



Mount Merrion Parish Newsletter

5th December 2021

www.mountmerrionparish.ie

PARISH TEAM

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PARISH OFFICE

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
www.mountmerrionparish.ie

MASS TIMES

Monday: 10:00am
Tuesday: 10:00am Liturgical Service
Wednesday: 10:00am
Thursday: 10:00am
Friday: 10:00am
Saturday: 10:00am | Vigil: 6:00pm
Sunday: 10:00am | 11:30am | 7:30pm



Our sympathies to the families, relatives and friends of **Joe Connolly and Anthony Lambert** whose funerals took place here this week.



The Annual Collection for SVP will take place on the weekend of 11th and 12th December. Many thanks for your generosity.

A few words from Fr Joe.....

Turn on the lights! Well, as we are now into December, and it is so dark and cold, I for one love to see the seasonal lights appearing. The big bright lights which transform the city centre, ripple through the shopping centres, rise from the tower in RTE, land at the airport and are all over public building are one thing, the special lit walks in some parks another, but the lights I love are those which appear inside and outside the homes in the community.

Trees festooned with lights, facades of houses radiating joy, and from windows, gutters, chimneys, decorations capture the joy and fun of Christmas. To see Santa and his sleigh, stars and snowflakes, all shimmering in the darkness, which now comes so early, is just wonderful. White lights, blue lights, multi-colour bulbs draped through the trees, lights on strings, flashing and pulsing with colour and energy all generously installed and freely shared, from each house to the whole neighbourhood.

In the coming 10 days or so there will be a tree in the window of almost every home, its twinkling brightness telling the story of every family making ready for Christmas Eve. Parcels will soon arrive as visitors share their gifts and sibling and parents wrap up the presents and place them there.

I guess there will be many cribs coming down from the attic, dusted off and set in place, slowly filling with the characters from the best-known story in the world, for now the little manger will lie empty. Eventually Christmas will come and another light, so simple, a candle, may appear in a window an expression of faith, of welcome for the stranger and an embrace for the child Jesus.

All these lights are telling the story of Christmas, that darkness is banished by the coming of the Lord, we will welcome the light of the world with all our heart.

These little birds are lighting up my kitchen!



The total amount raised was €10,388.22 between the two weekends. A simply incredible amount at any time but in the midst of Covid and the challenges we all face these days, to be so generous and supportive of others is amazing. A huge thank you to everyone in Kilmacud and Mount Merrion on behalf of all the kids in Fr. Tony Junior High, present and future.



- Saturday 04th
 - 6.00 Dr. Michael and Margaret Daly – A
 - Victor Duggan – A
 - Fionán O'Sullivan - A
- Sunday 05th
 - 10.00 Donal Meehan – A
 - Eileen Kelly – A
 - James Kelly – R
 - John O'Reilly – A
 - Richella O'Reilly – A
 - Edmond Nugent – M.M
 - Stella and Bob Brennan - A
 - 11.30 James and Eileen Dempsey – A
 - Bernadette Pinkerton – A
 - Frank Sharpe - A
 - 7.30 Helen Brady – M.M
 - Paddy Gallagher – A
- Monday 06th
 - 10.00 For all who are ill
- Tuesday 07th
 - 10.00 Liturgical Service
- Wednesday 08th
 - 10.00 Frank Padbury – A
 - Cornelius and Cecilia Clifford – R
 - John F. and Mary D. Silke - R
- Saturday 11th
 - 10.00 Holy Souls
 - 6.00 Billy and Millie McElwee – A
- Sunday 12th
 - 10.00 Patrick Donnelly – A
 - 11.30 Bernard White – A
 - Peter Garvey – A
 - Maura Cronin – A
 - Dr. Aidan Meade and his wife Maura – A
 - Dr. Bill Anderson – 2nd A
 - 7.30 Margaret (Peggy) MacMahon – A



On my own behalf and on behalf of the poor of the developing world who will benefit from your parish's generosity, I would like to convey my sincerest thanks to you for your very generous response of 2,578 euros which you donated in the recent Mission Appeal. Thanks also for the welcome I received and the collaboration in organizing the Mission Appeal. May God reward all the parishioners for your kindness and I can assure you that your gift will be put to very good use.

Synod Prayer

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

'PREPARE A WAY FOR THE LORD!'

Today's readings offer the gift of joy, and the invitation to hear and respond to God who is reaching out to draw us ever closer.

In the **First Reading**, the Prophet Baruch reminds us that, despite all the challenges to our faith and hope in the Lord, we are called to follow God by the light of salvation.

Today's **Gospel** puts this salvation of the Lord in a specific political, historical and geographical setting. By firmly anchoring the ministry of John the Baptist to a particular point in history, St Luke also gives weight to the reality of Jesus in a time and place. (Some scholars have deduced from these historical references that Jesus was baptised in the October of AD 27 – just after his thirtieth birthday – and was crucified on 3rd April AD 30). In addition, Luke introduces us to 'the voice' that will announce the Saviour with insistence and urgency.

The **Psalmist** heralds the marvels worked for us by the Lord.

St Paul (**Second Reading**), writing this letter of gratitude to the church at Philippi from prison, acknowledges his confidence in the one who, in us, will complete these good work of faith.

In the coming week, how may I be a 'voice crying in the wilderness'? How can I more fruitfully respond to Christ's wonderful call? How will I continue to discern what is always best?

2nd Week of Advent - FAITH



5 Dec - 2nd Sunday of Advent

Prepare the way.
John the Baptist was a messenger preparing the way for Jesus.



We pray for those who draw us to Jesus helping us welcome Him in our lives.



6 Dec - Monday - St Nicholas

Take a few minutes in silence today. Listen to your breath and remember the Holy Spirit is there with you to guide you.

7 Dec - Tuesday - St Ambrose

Put out some food for the birds. Let's take care of our feathered-friends too these chillier days.



8 Dec - Wednesday Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Come to **10am Mass** today and pray that we, like Mary, will have courage and say 'yes' to God's plan for our life, beginning with this day.



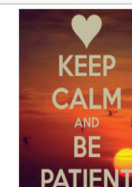
9 Dec - Thursday

Today spend 5mins in silent gratitude for all the goodness in your life.



10 Dec - Friday

Slow down a little and be patient today.



11 Dec - Saturday

Today spend a little bit of time thinking & praying about God's plan for you...

