



The Catholic Parish  
of  
Celbridge  
and  
Straffan



**Parish Team**

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Fr. Brian McKittrick C.C. tel: 6288827  
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**Parish Office** 01 6288827 Office hours Mon - Fri 9am - 3.30pm.

**Sacristy** 01 6275942 10am -11am  
Information about Baptisms please ring 085 8519110  
email celbridgeparishoffice@gmail.com  
Parish website: www.celstra.ie

**PLANNED GIVING:** Weekly Envelope Collection: €2011. Your continued support is very much appreciated. Thanks also to the collectors. If you would like to support the parish through the standing order please contact the parish office 01 6288827/ 0858662255.

**Visitation of the Sick:** If you or a family member are housebound, unable to come to Mass, and wish to receive Holy Communion, a Minister of the Eucharist will call to your home.

Please contact: Parish office 01 6288827.

**We welcome into our faith community the children recently baptised:**

Caden O'Hagan, Ailbhe Keenan,  
Shane Tipper, Sean O'Farrell,  
Oran Dermody  
Aibhe Glasheen, Isabella Tagliapietra  
Nicole Walker



**Congratulations to the families**

**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.**

**National Catholic Schools Week:  
January 26th - February 1st**

The new theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2014 has been decided and is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service."



In response to member requests for a theme and logo that would last more than a year, the new theme will be used for at least three years. This will provide opportunities for schools to brand the week and their ongoing marketing activities with repeated mentions and use of a consistent logo. It is especially appropriate that this new brand will mark National Catholic Schools Week 2014 – the 40th anniversary of this annual event.

The theme encompasses several concepts that are at the heart of a Catholic education. First, schools are communities— small families in their own right, but also members of the larger community of home, church, city, and nation. Faith, knowledge, and service are three measures by which any Catholic school can and should be judged.

The new logo features a swirl of colours interacting around a cross, which is at the centre of all Catholic education.

More details to follow over the coming weeks.

**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. Patrick's Church:**

**Saturday**  
**6.30pm:** Thomas & Maureen Holmes  
**Sunday**  
**8.30am:** Leo & Kathleen Cullen  
**9.30am:** Margaret & Philip Fee  
**11am:** John Burke, Thomas Devine  
**12.30pm:** John Doyle, John & Rosanna Byrne  
**7pm:** Brendan Mahon

**Weekday Mass Intentions**

**Mon 6th 8am** Special Intention **10am** Neil Slattery **7pm** Laurena & Bridget Bolger  
**Tues 7th 10am** Poppy Guinan **7pm** Catherine Bell  
**Wed 8th 10am** Martin & Mary McDonagh **7pm** Mattie & Nancy Scally  
**Thur 9th 10am** Tony Lawlor **7pm** Elizabeth & Louis Maher  
**Fri 10th 10am** Mary Fitzpatrick  
**7pm** Kathleen & John McMorro & Deceased McCauley family  
**Sat 11th 10am** Des O' Connor

**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.

**Mass times:** 8am, 10am, 7pm.

**Maraming Salamat! (Thank You)**

A big thank you to all parishioners who attended the highly successful Benefit Night for the Victims of Typhoon Haiyan in Barberstown Castle.

Thanks also to those who supported by way of direct donations and gifts for the Auction and Raffle. The combined monies raised amounted to a total of €16,187.00 for the Relief Effort.

Pagpalain ka ng Diyos (God Bless You)

**Blessing for Babies Baptised in 2013**

The special blessing ceremony for all the children, who have been baptized in 2013 will be celebrated on 12th January @2.30pm in St. Patrick's Church.

No literature is to be placed in the Parish Churches without the permission of Fr. Taylor P.P.  
Contact the parish office for guidance.

**Extract from 'The Joy of the Gospel' - Pope Francis**

**A MISSION EMBODIED WITHIN HUMAN LIMITS**

The Church is herself a missionary disciple; she needs to grow in her interpretation of the revealed word and in her understanding of truth. It is the task of exegetes and theologians to help 'the judgment of the Church to mature'. The other sciences also help to accomplish this, each in its own way. With reference to the social sciences, for example, John Paul 11 said that the Church values their research, which helps her 'to derive concrete indications helpful for her magisterial mission'. Within the Church countless issues are being studied and reflected upon with great freedom. Differing currents of thought in philosophy, theology and pastoral practice, if open to being reconciled by the Spirit in respect and love, can enable the Church to grow, since all of them help to express more clearly the immense riches of God's word. For those who long for a monolithic body of doctrine guarded by all and leaving no room for nuance, this might appear as undesirable and leading to confusion.

But in fact such variety serves to bring out and develop different facets of the inexhaustible riches of the Gospel." At the same time, today's vast and rapid cultural changes demand that we constantly seek ways of expressing unchanging truths in a language which brings out their abiding newness. 'The deposit of the faith is one thing ... the way it is expressed is another.' There are times when the faithful, in listening to completely orthodox language, take away something alien to the authentic Gospel of Jesus Christ, because that language is alien to their own way of speaking to and understanding one another. With the holy intent of communicating the truth about God and humanity, we sometimes give them a false god or a human ideal which is not really Christian. In this way, we hold fast to a formulation while failing to convey its substance. This is the greatest danger. Let us never forget that 'the expression of truth can take different forms. The renewal of these forms of expression becomes necessary for the sake of transmitting to the people of today the Gospel message in its unchanging meaning".

All of this has great relevance for the preaching of the Gospel, if we are really concerned to make its beauty more clearly recognised and accepted by all. Of course, we will never be able to make the Church's teachings easily understood or readily appreciated by everyone. Faith always remains something of a cross; it retains a certain obscurity which does not detract from the firmness of its assent. Some things are understood and appreciated only from the standpoint of this assent, which is a sister to love, beyond the level of clear reasons and arguments. We need to remember that all religious teaching ultimately has to be reflected in the teacher's way of life, which awakens the assent of the heart by its nearness, love and witness.

The book ' The Joy of the Gospel' is available at the back of the Church.