

MONKSTOWN PARISH



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Mass Times: Weekdays (Mon – Fri) @ 10 AM Saturday, Vigil Mass @ 6 PM Sunday, 10 AM & 11:30 AM
Sacristan: Ciarán Ryan

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica – 9th November

Mass Intentions

We remember in our prayer at mass this weekend the following whose anniversaries and month's mind occur at this time:

- **Gerry Lambe (Recently Deceased)**
- **Thomas & Ellen Curley (Anniversary)**
- **Jill Copeland Doyle (1st Anniversary)**

BAPTISM

We welcome into the Christian community:

Hugo Sullivan, Jordie Hyland and Anna Kummel Krofp who will be baptised by Deacon Eric on Sunday 9th November.

SHARE APPEAL SUNDAY November 8/9

The annual Share Appeal collection will take place after all masses this weekend. The share collection supports many services in the Archdiocese provided by the Diocesan offices to parishes and schools. The Share newsletter along with a letter from Archbishop Farrell are available to view on our parish website.

BRAHMS & DUCKNER

November 16th @ 16:30

Under the direction of John Doyle and accompanied by the Dun Laoghaire Consort, **Dun Laoghaire Choral Society** will perform Brahms Schicksalslie and Bruckner's Mass in F Minor on Sunday 16th November at 16.30pm. in the **Church of the Assumption Dalkey**. Tickets available on Eventbrite – Search for Bruckner and Brahms.

SALE OF WORK

November 15th 10 am to 1 pm

Monkstown Parish (Church of Ireland) are holding a Sale of Work in the Schoolhouse next Saturday. All are welcome.

St Mary's Pro-Cathedral

Bicentenary Weekend

Fri 14th to Sun 16th November

This month the Archdiocese of Dublin celebrates the bicentenary of St Mary's Pro-Cathedral and also this year marks the 800th anniversary of the canonisation of St Laurence O'Toole, the patron of the Archdiocese. A number of events are scheduled in the Pro-Cathedral.

- **Fri: 14th - 12 NOON:** Mass for the Feast of St Laurence O'Toole with Archbishop Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin
- **Fri 14: - 5.30PM:** Choral Vespers for the Feast of St Laurence O'Toole with the Palestrina Choir
- **Sat 15th - 7PM:** Hope Concert – music, joy and hope with the SHALOM Catholic Community
- **Sun 16: - 11AM:** Sunday Mass to mark the anniversaries with Bishop Paul Dempsey, Auxiliary Bishop of Dublin
- **Sun 16th - 3.30PM:** Concert: GLORIA Vivaldi and works by Handel, Bach and Mozart with the Palestrina Choir, St Mary's Pro-Cathedral Girls' Choir and Marlborough Baroque Orchestra, conducted by Blánaid Murphy

Memorials This Week

Pope Leo the Great (10 Nov)

Pope Leo I, a Doctor of the Church, guided the faithful during turbulent times in the 5th century. He defended the dual nature of Christ at the Council of Chalcedon and strengthened papal authority. His writings and leadership shaped the Church's understanding of doctrine and pastoral care, earning him enduring reverence as a shepherd and theologian.

St Martin of Tours (11 Nov)

Once a Roman soldier, Martin's life was transformed by a simple act of mercy—sharing his cloak with a beggar. He became bishop of Tours and a tireless advocate for the poor. Known for his humility and miracles, Martin's legacy of compassion and service continues to inspire Christians to live with generosity and courage.

St Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr (12 Nov)

St Josaphat worked for unity between Eastern and Western Christians during a time of deep division. As Archbishop of Polotsk, he faced fierce opposition and ultimately gave his life for the cause of reconciliation. His martyrdom in 1623 stands as a powerful witness to faith, courage, and the hope of Christian unity.

St Laurence O'Toole (14 Nov)

Ireland's first native Archbishop of Dublin, Laurence O'Toole was a reformer, peacemaker, and man of deep prayer. Amid Norman invasions, he mediated conflicts and cared for the poor. His austere life and devotion to the Eucharist made him a beacon of holiness. He remains a cherished figure in Irish Catholic heritage.

A Week of Witness and Unity

As we honour these saints—pastors, peacemakers, and martyrs—we glimpse the breadth of holiness across centuries and cultures. Each gave their life, in word or deed, for Christ and His Church. May their example stir us to deeper faith, courageous service, and renewed hope in the communion of saints that surrounds and strengthens us.

COLÁISTE EOIN & COLÁISTE ÍOSAGÁIN

AONACH NA NOLLAG/CHRISTMAS FAIR

The two schools will be holding their Annual Christmas Fair **on Sunday 16th November** between 1.00pm – 4:30pm, for the first time in the larger Main Sports Hall. Items for sale will be gratefully accepted over the next few weeks in the 2 schools, or contact 01-2884002 or 01-2884028 to arrange for collection. **BOOKS** are especially welcome, especially those new, nearly-new or those in the Irish language. All donations gratefully received. Contact **Dearbhla Nic Aogáin** at 086-8175057 for further information.

