

2nd Sunday of Advent



7th December 2014

MASS INTENTIONS

6:30pm Michael Rothwell (A)
9.00am Altar List of the Dead
11.00am Andy & Bridget McHugh (A)
12.30pm Margaret Kelly (2nd A)
5.30pm Jack, May, Pat & John Hughes
& Kevin Donnelly (Rem)

PRAY FOR

Pat Hoey (A)
Patrick, Eileen & Evelyn Reilly (A)
Mary Monaghan (A)
Eugene Marron (A)
Margaret, Anthony & Christopher
O'Brien (A)
Fearghail Cummins (A)

MASSES NEXT WEEK 10.00 AM

Mon: Dan & Christina McCormack (A)
Tue: Richard Barnwall (8th A)
Wed: Fr. Drummy (A)
Thurs: Lena & Daisy Shiels (A)
Fri: Stephen O'Gorman (2nd A)
Pray for: Special Intention
Sat: Liam Nolan (A)

MSZE SWIETA W JERYKU POLSKIM

Msze Swieta w Jeryku Polskim w
Niedziele 14 Grundzien, o godz 18:45.
(Spowiedz 18:15 – 18:40).

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Times of Adoration are:

Mon: 10.30 am – 11.30 am
Wed: 6.00 pm – 11.00 pm
Fri: 10.30am – 5.45 pm
Sat: 10.30am – 11.30am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes
place on each Sunday of Advent from 4 - 5 pm.

FAMILY OFFERING

We thank all those parishioners who support
the running of the parish through the Parish
Family Offering fund. The Weekly Outdoor
collection for last week amounted to €826.20.
The Family Offering Envelope Collection is the
ONLY one which supports the daily running
costs of the Parish and the upkeep of the
Church. Thank you for your commitment to this
collection.

THE ROSARY

The Rosary Statue was blessed for use in the
homes of the parish at the October
Candlelight Procession. If you would like to
pray the rosary and have the statue in your
home for a week, or get more information,
please contact a member of Legion of Mary in
main porch after Sunday morning Masses

PARISH CHRISTMAS MASS BOUQUETS

Parish Christmas Mass Bouquets, nativity
sets, calendars, some Christmas cards,
Children's Bibles and other Christmas gifts
available from Legion of Mary in main porch
after Saturday evening and Sunday morning
Masses.

NATIVITY PLAY

Any children who would like to participate in
the Nativity Play on Christmas Eve at the
6:00pm Mass, please give their names to the
Family Mass Team after 12:30pm Mass this
Sunday. Angels and shepherds needed.

BIBLE STUDY

This week's Bible study will be at 7.30pm
on Tuesday, 09/11/14, rather than the
usual Monday.

ST. CRONAN'S S.N.S CAROL SERVICE

The pupils and staff members invite you to
join them for their Carol Service which will
take place on Thursday 11th December at
7:30pm. Approx 60 children and 30 staff
make up our choir and this promises to be a
fantastic night.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Next Do This In Memory Mass: Sat 13th
& Sun 14th December

Carol Service: Wed 17th December at
7:30pm

Dates for Baptisms in January:

Saturday 10th January at 4:00pm
Sunday 11th January during
11am & 12:30pm Mass
Saturday 24th January at 4:00pm
Sunday 25th January at 2:00pm

Parent/Guardian Meeting is **Thursday 8th
January at 8:00pm.**

Please contact the Parish Office for
details.

ADVENT

Christmas cards & Timetables are ready for
distribution & any help would be greatly
appreciated.

Travelling Crib: From after the Family Mass at
12:30pm on Sunday 30th November the
Travelling Crib began its journey around the
Parish, to return at the Family Mass at 6:00pm
on Christmas Eve. This is very suitable for
teaching children the meaning of Christmas and
also gives a way of praying as a family together.
If you would like the crib in your home for a night
please contact the Parish Office or email
brackenstownparish@gmail.com. There are still 3
places left.

Carol Service in St. Columba's Church: On
the Sunday before Christmas (21st December)
Rev. Robert Deane and the community of St.
Columba's Parish have invited us to join them

for this time of prayer. They hope to have
this in their Church and when the venue and
time are confirmed we will let you know.

Carol Service: On Wednesday 17th
December at 7:30pm the Junior and Senior
Choirs with the Family Mass Group will lead
us in reflecting on the Christmas Story and
leading us in the carols we know and love so
well. This is a family celebration and we
encourage you to bring your children and
grandchildren along. It will last an hour and
afterwards there will be refreshments at the
back of the Church with a glass of mulled
wine for the adults, but they have to sing the
carols first!!

Advent Reconciliation Services: will take
place on Monday 22nd December in St.
Colmcille's Church, Swords Village and on
Tuesday 23rd December in St. Finian's
Church, River Valley, both at 7:30pm.

