



3rd Sunday
OF ADVENT

“The blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.” —Mt 11:5

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

PREPARING THE WAY
HOW REAL IS JESUS FOR ME?

Three talks will be given by Fr. Joe during Advent exploring Jesus as presented in the Gospels and how we might have a deep personal relationship with him.

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| 2. <u>Wednesday</u> | 14 December @ 10.30 |
| | Repeated @ 7.00pm |
| 3. <u>Thursday</u> | 22 December @ 10.30 |
| | Repeated @ 7.00pm |

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| ★ Penitential Service | 14 December @ 7.30pm | ★ |
| ★ Carol Service | 22 December @ 7.30pm | ★ |

TODAY: ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL APPEAL



Book of the Week
A COMING CHRIST IN ADVENT
ESSAYS ON THE GOSPEL NARRATIVES
PREPARING FOR THE BIRTH OF JESUS
(MATTHEW 1 AND LUKE 1)



RAYMOND E. BROWN
LITURGICAL PRESS 1988 MINNESOTA, USA. Pp 70

Whilst this is now somewhat dated I come back to it every year because it is in fact a treasure. This is scholarship, a far cry from light reading. Having said that, the work you put in to this will be richly rewarded. Brown remains a great scripture scholar and this is effectively an essay drawn from greater work.

FAITH MOMENT

We believe that Christ Jesus is not only a great teacher, prophet, liberator and founder of the Christian Faith. He is the incarnation of God, the 'invisible made visible', true God and true man, God's only Son.

Parish Council

New members required
for Parish Council.
**Fr. Joe would love
to hear from you.**

Gospel Readings for the Week

Mon	12/12	Mt 21: 23-27	'What authority have you for acting like this?'
Tue	13/12	ST. LUCY, VIRGIN AND MARTYR. Mt 21: 28-32 'What is your opinion?'	
Wed	14/12	ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS. Lk 7: 19-23 'Go back and tell John...'	
Thu	15/12	Lk 7: 24-30	'much more than a prophet'
Fri	16/12	Jn 5: 33-36	'my testimony is greater than John's:'
Sat	17/12	Mt. 1: 1-17	'a genealogy of Jesus Christ'....



Mass Times

Saturday: 6.30 (Vigil Mass)
Sunday: 9.00, 9.45 (Convent),
 10.30, 12.00
Weekdays:
 10.00 Monday – Friday
 7.30 Tuesday

Divine Mercy Meeting

Every Wed Evening @ 8.00pm
in the Prayer Room

Eucharistic Adoration

Mon 10.30 – 4.00
 Wed 10.30 – 9.00
 Fri 10.30 – 9.00

St. Vincent De Paul

Monthly Church Gate Collection
For November
Amounted to: €725

FAMILY MASS TODAY @ 10.30

All Welcome!! Music, Song, Story, and
Drama in the Presence of Jesus. This is
a really good experience of Mass for
families/young children.

FAMILY MASS →

Rumblings from the Bunker



GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT ADVENT

John the Baptist is a towering figure in Advent. In fact he dominates the gospel of last week and this week. Last week we got a good description of him, his dress, his food, and we heard him in full flow. This week he is in prison, and whilst his conviction and courage are very much intact, and yet.....yet he seeks reassurance, most especially from Jesus. I find the passage in today's Gospel very beautiful, and moving. We have from Jesus himself a beautiful insight into the values of his kingdom, and what happens in this world when the same kingdom begins to take root. It is not an accident that the Church puts John before us as a key part of our Advent journey. John is bold and different and brave and beautiful. John is also challenging, uncompromising, strong and relentless. In the best sense of the word he is truly prophetic. He bridges the old and the new, including the old and new testaments. John, foretells, and warns and heralds. John leaves us with no excuse but to get ready. Of course Mary has her special waiting in Advent. Joseph too waits. The world waits afresh. However our waiting is given a unique backdrop with the Baptist. If we can hear and digest the words of John then our waiting will be fundamentally changed. The waiting itself is changed, as for example it is now no longer a passive time, but rather an active preparation. The change does not stop there though. Our longing, our expectation is also changed. We have a focus. Our focus is Jesus, the fulfilment of all expectation. In Jesus, in the incarnation of Jesus, nothing will be the same again. I hope these two poems of mine, capture something of this.

