

Parish Team
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Parish Office 01 6288827 Office hours Mon - Fri 9am - 3.30pm.
Sacristy 01 6275942 (Closed Wednesday) 10am -1pm
 Information about Baptisms please ring 085 8519110
 email celbridgeparishoffice@gmail.com
 Parish website: www.celstra.ie

Weekly Envelope Collection: (Planned Giving): €2,944. Standing Orders for December amounted to €4,463 (195 contributors).
 Your continued support is very much appreciated. Thanks to those who recently completed Standing Order forms.
 Thanks also to the collectors.

We wish all our Parishioners and their families a Joyous and Happy Christmas.



Christmas dues: The Christmas Dues envelopes are available at the back of the Church. The contributions made you, for the support of the priests of the parish is deeply appreciated. THANK YOU.

A Big Thank You to ...

The ladies who decorate and clean the Church, and those who do the flowers and the Altar, the parish choirs and all involved in music ministry in the parish, the sacristans, Myles and Josie, the stewards and all those Parishioners who assist in any way at Christmas time.

Parishioners who distributed the planned giving envelopes. All those who contributed to the Christmas Offering envelopes. The men who have worked so hard to keep the Church grounds looking great.

We welcome into our faith community, the children recently baptized

Daryl O'Callaghan, Chloe Murray, Cuan Kelly & Lucy Sexton.

Congratulations.



Please take note: 7pm Mass **this Sunday** will be at 4pm to facilitate the Liam Lawton's Concert later this evening.

An early Christmas gift to get you in the Christmas spirit.

Liam Lawton Concert

in St. Patrick's Church, Celbridge

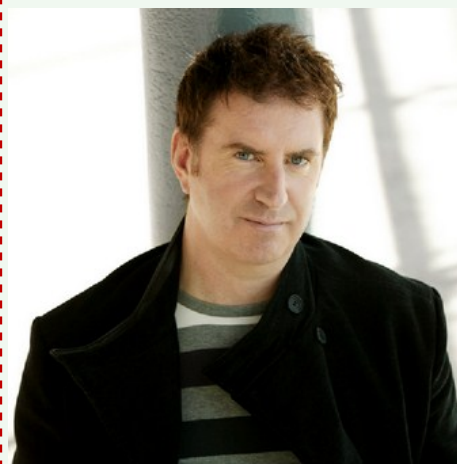
Sunday December 23rd

Doors open 7.30pm Concert at 8pm

Special Guests Mary Flynn (Soprano) and Denise Kelly (Harpist)

Tickets €20 available in the parish office.

In aid of Irish Hospice Foundation, Breast Cancer Ireland, & Celbridge & Straffan Parish



Mass Times

St. Patrick's Church, Celbridge

Saturday (Vigil) 6.30 pm
 Sunday 8.30am, 9.30am, 11am (Family Mass)
 12.30pm & 7pm.

Weekday Mass: 10am & 7pm

Holy Days: 7pm (vigil), 8am, 10am, 7pm.

Bank Holidays: 11am.

Confessions: Saturday after 10am Mass

Mass Times

St Brigid's Church, Straffan

Saturday (Vigil) 6pm.
 Sunday 11am.

Weekday Mass 9.15am.

Holy Days 10am.

Bank Holidays 10am.

Confessions: Saturday after 6pm Mass

Baptisms

St Patrick's Church: Sunday 2pm

St Brigid's Church: Last Sunday of the month at 12pm

Pre- Baptism meetings: To book contact the parish baptismal team 085 8519110.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament :

St Patrick's Church: Friday morning before 10am Mass (9am - 9.50am).

St. Brigid's Church Friday morning after 9.15am Mass.

Weekend Mass Intentions

St. Brigid's Church

Saturday

6pm Patrick & Bridget Campbell and their son Patrick

Sunday

11am Patrick and Annie Travers

St. Patrick's Church

Saturday

6.30pm Josephine Mac Suibhne

Sunday

8.30am Margaret & Maurice Barrett family & friends

9.30am Johnny & Kathleen Murphy,

11am Bill Lee, Phyllis & Anne Greene & deceased Lee, Greene & Conway families,

12.30pm Dick Lawlor,

4pm Rose O'Grady, Maureen Healy (month's mind).

Weekday Mass Intentions St. Patrick's Church

Mon 24th 10am Margaret & Terence Graydon, Kathleen Doyle

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day - Novena of Masses

Wed 26th 11am Ellen Kelly

Thurs 27th 10am John Burke **7pm** Aaron Moore

Fri 28th 10am John Birchall, Gerry Galvin **7pm** Martha, Christy, Billy, Mary, Jimmy, Joe, Jack, Tom & Maggie Murphy

Sat 29th 10am John & Julia Tallon.

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 sacristy,

When purchasing the card please give the name of the person for the intention.

Change to Post Christmas Timetable

There will be an evening Mass on Thursday 27th, and Friday 28th of December at 7pm in St. Patricks Church.

Confessions will take place On Christmas Eve in:

St. Patrick's Church from 10.30am - 12.30pm.

St. Brigid's Church from 10am - 11am

The Christmas Mass Timetable is available at the back of the Church. Please feel free to take one home. Thank you.

House Keeping

We ask you at the end of Mass to put the Mass leaflet back on the stand near the door of the Church, in order to keep our beautiful Church tidy.

Traditions: Christmas Trees and Ornaments

The fir tree has a long association with Christianity, it began in Germany almost 1,000 years ago when St Boniface, was said to have come across a group of pagans worshipping an oak tree. To put a stop to this he cut down the tree. Yet, to his amazement, a young fir tree sprung up from the roots of the oak tree. St Boniface took this as a sign of the Christian faith. It was not until the 16th century, however, that fir trees were brought indoors at Christmas time.



And so, the Christmas tree in our homes became such a part of family Christmas tradition. For many of us, some of our earliest memories are of gathering around the tree on Christmas Day: we remember the sharing of gifts, the excitement of children (and of those not so young!), the love of family. Each year as we place the decorations and ornaments on our tree, we remember why they are priceless to us, how, often, each one was chosen in years past (or brought home from school), and added to the story of our family Christmas.

All this is an echo of the gift of the Christ Child, Emmanuel, "our God is with us". So it is, that, for many of us, the Christmas Tree stands in our homes as a symbol of the love that is at the heart of Christmas.

Children's Corner

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
 The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
 The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
 But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
 I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
 And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me Lord Jesus,
 I ask thee to stay.
 Close by me forever,
 And love my I pray.

Bless all the dear children,
 In thy tender care.
 And take them to heaven,
 To be with thee there.

