

# Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



## Parish Newsletter

29th November 2020

First Sunday in Advent

Vol. 18 No 54

Weekday Masses Cycle A

Priests of the Parish: Fr Patrick M. Devitt 2857773

Sacristan: Finbarr Madden 2859975 (8.30-10.30am)

Fr Declan Gallagher Adm 2859212

Secretary: Caitríona Fogarty 2859418 (10.30-12.30pm)

Parish Pastoral Council: Anthony Holmes, Catherine Ballance, Sean McCool, John Simington, Leo Blennerhassett, Michael Healy, Tim Magennis, Seamus Storan, Ruth Lambkin, Jayne Courtney, Peter Woods, Caroline Lundy, Elizabeth Holmes, Fr. Paddy Devitt and Fr. Declan Gallagher,

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[www.dalkeyparish.ie](http://www.dalkeyparish.ie)

[www.dalkeyparish.ie/webcam](http://www.dalkeyparish.ie/webcam)



### God of Hope

Be with us in our Advent journey, to the stable and beyond, be with us in our meeting, be with us in our worship and our praying on our Advent journey to the stable and beyond, our God of hope.

This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent. Advent means 'Coming' in Latin. This is the coming of Jesus into the world.

### Remembered at Masses this week

#### Sunday

Sat 6pm Vigil: Nancy and Jack Hannigan (a)

Sun 8.45am: Paddy Long (a)

12pm: Karl Quinn (a)

Tues: 10am: Alice and Johanna Slattery (a)

Wed: 10am: Deirdre Mountjoy (a)

Ellen Armstrong Kieran(RD)

Fri: 10am: Altar List of the Dead

Sat: 10am: Ada Byrden (a)

### Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration is when we come to church and pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament. You can come anytime during the Adoration period, and stay as long or as short as you wish and be in His Presence for as long as you wish. While you are there sitting quietly in the pew before God, you can pray, allows Jesus into your heart, meditate on a mystery of the faith and ponder God's will for us. You are welcome to come along and experience the real presence of Christ, held each Monday from after 10am Mass until 4pm.

### Christenings

We look forward to the resumption of Christenings as soon as we receive further guidance on indoor gatherings. We are currently taking bookings for 2021 - for more information please contact the parish office.

### Pope Francis on Twitter

@pontifex

When we pray, God opens our eyes renews and changes our hearts, heals our wounds and grants us the grace we need.

26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020

### Church reopening

At the time of writing we are planning on the basis of a move to level 3 restrictions from next week. Sunday Mass bookings will be available on [www.holdmyspace.ie](http://www.holdmyspace.ie) from Dec 7th and Christmas Mass bookings from 14th Dec. if you would like help with these bookings please contact the parish office or sacristy. Confessions can be booked via Finbarr in the sacristy on 2859975. More info will be available from the office next week.

### St Vincent de Paul Fundraising Appeal

For almost 200 years St Vincent de Paul has been supporting communities throughout Ireland including Dalkey. Now, more than ever, we need your help. Covid-19 and the economic impacts are ruinous for many families and we must do what we can to assist them. If you would like to donate to SvP please visit [www.svp.ie/AssumptionDalkeyAppeal](http://www.svp.ie/AssumptionDalkeyAppeal). We represent you as we respond to requests for help. Please support us as much as you can.

### Aware and Support services

If you, or any of your family wish to connect with people in relation to your mental wellbeing, please consider Aware support services using the phone in and zoom, support & self-care groups, the support line or support mail, now and throughout the holiday season. These services provide support, coping skills and information - and most importantly help people who are in distress to know and feel that they are not alone in their experience. [www.aware.ie](http://www.aware.ie).

### Christmas Trees

This year you have an opportunity whilst purchasing your Christmas Tree to support Dalkey Inter-Church Migrant Support Group. A percentage of each tree sold will go towards supporting those living in Direct Provision. The trees are grown in County Wicklow, and are beautiful specimens ranging in size from 4-12ft. Available from 28th November in the grounds of St. Patrick's Church.

### Car Park

We have introduced a new card payment / contactless pay system (tap and go) on machine 3 in the church car park (machine nearest parish office) to facilitate easy and safer use.

### Advent Service

The Diocesan Advent Service will take place online from the Monastery of St. Alphonsus on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 5.00pm on the webcam at [www.rednuns.com](http://www.rednuns.com)

### Advent wreath making for children

Children are invited to create their own Advent wreath. Join online on Saturday 21st at 3.30pm. Every Saturday at 3.30pm during Advent (and Christmas morning at 8am). We invite families to gather around the Advent wreath to pray together. Join Facebook @CCPCDublin. For more contact **Christina Malone 085 716 2152**

### I wait. I watch. I hope

If you are looking for something different this advent, why not join a WhatsApp group to receive an Advent reflection every day. For further details and if you like to join contact **Christina Malone 085 716 2152**

### Living Advent Calendar 2020

We are asking parishioners to tell the Christmas story in 25 days. This will be shared on Facebook every morning at 8am from the 1st of December @CCPCDublin. If you like to be involved contact **Christina Malone 085 716 2152** or email [christina.malone@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:christina.malone@dublindiocese.ie)

### Something Different for Advent

Advent is on the horizon and I know this is, and is going to be a busy and uncertain time for so many - so we are just encouraging you to make sure to make a little space to look after yourself. Here is a little gift for you to help you to take a bit of time this Advent - Share it with all the other Busy people you know - Take from it what you need. You can download and print this free resource from - [www.clondalkinparish.com](http://www.clondalkinparish.com)

### Walk of Light 2020

For 14 years the "Walk of Light" under the umbrella of the Dublin Council of Churches has been a feature of ecumenical spirit in Dublin. Participants would gather at a city centre church for opening worship and then walk on to a second and a third station where they would be welcomed by the local worship team and community. Along the way there was a chance to get to know one another, at the stations, a chance to listen to the Word and pray. 2020 is different. But walkers from different churches have been out and churches have prepared ecumenical

worship. The video will be released on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November on the Dublin Diocesan Website.