WAITING

Drumming fingers on the table,
Toe tapping, where is that bus?
The waiting room busy
With exhausted magazines,

Our waiting is different,
Ssh, listen is that him?

My alb clad arms flapping
Alex, five year old veteran, asks
Can you fly?

Quick look, is that him?
Yes, our waiting is different,

Sixty-one years young Rita
At the fourth child-burial in three years,
Her hand over my heart whispers
'Mary brings them to Jesus'

We wait excitedly,
We weed our souls,
We look up,
We wait for

Lord, Saviour,
Brother, Friend
We wait in the dark
We wait in the cold,
We wait for the Light,

We wait for the Light
No Darkness Can Quench.

THE SENTRY

Your turn, waken up,
Stay awake,

We are community
Some sleep,
Some dream,
Some nightmare
In darkness

My turn to sleep,
Waken me when he arrives
We are community
End of Waiting,
Who knows when,
Waken me, Tell me
All is changed when he comes,
Fear not so awful,
Cold not so cold -
Even Death weakened
Up! Quick! Waken!
Stand up...He is near,
Very near to us
We are Community.

In Advent we can make changes. Advent allows us to mould and shape our Christmas. In these Advent days we can make it our best Christmas preparation yet. It is within our power to put Christ at the centre of both Advent and Christmas, both for ourselves and those closest to us. What type of cards do we send? Where will we place our crib? Where and when will we go to confession? How much can I give to the less well off? Perhaps through St. Vincent de Paul? How will we make it a special time, spiritually? Will there be any sacred silence in my Advent? My Christmas? Is there anyone I know is likely to struggle this Christmas? What am I, as a follower of Jesus going to do about this? Would there be any time between Christmas Day and the Epiphany, January 6th, when I might visit a few cribs and say a little prayer, perhaps I could bring my grandchildren? Would there be an opportunity in my Christmas reading and/or viewing when I might opt for some soul food? There is a very real sense in which our happy and holy Christmas arises directly out of a gentle and reflective Advent. Maybe this is key, or at least maybe it's worth pondering for a moment:

Could it be that with some of the Advent preparation highlighted above, we might end up, this year, having one of our more meaningful and special Christmas celebrations in years?

Mass Intentions

6.30 Saturday

Mary, John, Nicholas Carroll
Mary, Michael, Susan Brennan
Phyllis, Frank Hennessy
Patty Burslam, Freda Flynn
Matt Farley

9.00 Sunday

Joan, Paddy Dooley

10.30 Sunday

Paddy, Rita O'Toole

12.00 Sunday

Florence, Jeremiah O'Riordan
Hugh Kessie, Jim Garrigan

10.00 Wednesday

Bridget Higgins



Rest in Peace

Evelyn Duffy
Kellie Meehan
Rose Brennan
Patrick Gahan
Jacqueline Darcy

*Blessings and Sympathy
to the Families*

Crosscare Food Appeal

Demand for basic food items from the Crosscare Food Bank now exceeds supply and they need urgent help with food supplies.

Types of food urgently needed include:

**pasta/rice fruit juice tea/coffee
soup sugar powdered milk
tinned meat/fish tinned veg/fruit
packaged desserts biscuits
hygiene products**

A basket will be left in the church to receive donations.

Upcoming Events

Christmas Eve

Family Mass 5.30pm

Night Mass 10.00pm

New Years Eve 2016

**11.30pm Special Mass
Celebrating New Year in the**

WEEKLY ROSARY IN THE PRAYER ROOM

From Monday November 21st 2016 the Rosary will be prayed in the Prayer Room at 11am. This is an initiative of the Marian Movement.

