

Christ the King

Year A

King of Glory



23rd November 2014

MASS INTENTIONS

6:30pm Thomas & Bridget Hickey (A)
9.00am Altar List of the Dead
11.00am Madge Taaffe (A)
12.30pm Patrick, Eileen & Evelyn
Reilly, Mary Monaghan &
Dc'd Family Members
5.30pm Rosaleen Curran (A)

PRAY FOR

Ursula Fogarty (RD)
Phelim Kelly (A)
Regi Sebastian (RD)
Jinu Liju (RD)

MASSES NEXT WEEK 10.00 AM

Mon: D'csd Members of Kelly &
Fitzgerald families
Tue: Laurence Hoey (A)
Wed: Special Intention
Thurs: Special Intention
Fri: Pat Kearns (A)
Sat: Margaret Fitzpatrick (A)

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 the last Sunday of the month 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.

ART & CRAFT FAIR

An Art & Craft Fair will be held in Senior Citizens Centre, Swords on **Friday 28th November from 10:30am**. Stalls include Knitwear, Delicious Cakes, Artwork, Handmade Jewellery and lots of lovely Books to browse through.

CHURCH GATE COLLECTIONS

The following are Church Gate Collections for November/December:

22/23 Nov – Morning Star Hostel
29/30 Nov – No Collection
6/7 Dec – No Collection
13/14 Dec – SVP Annual Appeal
20/21 Dec – No Collection
27/28 Dec – No Collection

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTIONS

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank those who contributed to their Church Gate Collections for August, September, October and November. The Collections amounted to: August €738.80; September €697.09; October €799.98 and November €783.24.

CROSSCARE ANNUAL COLLECTION

Crosscare Community & Homeless Services would like to thank the parish of Brackenstown for their most generous contribution to the Annual Collection. Your parish contributed €2,586.13 for 2014. It is with your help and support that we continue to reach out to the needy in the diocese.

LEGION OF MARY

Legion of Mary urgently needs new members to continue it's apostolate – over 18's – Tuesdays 10:30am in Sister's House and Wednesday s 7:30pm in Sacristy; Junior members Fridays 5:00pm in Sacristy. Come and see, you'll be most welcome.

CATECHISM FOR ADULTS

Catechism for Adults available from Legion of Mary in Main porch after Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses.

MORNING STAR HOSTEL COLLECTION

The Church Gate Collection this weekend is for the **Morning Star Hostel** for homeless men, (Dublin City) as you leave Mass.

The hostel provides food, clothing and shelter to men who are destitute and most vulnerable in our society. Please be as generous as you can.

FUAIMLAOI CONCERT

The acclaimed choir Fuaimlaoi will perform in Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Harold's Cross on Sunday 30th November at 7pm. Tickets €10 will be available at the door. Fuaimlaoi was formed by composer Ronan McDonagh in 2006 to promote and develop liturgical music rooted in the Irish tradition. It comprises a dynamic group of talented singers and instrumentalists.

ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY

A Mass of Thanksgiving for the Gift of the Priesthood, concelebrated by Priests from the parishes in the Diocese will take place on Sunday 23rd November next, the Feast of Christ the King.

Parishioners are cordially invited to attend this Mass at 3:30pm in St. Andrew's Church, Westland Row. The chief celebrant will be Fr. Seamus McEntee, Chaplain to the Society and Fr. Gerry Moore, Co-PP Sandford Parish will give the homily. Car parking is available at the rear of and in the vicinity of the Church.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Advent Evening Prayer & Blessing of Advent Wreath: Saturday 29th November at 6pm

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

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

Dates for Baptisms in December:

Saturday 6th December at 4:00pm
Sunday 7th December at 1:45pm
Saturday 13th December at 4:00pm
Sunday 14th December at 1:45pm

Parent/Guardian Meeting is **Thursday 4th December at 8:00pm**.

Please contact the Parish Office for details.

THE ROSARY

The Rosary Statue was blessed for use in 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.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Richard Brennan and Deborah Lynch on their recent marriage in St. Cronan's Church. We wish the couple every blessing for the future.

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS CONCERT

A "**Candlelight Christmas Concert**" with **Jennifer Snow & Guests**, to raise funds for St. Sylvester's Church in Malahide will be held on **Friday, 5th December at 8:00pm**. Tickets cost €20 and include mulled wine and canapés during the interval. You can get tickets through the Parish Centre, St. Sylvester's, Malahide.

ADVENT – PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

Next Sunday is the beginning of Advent, our time of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. We have a number of events happening that will help us in our preparation.

Blessing of Advent Wreath: will take place during a prayer service at 6:00pm next Saturday 29th November, just before the evening Mass. We encourage those who attend the Saturday evening Mass to come along that little bit early and begin the season of preparation in prayer.

Travelling Crib: From after the Family Mass at 12:30pm on Sunday 30th November the Travelling Crib will begin 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 complete the purple forms at the doors of the Church and put them in the white postboxes or email brackenstownparish@gmail.com.

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!!

Brackenstown Christmas Cards: are now available from the Parish Office and the Legion Shop in the Front Porch. The offering for the card is €5.00 and they will be prayed for at all the Masses on Christmas Day.

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.

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.

A Gift With A Difference: What do you get for the person who has everything? Maybe a goat, a chicken, an olive tree! What??? Consider a Trócaire Christmas gift. Visit www.trocaire.org.

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OUR HIDE AND SEEK GOD

The Christian never wearies of listening to the story of the coming of Christ, of examining again the hints that God dropped into history before he was born of the Virgin Mary.

The story of God's coming amongst us in Christ reads like a child's game of hide and seek. In the history of our race it was humanity who hid from God. Adam and his wife hid themselves among the trees of the garden and for centuries afterwards humanity wandered around seeking the hiding place of God who had left in the beauty of this world so many clues of his presence.

Suddenly while all things were quiet and the night was in the midst of its course, God changed his hiding place. He came and hid in a little country town, came and hid in a cave, came and hid in the form of a child. The game of hide and seek was over.

Through the season of Advent the readings help us to retrace here our search for God and of God's search for us that ended in the joyful discovery of each other in the cave in Bethlehem. In the spirit of this season we pray: "When the world was dark and the city was quiet you came. You crept in beside us. And no one knew. Only the few who dared to believe that God might do something different. Will you do the same this Christmas, Jesus? Will you come into the darkness of today's world: not the friendly darkness as when sleep rescues us from tiredness, but the fearful darkness in which people have stopped believing that war will end or that food will come or that the government will change or that the church cares? Will you come into that darkness and do something different to save your people from death and despair? Will you come into the quietness of our towns, not the friendly quietness as when lovers hold hands but the fearful silence when the phone has not rung, the letter has not come, the friendly voice no longer speaks, the doctor's face says it all?"

We ask this because the fullness our lives long for depends on us being as open and vulnerable to you as you were to us, trusting human hands to hold their maker. Will you come into our lives if we open them to you, and do something different?"

God, our Father, through the power of the Holy Spirit, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to come as a little child to lead us on our Advent journey.

As we prepare this Advent for his coming again, open our hearts to the wonder of his Presence in our lives.

Heal our wounds, bless our endeavours and make us gentle of heart. Amen.

Fr. Niall Ahern, Daily Thoughts for the Advent Journey (adapted)