



Church of Our Mother of Divine Grace, Ballygall

Part of the Glasnevin Partnership of Parishes
(Ballygall, Ballymun Rd, Corpus Christi, Glasnevin & Iona Rd)

Second Sunday of Advent
10th December 2023

Parish Website www.ballygallparish.ie Email ballygallparish@outlook.com

Registered Charity RCN 20016166

Parish Team

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Mass Intentions Monday 11th to Sunday 17th December

Monday	7.25	Fr Joe Donohoe	10.00	Funeral Mass Bridget Flanagan.
Tuesday	7.25	Special Intention	10.00	Special Intention
Wednesday	7.25	Martin & Kathleen Mongan & family	10.00	Jack & Fred Kennedy
Thursday	7.25	Available	10.00	Sean Peyton
Friday	7.25	Available	10.00	Paddy Goold.
Saturday	10.00	John Byrne	Confessions available after 10.00am & 6.30pm Mass.	
Saturday	6.30pm	Patrick Brady, Vera Murray, Christine Kellegher, Anthony Butler		
Sunday	10.00	John Byrne		
	11.30	Mary & James Carr & deceased family members, Bridget Kelly, James Allen, Kathleen, William & Noel Rock, David Byrne, Aileen Traynor, Kevin O'Dea.		

Recently Deceased

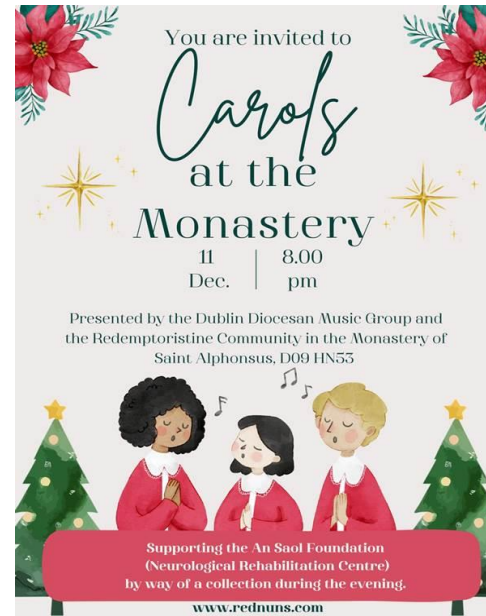
We remember in our prayers, recently deceased Maria McConnell & Paddy McDermott, James Moore Caulfield & Bridget Flanagan.

Adoration Resumes

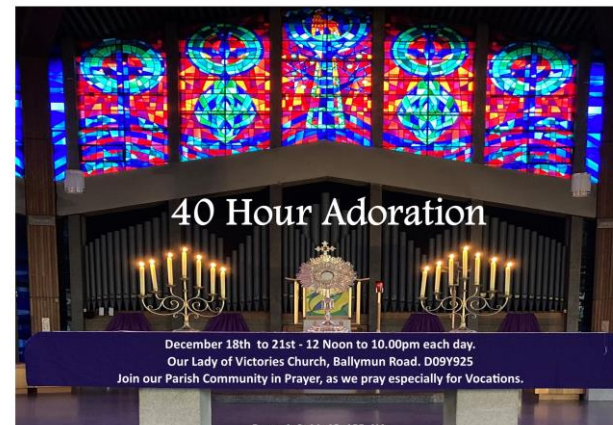
We are delighted to say that we will have Adoration in our Church on Thursday mornings, after 10.00am mass starting **December 14th**.

Parish Shop

Christmas Mass Cards & 2024 Calendars are now available. Please note the shop is open before and after mass on the following days: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. (You can now use your Bank Card in our shop).



Our Lady of Dolours Christmas Market Saturday & Sunday 16th & 17th December 9.00am to 4.00pm



Rest in the Presence of the Lord

Our Lady of Victories Church, Ballymun Road from **Monday 18th to Thursday 21st December 12.00pm to 10.00pm**. We hope you will take this opportunity to spend some quiet time in the Presence of the Blessed Sacrament. We especially ask you might use your moments to Pray for Vocations for our Diocese, during this Year of Vocations

St. Vincent de Paul Annual Christmas Appeal.

