



**The Catholic Parish
of
Celbridge
and
Straffan**



Parish Team

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Feast of the Epiphany January 6th Holy Day of Obligation: The feast of the Epiphany is also known as 'Little Christmas'. It commemorates the revelation of Jesus as the Saviour of the whole world, not just by the people of Israel. The Magi represent human being's search for sign's of God's presence.

The Bible says that three wise men travelled from afar on camels to visit the infant Jesus as he lay in the manger. They brought him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. We all know what gold is, but have you ever wondered what frankincense and myrrh were?

Frankincense and myrrh are both resins ... dried tree sap... that come from trees of the genus Boswellia (frankincense) and Commiphora (myrrh), which are commonly found in northern Africa and the Middle East. Frankincense and myrrh have always been used to create incense, a substance you burn to create pleasing aromas.

The word myrrh means 'bitter' in Arabic. Myrrh has been used for ages as an ingredient in incense, beauty treatments, and perfumes. Writings from 2,700 years ago describe how myrrh was also used for embalming. Because the demand for myrrh eventually became so high, and because its supply was limited, myrrh became as valuable as gold.

The names of the wise men, Gaspar, Melchior, and Balthasar.

In some countries, such as Germany there is a tradition that people using chalk write over at their hall doors the letters in G M B and the year, showing the names of the Three Wise Men and the year. Perhaps you would like to do that at your hall door.

Mass Times for the Holy Day will be as follows: Vigil Monday at 7pm, Tuesday 8am, 10am, 7pm. St Brigid's Straffan at 10am

Blessing for Babies Baptised in 2014

The special blessing ceremony for all the children, who have been baptized in 2014 in our parish, will be celebrated next Sunday the 11th January @ 2.30pm in St. Patrick's Church, Celbridge.

Confirmation Programme

A reminder to the Candidates for Confirmation to put their completed Mass project forms in the red box beside the Christmas Advent Wreath at the top of the Church.

The deadline for this project is next Sunday 11th January the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Jesus.

Mass Times

St. Patrick's Church, Celbridge

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

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: Not available at time of print
Sunday 11am print

St. Patrick's Church:

Saturday

6.30pm: Dolly Condell (m.m.)

Sunday

8.30am: Tommy Hayden

9.30am: Thomas & Janie Burke

11am: John & Rosanna Byrne,
John & Patricia Doyle

12.30pm: Sean Healy

7pm: James, Bridget & Helen Doyle

Weekday Mass Intentions

Mon 5th 10am Agnes Kiely **7pm** Catherine Bell

Tues 6th 10am Eileen & Henry Gunn **7pm** Patrick, Elizabeth, Thomas, Edward, Peter Kelly

Wed 7th 10am Poppie Guinan **7pm** Kitty Farrell, Catherine Bell

Thur 8th 10am Nell O'Connor **7pm** Edmond Hughes

Fri 9th 10am Helen O'Connor **7pm** Louis & Elizabeth Maher

Kevin O'Sullivan

Sat 10th 10am Richard Doyle

Christmas Dues :

Thanks to all parishioners who have returned the Christmas Dues envelopes. The contributions made you, for the support of the priests of the parish is deeply appreciated. **THANK YOU.**

.... "The perfect family doesn't exist, nor is there a perfect husband or a perfect wife, and let's not talk about the perfect mother-in-law! It's just us sinners." A healthy family life requires frequent use of three phrases: "May I? Thank you, and I'm sorry" and "never, never, never end the day without making peace." **Fr Francis.**

We welcome into our faith community the children recently baptised:

Daniel McEvoy, Katie Joy Kerrigan,
Emily Margaret Deane,
Patrick Edward Corcoran, Alex Robert Allen,
Dexter Alexander Dunne,
Darragh Joseph, McElligott



Congratulations to the families

Food for Thought

When Jesus ate and drank with tax collectors and prostitutes, it was not a duty. It was utter delight in their company, in their very being. When he touched the untouchable, it was not a clinical gesture, But a hug of joy.

So it belongs to us as Christians that we rejoice in the very existence of people, with all their fumbling attempts to live and love, whether they are married or divorced or single, whether they are straight or gay, whether their lives are lived in accordance with Church teaching or not ...

The Church should be a community in which people discover God's delight in them. **Fr Timothy Radcliffe O.P.**

Philippians 4:4-9 The Message (MSG)

Celebrate God all day, every day. I mean, revel in him! Make it as clear as you can to all you meet that you're on their side, working with them and not against them. Help them see that the Master is about to arrive. He could show up any minute!

Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the centre of your life.

Summing it all up, friends, I'd say you'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious-the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse. Put into practice what you learned from me, what you heard and saw and realized. Do that, and God, who makes everything work together, will work you into his most excellent harmonies.

By Eugene H. Peterson