



St Brigid's Parish Cabinteely



December 20th 2020 - 4th Sunday of Advent

In Blaise Pascal's work, *Pensees*, he says: "What else does this craving, and this helplessness, proclaim but that there was once in man a true happiness, of which all that now remains is the empty print and trace? This he tries in vain to fill with everything around him, seeking in things that are not there the help he cannot find in those that are, though none can help, since this infinite abyss can be filled only with an infinite and immutable object; in other words by God himself."

We have a difficult time accepting that fulfilment and happiness are not achieved by our own merits but through a relationship with God. We are hardwired for this relationship and it is in our DNA. The simple fact is that we come from God and are designed to return to God. If our beginning and our end define who we are, why would we not want to seek the One who can truly satisfy? The world does not realize that it is waiting. It is waiting for the birth of God in time, within one's soul and in eternity. We get so confused by seeking other momentary satisfactions that we misinterpret the hunger within. We crave God.

The union of God and humanity, revealed in Jesus Christ, is precisely what sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. We are so lost. God is with us. The prophet Nathan told this to King David, the angel said this to Mary and the birth of Christ brings this Good News to us. We do not need to be busily looking for more things but must learn to find contentment and blessing in the One Presence. This is the beautiful simple message of Advent!

If you are feeling unsettled, anxious, angry, disgruntled, disconnected, unhappy, worried, fearful, off centre, becoming overly self-indulgent, unable to spend time alone and without distraction, then there's a good chance you are lost. Now is the time to allow God to find you! Ponder the holy simplicity of Mary's call to be the Mother of God. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." When we are helpless and at home with our emptiness, God will fill us. Our Saviour has come



SAVE CABINTEELY CHURCH

Estimated Cost: €500,000

Donate online at www.cabinteelyparish.ie

**YOUR DONATION
URGENTLY
REQUIRED**

Parish of St Brigid's Cabinteely
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Fr Arthur O'Neill and Fr Tom O'Keeffe

Parish Office/Sacristy 01 2858835

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Dec 20th 2020

MASS INTENTIONS

We remember on Sunday 20th

Fergus & Richard Morton & the
Kilcoyne family
Ethel Walsh
Jane Walsh, John Walsh & Ethna
Gilmore.
Eternal Repose of Trinidad Estremos

Recently Deceased.

Christie O'Connell
Tom Clancy
Tom Murphy

Anniversaries

Cyril Smith
Hugh Larkin—1st
Jim Gibbons—21st
Paul Lynch—26th
Rosaleen Ryan
Fr Jim & Fr Pat Stanley

Mon 10am— Deceased members of
the Blake Family.
Special Intention

Tues 10am—

John Byrne—Birthday Remembrance
Gerry Holmes—Anniversary

Christmas Eve—Thursday

10am- Mary Russell—Months Mind
Paddy Torpey—1st Anniversary.

6pm

8pm— Dan & Desmond Healy

Christmas Day - Friday

10am Christina Lynch— Birthday
remembrance

12noon.

Pamela Dalton—6th Anniversary

Sat 11am — St. Stephen's Day

Sylvia Huet—1st Anniversary
Evelyn Curtin—Anniversary

PLEASE TAKE HOME A COPY OF THIS NEWSLETTER



Christmas Masses 2020

Dec 24th—Christmas Eve—6pm & 8pm
Dec 25th—Christmas Day—10am & 12Noon

Dec 26th –St. Stephens Day—11am

Dec 27th Sun.—10am

Dec 28th & 29th & 31st —10am

Jan 1st—New Years Day—11am

**Confessions will be heard on Tues Dec 22nd
 from 7-8pm or any morning after mass.**

All masses for Christmas Eve & Christmas Day are now fully booked. Please DO NOT come to the church if you do not have a booking as we cannot exceed the mandated numbers. If you were not successful in reserving a place we invite you to participate from your home via our webcam at www.cabinteelyparish.ie

**We wish all our Parishioners a very Peaceful
 and Happy Christmas and every Blessing for
 the New Year.**

Fr Aquinas

Aware - Support & Self Care Groups

If you wish to connect with people in relation to your mental well-being, please consider 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. For more information about the groups <https://www.aware.ie/support/support-groups/> and all of our services on www.aware.ie

Crosscare Appeal

Crosscare is appealing to people to support them on line this Advent as they will be unable to hold their annual Parish Food Collection for those most in need. Every December, Crosscare collected thousands of pounds worth of non-perishable foods to restock their foodbanks and support their community cafés.

This year, due to Covid 19 restrictions Crosscare will not be able to launch a food collection in the Diocese of Dublin as usual.

However, in order to ensure they have adequate supplies, they are asking people to support them by making a donation on line to ensure families struggling to cope can have food on the table this Christmas.

We are appealing to parishes to encourage those parishioners who would ordinarily have supported food drives and the unwanted gifts appeal to go on line and make a donation www.crosscare.ie

New Pilgrim Path Website of the Week

The Gospel reading this Sunday is Luke's account of the Annunciation. The excellent Jesuit 'Arts & Faith' online series celebrates how faith is revealed and deepened through great masterpieces. Each week, there is a new masterpiece, accompanied by a video narrative and an Ignatian reflection. For the fourth week in Advent, the painting chosen is

The Annunciation by eminent American painter and sculptor, John Collier. The artist described how "when Mary is portrayed in first century clothing, it holds her at a distance - an emotional distance from her. It gives us an excuse to think of her as not like us." His striking contemporary depiction of the Annunciation brings the story of Mary's encounter with the angel Gabriel into our present reality. Access this and other rich online spiritual resources at: www.newpilgrimpath.ie.

Advent Reflection Series

"The Lord Himself will give you a sign. It is this:
 The Maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son" Is 7:14

Journeying through Advent in Song
 hymns, psalms, chant, and Dánta Dé (hymns of Ireland)

Prepare - Rejoice

Kerrie O' Connor - Vocalist
 Sarah Lane - Violinist
 Mary Louise O'Donnell - Harpist
 Naomi Dunleavy - O'Shea Violinist

Church of the Ascension of the Lord Balally
 Cedar Road, Wedgewood, Dublin 16 D16 E032
www.churchservices.tv/balally

Sunday 6th December - Prepare
 Sunday 20th December - Rejoice
 4:00pm

JOIN US ONLINE at www.churchservices.tv/balally

IN PERSON by booking a place in advance on
www.balallyparish.ie

Spaces are limited in line with restrictions on gatherings
 If closures remain in place on the 6th and/or 20th
 the reflections will be online only

**The Parish office /
 shop will be closed
 from Dec 24th until
 Jan 4th 2021**

Christmas Dues envelopes are available at the back of the Church and like the 1st Collection on Sundays go to the Diocesan Common Fund from which all priests both those in appointments and those who are retired or sick receive an allowance.

**Carols by Candlelight streamed live
 from Knock Shrine Sun 20th Dec at
 8 PM . www.Knockshrine.ie**

Thank You for Your Generosity

Thank you to those who continue to contribute to the 1st Collection (Common Fund which pays an allowance to priests) and the 2nd Collection (Share which supports developing parishes and the Diocesan Administration) in addition to the planned Giving which supports the running of the parish. There are permanent boxes in place for 1st & 2nd Collections. There is also a double envelope for the 1st & 2nd Collections. **If you put your name and address on the envelope we can claim the tax back on it.**