This collection will take place at all masses this weekend. Your financial support is needed more than ever this year.

Christmas Reconciliation Service with the Franciscans.

Wednesday 20th December @ 7.30pm here in Ballygall Church.



Scoil Chiarain Christmas Fair Thursday 14th December 10.30 to 12.30 All are welcome Tea, Coffee & Mince Pies

The Shepherd

Chapter 40 from the *Book of Isaiah*, one of the most magnificent books in the Bible, is poetic and reassuring. It draws us into the presence of a patient God who consoles, and who is tender, caring and forgiving. The image of the shepherd gathering the lambs in his arms, cuddling them, and sensitively leading the tired mother ewes who had given birth to rest and shelter, is quite striking and gentle.

A Place for God

During the coming weeks it's important for us to find quality time in which we allow ourselves to experience the comforting God whose only desire is to hold us close to him. We allow him to caress us with his mercy and forgiveness. It requires effort and attentive listening.

A Place for Others

Is there someone in your life who is waiting and hoping to experience some of these beautiful God-like qualities? Is there some area in your own life that yearns for healing or forgiveness? Waiting is a challenge in a world that sees waiting as an inconvenience or a waste of time. Waiting needs to be open to surprise, open to an encounter with God who is waiting patiently for us, to give us that unexpected gift.

Getting Ready for Jesus

We are called during Advent to be ready to welcome Jesus coming among us to surprise us. In the second reading, we hear the voice of Peter calling us to do our best 'to live holy and saintly lives.' We give thanks for the men and women who, especially this Advent, give of their best to lift people out of their wildernesses of poverty, loneliness, homelessness and abandonment.

Who is Calling?

On this Advent Sunday, Isaiah, Peter, John the Baptist and the evangelist, St Mark, all summon us to be alert, to be attentive to the voices that are calling us to 'Prepare a way for the Lord, to make his paths straight ...' Advent challenges us to strive for the fullness of life, and to be life-givers to others,

Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus! ■



Summary

God is patiently waiting for us to be ready.

The image of the shepherd gathering the lambs in his arms is quite striking.

Question

How should we spend our time waiting for the coming of the Lord?

Prayer

Lord Jesus, may I learn from your patience, as you wait for me.



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Sat 9 Dec Juan Diego Cuahiltatzin : Sun 10 Dec Advent 2 : Mon 11 Dec St Damasus : Tue 12 Dec Jane Frances; Our Lady of Guadalupe; St Finnian : Wed 13 Dec St Lucy : Thu 14 Dec John of the Cross : Fri 15 Dec Weekday : Sat 16 Dec Weekday : Sun 17 Dec Advent 3.



Earlier this week I went for a morning walk in the Phoenix Park in Dublin. The crisp air was refreshing and invigorating. The leafless naked trees displayed a new and delightful beauty. Each unique branch revealed its contribution to the loveliness and shape of the tree, and the overall wonder of this oasis in the heart of the city. The quiet, silent calm of the park, and the contented grazing of the herd of deer whispered the Advent mantra – 'He comes, comes, ever comes'

This atmosphere blends gently with the sentiments of Psalm 84 which is read on this second Sunday of Advent:

'I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace ... his help is near ...'

These lines highlight the four great qualities that will assist us on our Advent quest for a deeper relationship with Emmanuel – mercy, faithfulness, justice and peace.

SUNDAY LETTER

Series: Spirituality; Second Sunday of Advent, Year A; 10th December 2023



The Lord is Patient

Advent offers us the opportunity to slow down and take time to strip away some of the attitudes, biases and unhealthy masks that prevent us from mirroring the love of Jesus to those around us. Advent speaks of preparing, anticipating, waiting in faith and hope, and welcoming. God is patiently waiting for us to be ready.

God's waiting will meet our waiting. Our patient God allows us time; God waits at the door and knocks, waits to be invited in, waits to be a welcome guest, wants room in the inn of our heart.