



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

Sacrament Of Reconciliation

*Come back to me
 with all your heart
 (Hosea 14:1)*



A Thought

'Jesus in the confessional is not a dry cleaner. Confession is an encounter with Jesus, with this Jesus who waits for us, who waits for us just as we are.'

(Pope Francis)

Rite 2 : This Tuesday 23rd at 7.30pm & Christmas Eve 10.30am.

Individual Confessions: Saturdays at 10.30am & Christmas Eve 11am - 12.30pm

PLANNED GIVING:

Our financial year ended on 30th Nov and new boxes have been distributed. The envelope known as the planned giving is the only way in which the running of the Church and parish facilities is funded. Your support is important and appreciated. You can contribute through the boxes of envelopes or direct debit. Contributions of €250 and over during the financial year qualify for a tax refund, which makes an important contribution to reducing the parish debt. Please consider supporting our parish. For further information please contact by texting your name and address to 0857021882. Receipts showing the total amount donated in the year to 30/11/2014 will be issued in Jan 2015. **The amount contributed last week was €2,316**



**LETS GET IN CHRISTMAS SPIRIT
 as we celebrate together our
 Parish Carol Service with our
 Parish Choirs**



This Monday 22nd December
 @ 7.30pm (please note time)

The evening will consist of our traditional Carols which we can all join in and a repertoire performed by all of our parish choirs.

Let this evening gets us into the Christmas spirit as we come to prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ in harmony with each other.

St Vincent De Paul: A BIG THANK YOU!!

The Christmas Appeal took place last weekend. Just over €16,514 was collected in Celbridge and Straffan. How generous you are!!!

This is the time when a lot of people could think "I am a little hard up and will give a little less this year" but, no, on the contrary you have thought of others in difficult circumstances and you gave more!

The Vincent De Paul Shop on the Main Street Celbridge will be open this Sunday 11am - 3pm

They are grateful for your support and wish you all a Happy Christmas.

Christmas Novena Mass Cards

Christmas Cards: All Masses (13 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 give the name of the person for whom the Masses will be said.

Our Parish Mission Statement:

"As Believers in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we seek to live and share the joy of His Gospel message".

Parish Office:

Parish secretary: Bernadette 01 6288827 Parish Mobile 0858662255
The Parish Office will be closed from 23rd December until the 5th January

Sacristy: 0858662255

Parish Pastoral Worker: Christina Malone 0858519110

Website: www.celstra.ie email: celbridgeparishoffice@gmail.com
 Information about Baptisms ring Bernadette 085 8662255

Weekend Mass Intentions

St. Brigid's Church

Saturday 6pm: John & Maureen Hanan

Sunday 11am: John Joe Norris

St. Patrick's Church

Saturday 6.30pm: Anthony Delaney

Sunday 8.30am:

9.30am: Val Farrell

11am: Agnes Brophy

12.30pm: Peg & Paddy Egan,
 Peg & Hugh Fitzpatrick

7pm Michael Collins

Advance Notice: There will be no evening Mass on Christmas Day or St. Stephen's Day (26th December).

Weekday Mass Intentions St. Patrick's Church

Monday 22nd 10am: Michael McLoughlin **7pm** Bill Lee, Phyllis & Anne Greene

Tuesday 23th 10am: Annie Newman **7pm:** Rose O'Grady

Wednesday 24th 10am Novena Mass intentions

Thursday 25th Christmas Day Novena Mass intentions **No evening Mass**

Friday 26th 11am: Dick Lawlor **No evening Mass**

Saturday 20th 10am: John Burke

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. Contact the parish office 01 6288827 / 0858662255.

Christmas Dues

The Christmas Dues (Offerings for the Priests of the Diocese) envelopes are available at the back of the Church. The contributions made by you, include the support of the priests of the parish and is deeply appreciated. THANK YOU.

The Christmas Timetable is available at the back of the Church.

ADVENT WREATH — 4th Sunday

God's love endures forever. Through acts as simple and common as the birth of a baby, God transforms the world, and God's promises are kept.

It is that expression of faithful love we anticipate and celebrate this day. It is that promise that brings light to our deepest night. So, as we light the fourth candle in eager anticipation of God's greatest promise fulfilled, what else can we do but name this candle ... LOVE?



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

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.