MORNING PRAYER

For Advent @ 9.40 Mon-Fri
All Welcome

LECTIO DIVINA

Each Wednesday In Advent
@ 10.30



Ballyfermot Library

Festive Christmas Carol Concert

Dublin City Council Choir
Wed 14 December 2016 at 6.00pm.
Admission Free but Booking Essential!
Phone:01 626 9324

Church Collection Totals

Week Ending	27/10
First Collection	755
Share Collection	580
Family Offering	845

Youth 2000 Christmas Retreat

Youth 2000 invites all young adults between ages of 16-35 to a Catholic weekend retreat taking place from 16-18 December 2016 at Newbridge College, Co. Kildare This will be an exciting weekend attracting over 600 young people from all over the country.

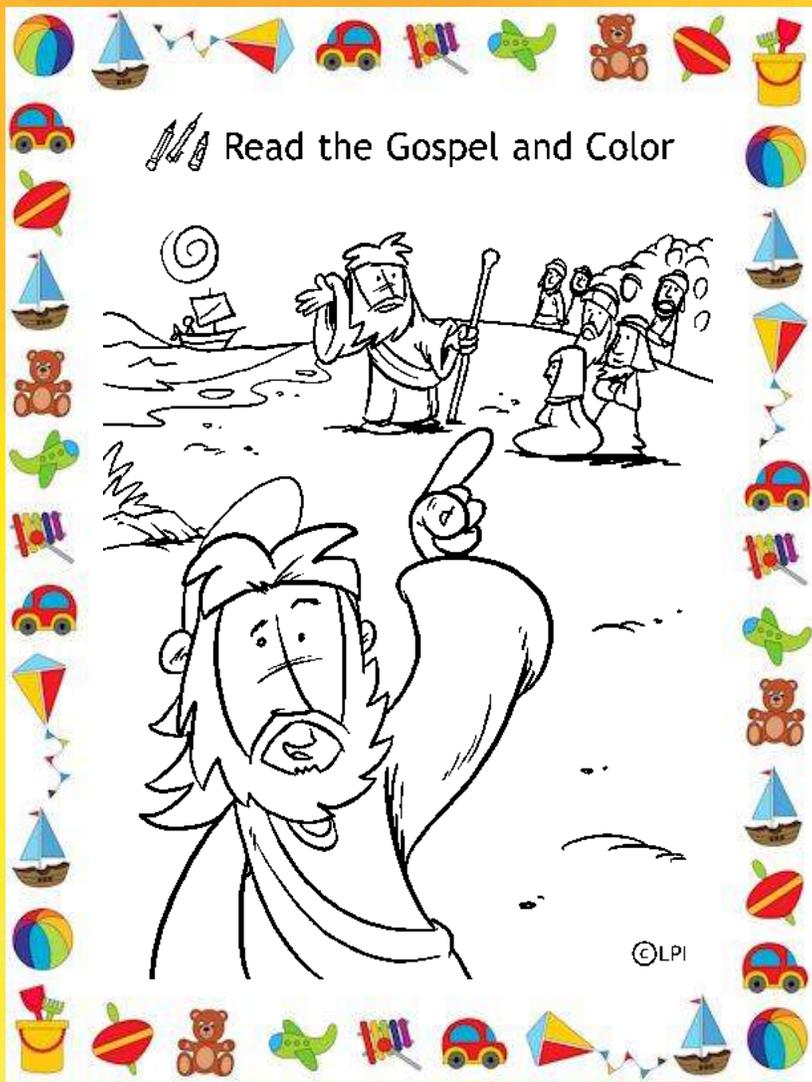
What to expect? Good fun, excellent speakers, inspiring talks and workshops, prayer, fantastic live music, group activities. Youth Masses, Adoration, a Healing Service, games, lots of time to chill out and meet new people.

