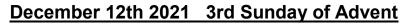


St Brigid's Parish Cabinteely



"From silly devotions and sour-faced saints, good Lord, deliver us!" St. Teresa of Avila

We've all heard the adage, "Laughter is the best medicine." In many ways, it really is. When was the last time you really laughed? The gift of imagination allows us to see possible things that are yet to be. Imagine a world filled with laughter. We take life too seriously sometimes. Fear, uncertainty, pressure, negativity, disappointment, and myriad other human experiences can rob us of the joy needed for laughter. God never promised us an easy road, and we do have to take the course of our lives seriously. However, there is a balance to be sought and a possible joy that can be brought even to the darkest and most challenging of encounters.

St. Therese of Lisieux reminds us that, "Joy is not found in the material objects surrounding us but in the inner recesses of the soul. One can possess joy in a prison cell as well as in a palace." Falling in love with God, who is present in all of creation, allows us to bring a depth of understanding to everything we do and experience. We can more easily see above and beyond things while pursuing the only One who can truly satisfy our hearts. When we realize that God, the king of Israel, is in our midst and with us, there is no further misfortune to fear. We can celebrate the wonder and beauty of God's gift of joy. It is no wonder that many saints radiate joy and have no reservations expressing laughter. They are happy because they have found a pearl of great price.

We celebrate with joy today with hearts filled with expectation, wonder, awe, and beauty as we ready ourselves, even more excitedly, for the coming of our Saviour. Do not fear and do not be discouraged. If you haven't laughed in a while, why? Something is preventing you from expressing the magnificence of your soul and the presence of God who dwells within. God's power and presence within us assures us that we are loved and kept in that presence. What more is really needed? Rejoice and laugh in the presence of God! It really is the best medicine and a most perfect way to convince others that God is really with us. "Go ahead, laugh! Live your life with joy and serve the Lord with laughter! Joy, with peace, is the sister of charity. Serve the Lord with laughter." (St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina)





St Brigid's Church closed on Nov 1st for essential maintenance work which is expected to take approximately 4 months.

We are encouraging our parishioners to attend Masses both on the weekday and Sundays in the other two Churches in the Pastoral area, namely Johnstown and Foxrock. Masses can also be viewed online from these Churches.

https://www.churchservices.tv/foxrock https://www.churchservices.tv/ johnstownourlady

https://cabinteelyparish.ie/mass-times-inneighbouring-parishes/

Parish of St Brigid's Cabinteely www.cabinteelyparish.ie info@cabinteelyparish.ie Fr. Aquinas Duffy 01 5672374 pp@cabinteelyparish.ie Fr Arthur O'Neill and Fr Tom O'Keeffe Parish Office/Sacristy 01 2858835 Monday - Friday 9 - 1pm Registered Charity Number (RCN) 20016166 and CHY 7424



Our Church is Closed for Essential Works until early 2022 Thank you for your continued support

www.cabinteelyparish.ie

Parish Office & Centre will remain open

PLEASE TAKE HOME A COPY OF THIS NEWSLETTER



A Prayer for Advent

Ever Faithful God, You sent your son into the darkness of human history, to fulfil your will and guide your people home to you. Fill our hearts with the hope of your coming, that we may draw close to all our sisters and brothers, especially those who bear the cross of Jesus in the heart of our world. May the Light of his victory over darkness & death, guide our feet on the way of justice and peace. We ask this in the name of Him who came and will come again, Jesus our Lord, forever and ever. Amen **Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin**

Thank You to **Johnstown and Foxrock** Churches for facilitating Cabinteely parishioners during the temporary closure of our Church.

ON LINE APPEAL FOR FAMILIES IN FOOD POVERTY - 2021

Crosscare helps people with food parcels and meals in our cafes and food banks in the short term, and we work with them to move out of food poverty in the long term.

We keep in touch with families helping them to help themselves. We help them with budgeting, healthy eating, and long-term housing and welfare support they may need, giving them the dignity and independence to provide for themselves. Due to Covid restrictions, the online appeal for donations replaces the food collection in parishes in previous years. Your ongoing support for **Crosscare** makes a huge difference to those most in need. We are asking for donations to continue this vital work at Christmas and into 2022. Please help us to help them. Support our appeal to end food poverty by giving what you can online at <u>www.crosscare.ie/</u> <u>donate</u> or call 01 8360011

Supporting St. Brigid's Parish-

Registered Charity Number (RCN) 20016166 and CHY 7424 The Easy Payments online donate button is below through which you can set up once off or monthly payments to all the collections. Also here are Print Version of Standing Order Forms

For First and Second Sunday Collections standing-order-collections For Parish Planned Giving to support the Parish Standing Order FAMILY OFFERING For Church Renovation Fund

Standing Order FUNDRAISING



Christmas Mass times in Neighbouring Parishes

Foxrock

Christmas Eve 4pm, 6pm, 8pm and 10 pm Christmas Day 8.30 am, 10am, 11.30am and 12.45pm (Cabinteely Gospel Choir) Penance Service is on Dec 14th at 7 PM

Johnstown

Christmas Eve 5pm, 7pm [Cabinteely Church Choir], & 8.30 pm [Cabinteely Church Choir] Christmas Day 9am, 10am, 11.30am No Penance Service

BE STILL – DAILY ADVENT REFLECTIONS The Office for Mission & Ministry are offering daily reflections for the Advent Journey. The theme of these reflections is 'Be Still'. This is a great opportunity for everyone to take time during advent to be still. the reflections will be posted each morning on the Facebook page for the office of Mission & Ministry.

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, 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 info. about the groups https://www.aware.ie/support/ support-groups

COVID-19 - Support Line for Older People - ALONE manage a national support

line & supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19. Professional staff are available to answer queries & give advice. The line is open 7 days, 8am- 8pm, by calling. **0818 222 024**.

Advent Calendar with a Difference

This Advent, join Loyola Press for a special online Advent experience. Following a traditional Advent calendar format, the experience invites you to slow down this season & discover the quiet moments of Advent hope. Each day reveals a new online Advent resource and theme – ranging from 'Creativity and Healing in Advent' to 'Silent Prayer in Advent' and many, many more. This is a beautiful way to nurture your spirituality daily at this busy time of year. Access the Advent Calendar at *www.newpilgrimpath.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 & 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. *Fr Aquinas*