



The Catholic Parish
of
Celbridge
and
Straffan



Priests of the Parish:

Fr. Paul Taylor P.P. tel 6275874
Fr. Kevin Doherty C.C. tel: 5031429
Fr. Brian McKittrick C.C. tel: 6288827
Fr. Douglas Zaggi P.C. tel: 6012303

PLANNED GIVING: Weekly Envelope Collection: €3,439.

Your continued support is very much appreciated. Thanks also to the collectors. The Planned Giving Envelopes for the New Year have now been circulated. If you have not yet received your box, or if you do not already have a box and would like to support our parish, please text your name & address to 085 7021882. A standing order may also be used. Receipts showing the total amount donated in the year to 30/11/2013 will be issued in Jan 2014.

Spiritual Preparation for Christmas

The second session of 'Expecting Christ' a four session course for the advent season will continue next Wednesday morning after the 10am Mass and Wednesday evening after the 7pm Mass in St. Patrick's Church and Thursday mornings after the 9.15am Mass in St. Brigid's Straffan. The session lasts 1hr.

In this course we look at several moments in our faith and lives where a door opens and lets Christ in, catching the sense of expectancy which not only comes at the season of Advent but throughout the year.

In particular we will be thinking about how Christ can surprise us and meet us in four distinct contexts: in family, in ourselves, in prayer, and in the end.

Refreshments available.

Everyone Welcome.

Wellsprings Centre

First week of Advent, Events

Monday 2nd December - Advent Retreat begins 7.30 – 9.00p.m.

Tuesday 3rd - Anniversary Lecture on 50 Years of the Document on the Liturgy: 8.00 – 9.00 p.m.

Wednesday 4th – Quiet Prayer: 10.45 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

Thursday 5th – Waiting with the Prophets: 10.45 – 12 noon



'Evangelii Gaudium'

The 'I Have a Dream' speech of Pope Francis

Published for the Feast of Christ the King, *THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL (Evangelii Gaudium)*

outlines the vision of the kind of community Pope Francis wants Catholicism to be. It's opening words sets the tone: *The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus.*

Throughout *THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL* our Holy Father speaks of the JOY that marks us out as Christians:

Our Christian joy drinks of his brimming heart ... I realize of course that joy is not expressed the same way at all times in life, especially at moments of great difficulty. Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved.

Then, based on such joy, Pope Francis speaks of his dream: *I dream of a missionary option ... the evangelization of today's world.* With that in mind, he continues:

An evangelizer must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral! ... How I long to find the right words to stir up enthusiasm for a new chapter of evangelization full of fervour, joy, generosity, courage, boundless love and attraction! Yet I realize that no words of encouragement will be enough unless the fire of the Holy Spirit burns in our hearts.

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.



Parish Choirs Carol Service

- * Favourite Carols
- * Mince Pies
- * Mulled Wine
- * Soft Drinks



Sunday 15th December @ 4pm
Everyone Welcome



Weekend Mass Intentions

St Brigid's Church

Saturday 6pm Bill O' Neill (m.m.) Pat Doyle

Sunday 11am Deceased members of the
GAA Club Straffan

St. Patrick's Church

Saturday

6.30 pm Eleanor Cleary (m.m.) Billy Blake,
& John Keegan

Sunday

8.30am John Keegan

9.30am Donal O'Dwyer, Thomas & Ellen Behan

11am Mary Mapplethorpe

12.30pm Kathleen Ward

7pm Peggy Proudfoot, Paul Darlington

Benefit Night

For the victims of Typhoon Haiyan

Organised by

the Celbridge Filipino Irish Community

Sunday December 15th 2013

Dinner and entertainment

€40 per ticket

All proceeds will be given directly to the relief effort. To purchase tickets or make a donation contact Gretchen at 6288157 or sales@barberstowncastle.ie

See poster at the back of the Church

Christmas Art

The Abbey Art Group exhibition will take place Saturday /Sunday 7th & 8th December 11-6pm in the slip hall at Castletown gates(60 paintings). All proceeds from raffle go to The Little Way, Cancer Support Group, Clane.

For your attention

9th December: The Holy Day Feast of Immaculate Conception this year will take place on Monday the 9th December.

St. Patrick's Church Masses will be at 8am 10am and 7pm.

St. Brigid's Church Straffan Mass at 10am.

Parish Office 01 6288827, 0858662255

Office hours Mon - Fri 9am - 3.30pm.

Sacristy 01 6275942 10.30am - 11am

Information about Baptisms please ring 085 8519110

Parish website: www.celstra.ie

Weekday Mass Intentions St. Patrick's Church

Monday 2nd Paddy & Peggy Bolger, Dick, Annie, & Brendan Hannigan

7pm Joseph O' Shea (1st anniversary)

Tuesday 3rd 10am William Hughes, Special Intention

7pm Johanna & Michael Hennigan

Wednesday 4th 10am Philip O'Donnell **7pm** Thomas Shanahan

Thursday 5th 10am Paddy Byrne, James & Mary Greene

7pm Michael Cotter

Friday 6th 10am Tony Ryan

7pm Elizabeth Maher

Saturday 7th 10am James Teague

St Vincent De Paul

The Christmas Appeal will take place 7th/8th December. There will be no St Vincent De Paul collection this weekend.

I would firstly like to thank you for your support and co-operation over the past number of years. The success of our continuing appeal is in no small measure due to your assistance and support.

The Share Collection will be replaced by the annual collection for the Society on the 7th/ 8th December. A successful Christmas Church Collection is vital in enabling us to expand our programmes of assistance to those in need. On behalf of the members of the Society, I offer you our sincere thanks for your continue support.

"Remembering a loved one at Christmas" in aid of St. Brigid's Hospice.

Please support our fundraising event by sponsoring a Light in Memory of a deceased loved one this Christmas. Pick up a special envelope at the back of the church. Envelopes can be placed in the church collection baskets at all masses up to and including Sunday the 1st of December; or in the special drop-box in Celbridge Credit Union. Your support is greatly appreciated.

A Lighting of the Tree Remembrance Service & Carol singing takes place in St. Patrick's Church, Sunday the 8th of December at 5pm. You can donate online at <http://www.mycharity.ie/event/remembringalovedone2013>

Christmas Mass Intentions

Christmas Cards: A novena of Masses (9 Masses) will be offered on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day for the intention of those named on the special Mass cards. Each Mass card cost €5 and can be purchased in the parish office or in the sacristy after all Masses.

When purchasing the card please give the name of the person for whom the Masses will be said.