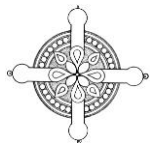


2nd Sunday of Christmas



4th January 2015

MASS INTENTIONS

6:30pm Thomas Lawless (1st A)

9.00am Altar List of the Dead

11.00am Eddie Farrell (A)

12.30pm Nora & Michael Ward (A)

5.30pm Jem Gregan (A)

PRAY FOR

Barney McCann (A)
Joseph O'Toole (3rd A)
Myles Kenny (A)

MASSES NEXT WEEK 10.00 AM

Mon: James Quinn (A)

7:30pm: Hannah O'Connell (MM)

Tue: Margaret Crosby (A)

7:30pm: No intention

Wed: Phyllis O'Rourke (A)

Pray for: John Drumm (A)

Thurs: Anne, Tom & Philomena
O'Leary (A)

Fri: The McGonigle & Stone
Families (A)

Sat: No intention

POLISH MASS

Msze Swieta w Jeryku Polskim w
Niedziele 11 Stycen o godz 18:45.
(Spowiedz 18:15 – 18:40).

CALENDARS

Our Lady Untier of Knots Picture with liturgical date pad and Church Art calendars available in main porch after weekend Masses.

BAPTISMS

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.

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 €688.01. 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.

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS

Spread the Good News for the New Year! Volunteers needed to deliver the free Catholic Paper "Alive" in Ard Cian, Ashton, Brackenstown Road, etc. Information from Legion of Mary members in main porch after week-end Masses or leave your name & phone no. with Louise in parish office.

A WORD OF THANKS AND APPRECIATION

On Christmas I got a chance to stop for a few moments when the Church was empty after all the work of preparation was complete. The place was really beautiful, a fitting setting for the celebration of Jesus' birth. In that moment there was a great sense of appreciation of the many people who over weeks have been preparing, practicing and planning. With all these different parts working together is it any wonder that so many people commented on the Church and the Liturgies that marked this great feast.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who played some part in all of this:

Envelopes and Cards: to Dick and Breege for packing the envelopes and preparing them for distribution. To the many people who delivered the cards all around the Parish.

Decorations: to Maura whose imagination and creativity can be seen in the attention to detail of every aspect of the flowers and decorations. To Tony and Louise for preparing the stars, angels and other decorations for the Church.

Cleaning and Maintenance: to Christie for always keeping the place in good order both inside and out. To Colm and his family for the regular vacuuming and Margaret for looking after the Shrines.

Altar Servers: to Celine who organizes, trains and keeps an eye on them and Nicola who keeps their albs so clean.

Family Mass Group: to Marie, Elaine and Deborrah who plan and co-ordinate every aspect of the family Mass, particularly at Christmas.

Youth Choir: to Andrea and Sarah and all the members who are so creative and hard working in their preparation and leading us in worship.

Senior Choir: to Aileen and all the members of the choir for their hard work and dedication week after week and pulling out all the stops at Christmas.

Sacristans, Collectors and Counters: who prepare the church so well and carefully for every liturgy and ensure the collections are taken up and stored.

Ministers of the Word and Eucharist: with their co-ordinators who are so reverent and respectful of the important ministries they carry out.

Office: to Louise who provides such excellent service and those she draws in to help in the office.

There are many others involved in the smooth running of the Parish, with the Parish Pastoral Council to whom we are very appreciative of their work and commitment.

May each one be blessed for their generosity in this season of thanksgiving, for the generosity of God, and may this year be filled with many good things for all our Parishioners.

Fr. Paul and Fr. Joseph

not one that is received very easily. The message of Jesus is about inner conversion from our hearts, not just an outward show of kindness when we feel like it. So often in life we deal with the immediate, we have to fill this minute with something, noise, internet, facebook, snapchat, Xbox, anything to keep from facing ourselves and facing God in our lives.

We can all be gift givers like the Magi. They carried away with them the call to conversion of their hearts which they travelled so long to find. This infant lying in the manger, knowing that his life would not be easy, would bring the message of God alive in the world.

We too are invited to our own Epiphany. Let the silence reveal the voice within. Be open to the call of God in your life. Have courage and do not be afraid to share what you discover with others.



EPIPHANY GIFTS APPEAL

Are there gifts that you have received today that you would like to share with someone else? Instead of putting them into the wardrobe or leaving biscuits or sweets as a temptation to break your new year fitness regime bring them to the crib in St. Cronan's Church on the 4th, 5th and 6th January. Marking the Feast of the

Epiphany like this is a good way to share our good news with others.

All the gifts will go to Alice Leahy's TRUST drop in centre for people who live on Dublin's streets. Alice and her team provide showers/baths, food, clothes and basic first aid. But the most important thing that they provide is a listening ear, time to be with and get to know those who call in. Their service meets the daily needs of people who live on the streets with no awkward questions just a smile, cup of tea and a place to take a break.

The kind of things that Alice can use: biscuits, sweets, toiletries, scented candles, towels, gloves and hats.

2nd Sunday of Christmas Year B 4th January 2015

WE THREE KINGS BEARING GIFTS

In the Cathedral of Cologne is the Shrine of the Magi, honouring these three travellers from afar. Over the tomb is the great star they followed and images of the gifts they brought, the gold, frankincense and myrrh. But what is the significance of these three visitors? Why did they bring these obscure gifts?

There is a cartoon that goes around at this time of year where the three arrive with their gifts into the stable and Mary looks up and says "Its easy to see you have never had any children – clothes, bottles and nappies would have been more practical gifts!

Like all the images and stories in the scriptures, the Nativity is a great parable but you have to search beyond the immediate situation to see the depth of what we are witnessing. In this the gift of the lamb from the Shepherds and the gold, frankincense and myrrh of the Magi quickly take away the Christmas Card romance of the scene and point us to the destiny of this child. Their presence is needed to move us from the baby Jesus wrapped in swaddling clothes to the Saviour wrapped in a shroud before the Resurrection.

It must have troubled Mary's heart to see the gifts they brought. The gold associated with royalty, often made into a crown, a sign of status and wealth. The words of the Passion from St. John's Gospel which we read on Good Friday "Yes I am a king, I was born for this, I came into the world for this." The Frankincense like today is burned during worship as a fragrant offering to God, as the lamb is sacrificed to atone for our sins. At the beginning of Jesus public ministry John the Baptist points to him and says "Behold the Lamb of God". Finally the Myrrh, a beautiful perfume used to anoint the bodies of the dead. We think of the women going to the tomb on that Easter morning with their jars of myrrh and spices to anoint the bruised and battered body of Jesus, only to find the tomb empty and the voice behind them saying "Why do you search among the dead for one who is alive?"

The Magi open our eyes to see beyond the infant lying in the manger and to understand that the message of God coming into the world is