MYYAM

To mark the Feast of the Immaculate
Conception, *Myyam* will host a young
adult prayer meeting including Rosary,
music, reflection on the Gospel and
time of Eucharistic Adoration, this
coming Monday (8th December), from
8:15-9:15pm in the Prayer Chapel of
St. Sylvester's Church, Malahide.
Those in their late teens to mid-30's
particularly invited to join us.

MORNING STAR HOSTEL

The Morning Star Hostel wish to
express their deep appreciation to all
who donated to their recent Church
Gate Collection and to the local Legion
of Mary who did the collection. The
sum collected was €2,300 which far
exceeded our expectation. I would like
to assure you that the total amount will
go directly to the welfare of our
residents and the upkeep of the
Hostel. May God and his Blessed
Mother bless you all.

Often it's the personal contact that means more than the food, clothes or shower. A voice cries in the wilderness, prepare a way for the Lord. In this weeks wilderness with it's tragic event and the unfolding of many stories, Alice is a prophetic voice that brings us back to basics, that calls us to wake up, that reminds us of the value of wasting time with people.

What can we do in response?

- We can write to our politicians asking that a multi faceted approach be taken to homelessness, listening as they have begun to do, to the people on the frontline.
- Nominate one of the homeless charities to family and friends that instead of buying something we don't need that a donation is made to them as a gift to us.
- In coffee shops where they operate "pay it forward" buy a coffee and sandwich to be given to someone who comes in from the street or encourage your favourite Coffee Shop to offer this facility.
- Buy a hat, gloves and scarf and give them to someone you see on the streets.
- After Christmas we will again be having the Epiphany Gifts Appeal, to bring extra Christmas Gifts to the crib. This will be the third year to do this and each year TRUST have received the gifts that you bring and Alice really appreciates everything we bring in.
- Take time to pray for those who have found themselves with no alternative but to live on the streets and also to remember their families and the volunteers who go out each night on soup runs.
- Never underestimate the power of wasting time with people, especially when they are down on their luck, it could be that time with them that makes all the difference in their lives.

A voice cries in the wilderness, "Prepare a way for the Lord", be awake and listen!

Archbishop Martin's Food Appeal

As we come towards Christmas, the Crosscare Food Banks have once again been struggling to keep up with demand for food from people, especially families with children, in need around the Archdiocese.

In response to this growing need, I am asking parishes to repeat last year's programme and, at all Masses on the coming weekend, to ask parishioners to bring non-perishable food items to Mass. There will be food collection points at the doors of the Church until the 20th December.

With prayerful good wishes *+Diarmuid Martin, Archbishop of Dublin*

2nd Sunday of Advent Year B 7th December 2014

A VOICE CRIES IN THE WILDERNESS...

The role of the prophet is to reflect back to people that all is not right in their lives, that something is missing, that their comfort and peace may be at the cost of injustice to another person. Their voice and their message is to wake us up to the radical nature of the word of God that calls us to change our lives to reflect God's love for all people. It is a word that should not be silent when people on the margins become invisible, when our going about the daily tasks of life, blinkers us. The prophet's call is to wake up, open your eyes, open your heart.

This week the eyes of the whole country have been opened to the situation of the estimated 800 who live on the streets or in poor accommodation in Dublin City. The death of Jonathon Corrie in the tragic circumstance of sleeping in a doorway meters away from Dail Eireann, has made visible the reality homelessness and how people on the streets live and what services are available to them. In the strange sequence of events only two weeks ago he had been interviewed about his life on the street and how he got there.

His life is so close to any of ours that it is frightening how easy it is that a turn of events can take away the securities and lifestyle that we are used to. He grew up in the Carlow/Kilkenny area. As a child he sang in the Cathedral Choir, attended Kilkenny College, had a job and was the father of two teenage children. His downfall was a drug addiction which gradually took away his job, his home and eventually his family. He moved to Dublin to get away from people he knew. Living on the streets became a pattern for him. He stopped going to hostels out of fear and out of a need for peace and quiet. On the streets he could find his own space.

There have been many voices this week giving their opinions on what should be done. The most honest is that of Alice Leahy, who for over thirty years has run TRUST a drop in center for people who live on the streets, which is based in the basement of the Iveagh Flats. What makes Alice's voice different is that she knows the people. She knew Jonathon, describing him as a soft spoken, intelligent man who fell into addiction. She has seen governments, social studies projects and great plans come and go, and in her opinion they miss one thing, they see the problem not the people. She has a lovely phrase, that as a society we have lost the ability to simply "waste time with people". So many of the services are offered on the condition that people will fill in forms and give all their details. She simply asks "where did you sleep last night and what do you need today?" Continued on back....

The St. Vincent de Paul Annual Collection

will replace the Share Collection at all Masses next weekend. Please give as generously as you can.

