

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020  
**The Presentation of the Lord**

Dear Friends, Today's Solemnity of the Presentation of the Lord, celebrated 40 days after Jesus' birth, celebrates the challenges and joys of family. We all have such hopes and dreams for our children - and we all know too well that life can be cruel to dreams and that fragile hopes are easily shattered, and we want to protect our sons and daughters from such realities. We want the best for our children and we're willing to move any mountain and slay any dragon for them. Joseph and Mary confront those same hopes and fears in today's gospel. Every parent's life is "pieced" with turmoil, disappointment, illness, desperation, and fear.

Mary and Joseph understood all this very well. And that's why we find them in today's Gospel taking their tiny new baby on the difficult journey up to Jerusalem. They knew that everything they'd ever say or do could touch the spirit of their child – for good or ill. So they went to the temple, not just to do the customary rituals, but to commit their lives to handing on to Jesus the very best of what was in them – with God's help. We have no written record of their subsequent life as a family. We have only the man Jesus, whose life speaks for itself, and speaks eloquently for his family.

Fr Kevin

**Feast Days**

- St Agatha, virgin & martyr (*Wednesday*)
- Sts Paul Miki & Companions, martyrs (*Thursday*)

***Recently Deceased***

***Noreen Fitzgerald  
Dermot Wright***

*Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February 6.00pm*

***Dympna McLaughlin***

***Frank Fitzpatrick***

***Seamus Mallon***

***Eileen Bofin***

***Anniversaries***

***Sheila Hayden  
Dervilla McCann-Henry***

*(Month's Mind)*

*Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 10.00am*

***Rory McGann***

***Kit Peterson***

***Eileen Winstanley***

***Cora Smyth***

*Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 11.30*

***Art McMorrough-Kavanagh***

***Jane Reynolds***

For details of why work is needed on our church roof there is a YouTube presentation named *Church Roof Restoration 2020*.

### Regular Notices:

- Eucharistic Adoration – First Friday of the month from after 10.00am mass to 4.00pm.
- Confessions – Saturday at 5.30pm.
- Christian Meditation Group (Quite Prayer Group) next meeting will be on Wednesday **5<sup>th</sup> February** in the parochial house at 8.00pm. All welcome.
- Tea & Coffee morning Tuesday **4<sup>th</sup> February** and Friday **7<sup>th</sup> February** after 10.00am mass.
- The *Legion of Mary* meets every Monday in the parish centre at 7.30pm. New members welcome.
- There are envelopes at the back of the church for anyone who wishes to make a donation to the church. They can be put in the collection baskets or left in the parish office.
- The Chalice on the table at the front of the altar rails is for people who are coeliac.
- *Society of St Vincent de Paul* – Anyone in need of assistance call 8550022.

### Special notices:

- There will be no 10.00am mass on Thursday **6<sup>th</sup> February**. There will be a prayer service.
- First Friday **7<sup>th</sup> February** – 10.00am mass will be offered for all our deceased parishioners, relatives and friends especially those whose names are on the altar list of the dead.
- Monkstown Park Junior School are holding an open day on Friday **7<sup>th</sup> February** from 9.30am – 12noon and Saturday **8<sup>th</sup> February** from 10.00am – 12noon.
- A conference hosted by the Dublin Diocesan World Day of Sick committee will be held in the Parish Church of the Guardian Angels, Parish Pastoral Centre, Newtownpark Avenue, Blackrock on Saturday **8<sup>th</sup> February 2020** from 9.45am – 1.00pm.
- Annual mass for the Beatification of Servant of God **Alfie Lambe** in the church of the Miraculous Medal, Bird Avenue, Clonskeagh at 10.30am on Sunday **9<sup>th</sup> February**.
- The annual mass for past pupils of St Mary's Dominican Convent Dun Laoghaire will be on Sunday **16<sup>th</sup> February** at 3pm in the Primary School Hall. All past pupils very welcome.
- Building Refurbishment fund collection held last weekend totalled **€728**. Many thanks for your very generous support.
- **Sacristan in Monkstown Parish** – We are looking to recruit a Sacristan for the parish. The role involves opening and closing the church, preparing the altar for daily mass and other liturgical services. Full details in church porch.

#### Contact details:

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#### The Parish Office

Located at the side of the Parochial House.

Phone 01 5382542

Opening hours: 9:15 – 1:00pm Monday to Friday

e-mail: [secretary@monkstownparish.ie](mailto:secretary@monkstownparish.ie);

Parish Centre 6639663