PARTNERSHIP PARISHES

KILL O' THE GRANGE (Holy Family)

Mon – Sat @ 10 am
Sat Vigil 5 pm Sun 10 & 12
Web: www.holyfamilyparish.ie
Parish Office Tel: (01) 284 5299
Email: admin@holysfamily.ie

BLACKROCK (St. John the Baptist)

Mon – Fri @ 1:05 pm
Sat Vigil 6:30 pm Sun 10 & 12
Web: www.sjb.ie
Parish Office Tel: (01) 288 2104
Email: office@sjb.ie

NEWTOWNPARK (Guardian Angels)

Mon – Sat @ 10 am
Sun 9:30 10:45 & 12 noon
www.newtownparkparish.com
Parish Office Tel: (01) 283 2988
E: parishoffice@newtownparkparish.com

FOXROCK

(Our Lady of Perpetual Succor)

Mon, Tue, Thurs & Fri @ 10 am
Sat Vigil 6 pm Sun 10 & 11:30
Web: www.foxrockparish.ie
Parish Office Tel: (01) 289 3492
Email: secretary@foxrockparish.ie



Fr Kevin's Reflection for the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica



Commentary on the readings for the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

The Church commonly known as the Basilica of St John Lateran is actually dedicated to the Most Holy Saviour and St John the Baptist and St John the Evangelist and was first dedicated in 324 AD. It derives its importance from the fact that it is the *"Most Holy Lateran Church, of all the churches in the city and the world, the mother and head"* (*Sacrosancta Lateranensis ecclesia omnium urbis et orbis ecclesiarum mater et caput* – from an inscription on the front wall of the church).

This basilica is also the Cathedral Church of the Bishop of Rome and Primate of Italy – the Pope (St Peter's in the Vatican is a basilica but not a Cathedral Church). In celebrating its dedication we celebrate the dedication of our own local churches also for they are all joined together.

Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12;

In the first reading from Ezekiel we read how a stream flowed from the Temple and gave life in abundance wherever it flowed. If we look at the distance from the Temple as a timeline then we see that over time the river grows to become a great torrent with the Temple being Christ. What is in the river could be seen as the members of the Church and what is on the banks as those who come into contact with members of the Church. Whether the people be in the river or on the bank, all receive life from the river.

1Corinthians 3:9-11,

In the second reading St Paul reminds us that we are all God's temple through the Spirit which has been given to us and therefore we must preserve this temple and strengthen it in the faith. The Temple is not just a stone building but it is each and every one of us who has God within them.

John 2:13-22

In the gospel we see Jesus driving out of the Temple those who had dishonoured it. The Church is the house of God and it is the source of life for us and that is what we celebrate today. It is our duty to build up the Church of God – the church within each of us and the church as the unity and gathering of all who believe in Christ.

The Response to our Psalm is:

**The waters of a river
give joy to God's city,
the holy place
where the Most High dwells.**

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, the mother and head of all churches in the world — a reminder that our faith is not only personal but communal, not just spiritual but embodied in real places and real people.

The Lateran Basilica, dedicated to Christ the Saviour, stands in Rome as a sign of the unity of the Church. It reminds us that we are all part of something larger — one body, one family, one temple of living stones. As St. Paul says, "You are God's building... God's temple, and the Spirit of God dwells in you" (1 Cor 3:9,16).

On this same weekend, our parish gathers to remember those members of our own community who have died during the past year. Their names are written not just in our parish register, but in our hearts. Their absence leaves empty pews, quiet chairs, and tender memories. Yet their lives remain part of this living temple — the communion of saints — joined forever in the love of Christ.

In today's Gospel, Jesus enters the temple and drives out those who have turned it into a marketplace. It is a dramatic moment — but at its heart is a call to renewal. Jesus is not attacking the temple itself; he is restoring its purpose. "Stop turning my Father's house into a marketplace," he says. The temple is meant to be a place of encounter, prayer, and presence — a dwelling of God among His people. Today, that same call echoes in our hearts.

Each of us is a dwelling place of God's Spirit. But so often our lives — and even our Church — can become cluttered with distraction, fear, or self-interest. Christ comes not to condemn us, but to cleanse and renew us, so that we might again become a place where God's love dwells and shines.

As we remember our deceased parishioners, we give thanks for the ways they helped build this spiritual house — through faith, service, kindness, and prayer. Their love helped shape this parish into a true home of faith. And now, we trust that they dwell in the eternal temple — the house not made with hands — where Christ is the light that never fades.

Death, too, is a kind of cleansing — a letting go of all that is temporary, a passing into the fullness of God's presence. In that sense, our prayer for the dead is not only about remembrance, but about hope. We believe that just as Jesus raised the temple of his body on the third day, so too will God raise up those who have died in Christ.

So today, as we light candles, as we whisper names in love and in faith, we are reminded that this Church — and indeed every church — is more than stone and mortar. It is built of souls, past and present, living and departed, all bound together in Christ, the true and living Temple.

May this feast renew in us the zeal that consumed Jesus — a zeal not of anger, but of love: love for God's house, love for God's people, and love for all those who have gone before us into the eternal dwelling place of peace.