.m.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – 19TH DECEMBER 2021

Jesus came among us to do the Will of God. His sacrifice was essentially one of obedience – an obedience which meant accepting death on a cross.

First Reading: (Mic. 5:1-4)

The prophet Micah announces to the weary people of Jerusalem that a ruler will come from Bethlehem who will bring them peace.

Second Reading: (Heb. 10:5-10)

Jesus came, not to offer the sacrifices of the old law, but to do the will of God.

Gospel: (Lk. 1:39-45)

Elizabeth praises Mary, and enlightened by the Holy Spirit, hints at the uniqueness of the child she has conceived.

REFLECTION

Lord Jesus, come into our weakness, our fear and anxieties.
Come into our failures, our divisions, our grieving.
Come into our loneliness, our darkness, our doubting.
Come into our despair, our poverty of heart, our searching.
Come into our joys and hopes, our dying.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.

CHRISTMAS PASTORAL OFFERING ENVELOPES (DUES)

Christmas Pastoral Offering Envelopes are available from the tables at the back of the church. Thank you very much for your support.

THE JESSE TREE - CHILDREN’S LITURGY GROUP

The Jesse tree is an Advent tradition that introduces Jesus’ ancestors and tells the story of God and of God’s people in the Old Testament, connecting the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history.

The image of the Jesse tree originates from the words of the prophet Isaiah: “A shoot will spring from the stock of Jesse, and from his roots a bud will blossom.” (Isaiah 11:1)

On this **Fourth Sunday of Advent** our decorations symbolise:

Joseph the carpenter – **a hammer**

Mary, the mother of Jesus – **a white rose**

John the Baptist – **a writing board and a pen**

Jesus, Saviour of the world – **a star**

Many thanks to volunteers Aoife Lavin, Ginevra Panunzio and Manus & Patrick Graf-Andresen who made the decorations.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday:	6.30 pm	Baby Grace Kane, Jack Roche and Audrey Merrigan (Months Mind)
Sunday:	9.30 am	John and Nora O’Reilly (Anniversaries)
	11.00 am	Olive and William Newman (Anniversaries)
	12.30 pm	Bridget Byrne (4th Anniversary)

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Eileen Fitzhenry, Declan Fitzpatrick, Theresa McConnell, Breda Davis

(Recently Deceased)

Maureen Kilmartin, Mary Kealy (1st Anniversary)

Whose anniversaries occur at this time

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Adoration

Adoration takes place in the Church every Wednesday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. All welcome.
Also available on the parish webcam: www.laurellodgeparish.ie

OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK

MASS TIMES

Saturday: Vigil Mass at 6 p.m.
Sunday: Mass at 10 a.m. and 12 noon
(St Philip the Apostle, Mountview – 6 p.m.)
Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: Mass at 10 a.m.
Tuesday, Thursday: Mass at 7.30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS

In order to facilitate as many as possible over the Christmas Season, we would ask people to consider attending Mass on days other than Christmas Eve/Day or on our website www.laurellodgeparish.ie/webcam. We are continuing to take a gradual and cautious approach to opening up the spaces in the Church as our priority is to ensure the health, safety and comfort of all those who come to our Church for Mass and private prayer. As there is still a need for social distancing the number of people who can be accommodated in the Church for Christmas Masses remains severely limited. Please note that:

- Every second row will remain cordoned off.
- 1 metre distancing between individuals/family groups should be observed.
- We will admit people on a “first come” basis.
- Standing at the back of the Church will not be permitted.
- We will be utilising the Day Chapel and the Courtyard but these have very limited capacity given social distancing requirements.
- We ask everyone to sanitise their hands before entering the Church/Day Chapel.
- Masks must be worn in the Church/Day Chapel.
- The Church and Day Chapel will be sanitised between Masses.
- We ask you to co-operate with all requests from our stewards in the interest of everyone's health and safety.
- Communion will be distributed at the entrance to the Courtyard to anyone outside the gate who wishes to receive it. We pray for a Happy, Joyful and Healthy Christmas for all in our community

TAP AND GO

You will notice in our church that a new possibility of making ‘cashless’ donations to the Dublin Diocese is now available to you. This is not replacing our usual Sunday church collections. It’s just another way of contributing for those of us now more used to not carrying cash with us and paying in shops by tapping a credit or debit bank card.

You can select one of the pre-set amounts offered or choose a custom amount, and pay by tapping your card or inserting it and entering your pin number.

The amount you donate goes straight to our Diocesan Finance Secretariat who split the contribution between supporting the Common Fund (our usual 1st collection, for the priests of our Archdiocese, including those who are sick and retired) and Share (our 2nd collection, providing essential services in the Diocese and supporting disadvantaged parishes).

SHOULD YOU WISH TO DONATE SPECIFICALLY TO OUR PARISH, YOU CAN FIND THAT AS AN OPTION ALREADY THROUGH THE “DONATE” BUTTON ON OUR PARISH WEBSITE: laurellodgeparish.ie

Please contact the parish office if you have any difficulty with the “Donate” button.

Christmas GOAL Charity Mile

Join fellow-parishioners and friends for a run/walk/jog in aid of *GOAL'S* humanitarian and development work in developing countries
on Christmas Day at the Pope's Cross, Phoenix Park, any time from 10.30 to 12 noon.