The weekend is being organised by young people for young people. Parental consent is essential for all those under 18. All meals are provided for and accommodation is on site! Don't let money be an obstacle; just bring a donation and a sleeping bag. Newcomers very welcome! There will be free buses picking up from various areas throughout the country. Booking is essential. For more information on the event or to book your place, see

www.youth2000.ie.

Youth 2000 Ireland Facebook page or
Tel: 00353 (0) 1 6753690

MOA P W Z M P O F H I C



 **Puzzle**

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

Tell John what you have heard and seen.

	H						
				N			
				O			
T							

Sharing the Gospel

Name someone that you think is very important. Jesus said that John the Baptist was the greatest man ever born. John the Baptist did not live in a big house or wear nice clothes. He was not the president, and he did not own a huge company. You would probably think he was very poor. But John the Baptist was truly great because he loved and trusted God with his whole heart. He helped other people follow God, too.

Prayer

Dear God, show me ways to help my friends follow God, too.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of the greatest man ever born.

Mission for the Week

If you have any videos that tell Bible stories, watch one or two together with your family.

Academic Award Ceremony

Caritas College is very proud of our high academic standards and for the second year running we commended students who excelled in the State Exams. We are grateful to Ballyfermot Credit Union for their sponsorship of this event and were delighted to welcome Past Pupil Dr Sandra Dodson to give the keynote address.

Award winners were:

Best Leaving Cert 2016 Katie O'Reilly
 Best Leaving Cert Applied 2016 Nadine Carrig
 Best Junior Cert 2016 Jade Costello and Teigan Doran
 Outstanding results in Leaving Cert 2016 Niamh O'Reilly
 Outstanding results in Junior Cert 2016 Caitlin Grogan,
 Leanne Kearney and Michaela Nolan



Jade Costello

Teigan Doran

Joint Winners Best Junior Cert 2016
 with Past Pupil Dr Sandra Dodson, and Michael Dillon, CEO, Ballyfermot Credit Union and
 Dr Ronan Smith, CFES Co-ordinator Trinity College



Leanne Kearney
 Outstanding Results in Junior Cert 2016

Congrats to our U19 Basketball Team
 who reached the League final
 and have secured a place in the All-Ireland playoffs

College for Every Student (CFES)

CFES is a US-based initiative run in conjunction with Trinity College here in Ireland. Caritas College is participating in the Programme for the 2nd year. At the end of the first year we were awarded the honour of 'School of Distinction 2015-2016' by Trinity College for work done by students, particularly 2nd years, on the area of inclusion. This year our TY students are our CFES scholars and they are currently undertaking Leadership Training and will continue with Mentoring, Pathways to College and 21st Century Learning. Dr Ronan Smith Co-ordinator of the Programme addressed students at our recent Academic Award Ceremony and described his own pathway to college

Mary, Queen of Angels B.N.S.



Boxing

The boys from MQA have been taking part and enjoying boxing as part of their Physical Education from September. A selection of boys from fifth and sixth class are now attending the National Boxing Stadium every Monday to practice their boxing skills. They are getting excellent experience and tips from their coaches, including Olympic Gold Medallist, Michael Carruth. The boys are getting the chance to show off their skills in matches against pupils in schools from all over Dublin. This is a great privilege for the boys as very few people get the opportunity to box in such a venue.

Marathon Kids

The boys from fifth and sixth class have been running laps of the school yard every morning for the past 8 weeks to build on their fitness and stamina. Throughout the eight weeks the boys have completed the distance of a marathon, as well as learning about the benefits of physical activity. The boys ran their final mile in La Fanu Park on Monday, Nov 28th, with neighbouring schools.



Homework Club:

Mary Queen Of Angels offer a homework club for the boys from second to sixth class every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evening. The boys get the opportunity to complete their homework with help from the teacher in a fun, relaxed environment.

For more updates on the school please check our website
<http://www.maryqueenofangels2.ie/>