[www.dublindiocese.ie](http://www.dublindiocese.ie)

### Staying Safe

As we move to the new guidelines for Church reopening we continue to ask that we all maintain social distancing and wear masks while inside the church building. Please use the sanitizer provided and clean your pew after your visit with Jesus. We are also kindly ask that that litter is taken home or disposed of in the bins at the church entrance and that dog waste is removed. This will help us keep our parish clean and safe and protect our volunteers and hard working Dalkey tidy town's team .

### **CORONAVIRUS HELPLINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE:**

**0818 222 024**

If you have concerns or queries about COVID-19 call ALONE's dedicated support line everyday, 8am - 8pm



### Mindful prayer

In a growing secular world it seems much more cool to do mindfulness as opposed to pray. My Sense is that mindfulness empties our minds of clutter ...a process of deleting what's blocking us from entering into an inner silence of peace and presence. Essentially prayer similarly brings us to a sacred place of peace and serenity. Prayer is a gift. The spirit prays within us. Like any relationship it needs to be communicated regularly in order for the experience to become wholesome and part of our day to day lives. Prayer is never magic, it's much bigger than just our feelings, prayer points us in the direction of hopefulness and well being. Prayer is simple and doesn't need to be complicated by too much words or noise. The best way to pray is with our heart. "Prayer is not asking. It is a longing of the soul. It is daily admission of one's weakness. It is better in prayer to have a heart without words than words without a heart."

- Fr Paddy Byrne

### Serenity prayer

God grant me the serenity  
to accept the things I cannot change;  
courage to change the things I can;  
and wisdom to know the difference.

If you would like to receive a copy of our newsletter by email please contact [office@dalkeyparish.ie](mailto:office@dalkeyparish.ie)  
[www.dalkeyparish.ie](http://www.dalkeyparish.ie) @dalkeyparish  
FB dalkeyparish

### Christmas lights

Thanks to all who have organised Christmas lights in the town. At Archbolds castle we will have Christmas lights on the

- > Castle, Christmas tree lit at the entrance, the large tree in St
- > Begnet's opposite Archbold's lit for the first time, and a full
- > illumination of St Begnet's Church also for the first time.
- > We are still hoping that if Galleries are allowed to open 'in a
- > controlled environment', we will be able to go ahead with the John
- > Short Visual Record Exhibition in the Town Hall. So fingers crossed!

his head on the chair beside the bed. What do you make of that?"

The minister wiped a tear from his eye and said, "I wish we could all go like that."

Living one day at a time;

enjoying one moment at a time;

accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;

taking, as He did, this sinful world

as it is, not as I would have it;

trusting that He will make all things right

if I surrender to His Will;

that I may be reasonably happy in this life

and supremely happy with Him

forever in the next.

Amen.

### **Wisdom**

I love the simplicity of the following story....

A man's daughter had asked the local minister to come and pray with her father. When the minister arrived, he found the man lying in bed with his head propped up on two pillows. An empty chair sat beside his bed.

The minister assumed that the old fellow had been informed of his visit. "I guess you were expecting me," he said. "No, who are you?" said the father.

"I'm the new minister at your church," he replied. "When I saw the empty chair, I figured you knew I was going to show up."

"Oh yeah, the chair," said the bedridden man. "Would you mind closing the door?"

Puzzled, the minister shut the door. "I have never told anyone this, not even my daughter," said the man.

"But all of my life I have never known how to pray. At church I used to hear the pastor talk about prayer, but it went right over my head. I abandoned any attempt at prayer," the old man continued, "until one day, about four years ago, my best friend said to me, 'Joe, prayer is just a simple matter of having a conversation with Jesus.

Here is what I suggest. Sit down in a chair; place an empty chair in front of you, and in faith see Jesus on the chair.

It's not spooky because He promised, "I'll be with you always."

Then, just speak to Him in the same way you're doing with me right now.'

So, I tried it, and I've liked it so much that I do it a couple of hours every day. I'm careful though.

If my daughter saw me talking to an empty chair, she'd either have a nervous breakdown or send me off to the funny farm."

### **Moved**

The minister was deeply moved by the story and encouraged the old man to continue on the journey.

Then he prayed with him, anointed him with oil, and returned to the church. Two nights later the daughter called to tell the minister that her daddy had died that afternoon.

"Did he die in peace?" he asked.

"Yes, when I left the house about two o' clock, he called me over to his bedside, told me he loved me and kissed me on the cheek. When I got back from the store an hour later, I found him dead. But there was something strange about his death.

Apparently, just before Daddy died, he leaned over and rested