

Mass Intentions

27th & 28th November 2021

Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ—King of the Universe

St. Mary's 6pm Saturday

Edward Tuite (A)

Gabrielle Heery (2nd A)

St Patrick's Church, Curtlestown 10am

St Mary's 11am Sunday

Bernice Nugent (A)

Both Masses viewable on webcam.

St Mochonog's Church and via Zoom at 10am

Mary Lyons (A)

#to join please phone 087 418 9338)

or email sally.phalan@gmail.com



Schedule of Masses:

Weekday Masses

St Mary's -Masses—10.15 a.m. (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday)

Please be aware that attending weekday Masses is in lieu of attending Sunday Mass.
Prayer Services - 10.15 a.m. (Wednesday & Saturday)

Week-end Masses: **St. Mary's** 6.00 pm - Saturday, 11.00 am - Sunday

St. Mochonog's 10.00 am Sunday

St Patrick's, 10.00am Sunday

St Kevin's, 9.00am First Sunday of the Month.

Mass bookings are **not** necessary for weekend Masses

Paul Murphy has been appointed as **Animator** for forthcoming Synod to represent the parish of Enniskerry and associated Churches at Kilmacanogue, Curtlestown and Glenree. Background to the Synod is available on [dublindiocese.ie](http://dublindioocese.ie)

Enniskerry Welcomes 2022 Calendar featuring photos of local scenery will be on sale after Masses in St. Mary's next weekend costing €10 each. Your support for this worthy cause will be greatly appreciated.

COVID 19

At St. Mary's , St. Mochonog's, St Kevin's & St. Patrick's, in accordance with the latest Government guidance, we are now conducting our religious services without capacity limits, but with all other protective measures remaining in place. Although there is now no specific distance recommended for spacing of people within our churches, we ask that you respect the right of others to attend in safety, and that you do not crowd close to people from other households. Please make the best use of the available space so as to maximise distancing between yourself and anybody from outside of your household. Where possible, when you enter the church, please use a vacant pew that is not close to an already occupied one. Please continue to keep your distance when entering and leaving the church, and when moving around, such as when approaching to receive Holy Communion.

Protective measures, including hand sanitising and the wearing of face coverings, will continue for the foreseeable future. We will continue to distribute Holy Communion at the end of Mass, with each household group coming forward in turn. Immediately after receiving Holy Communion, you should leave quietly through the side exit.

Please do not attend at church if you are unusually experiencing any common symptom of Covid-19, such as fever, new cough, shortness of breath, breathing difficulty or loss of, or change to, sense of smell or taste.

For your own safety and for the safety of the community at large, we urge you to accept vaccination when advised.

Helplines during Covid 19

AA: 087 255 1361 ALONE = 818 222 024. AL ALON: (01) 8783624
AMEN: (01) 554 3811 ACTION AID 01) 878 7911 FIVE LOAVES: (01) 2040960.

KILMACANOGUE & ENNISKERRY COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP FOR COVID
19 KILMACANOGUE; 086 380 5627—ENNISKERRY: 083 364 2439

LGBTQ: 1890 929 539, LOCAL MEALS ON WHEELS: 086 832 2466
PURPLE HOUSE CANCER SUPPORT: (01) 204 0960 SAMARATINS= 115123

.Sign Up As A Volunteer for the Church Re-Opening

If you're interested in getting involved to help out in the Parish we would be delighted to have you on board. Volunteers are always needed on our Parish teams and in churches to assist and to help out at Public Masses. The more volunteers we have means the demand on volunteers' time will be less, also. If you have not signed up as a volunteer yet, please sign up via the form on the home -page of the website

www.enniskerryparish.ie or contact the parish office and a member of the parish team will be in touch. Thanks to our new recruits; we are delighted to welcome you on board. A BIG thank you to all who continue to partake of Parish Life so generously and freely.

Reopening of [St. Patrick's church - Curtlestown](#)

As you may already have read in the Parish Link, St. Patrick's Church, Curtlestown, has re-opened for 10am Sunday Mass. We are delighted to welcome back our parishioners on this special occasion!

The pandemic and our concern for everyone's health and safety still restricts how we can celebrate this, and some of the safety measures are listed below. Help will be on hand at the door if there are any questions.

Please don't attend if you are displaying any COVID symptoms

Please sanitise your hands upon entering the church and, if you're over 12, please wear a face mask

Attendees are encouraged to maintain social distancing, for example by sitting in alternate pews as the space allows. Of course, family pods / bubbles can sit together as per Government Guidelines.

Adequate ventilation will be maintained by keeping the doors and window open, so please wrap up warmly!

There will be a one-way entry / exit system (entry via the **main door** and exit via the **sacristy**). This will be on a pew-by-pew basis upon receipt of communion at the end of Mass. The congregation will be informed of this at the Mass.

We thank everyone for following these guidelines so that we may continue to keep our community safe and look forward to seeing you.

[St. Kevin's Church, Glencree](#) has also re-opened for 9am Mass which will continue on the 1st Sunday of each month. Above restrictions also apply.

St Mary's & St Gerard's National School

School now open for Junior Infant Enrolments for the next school year (Children starting September 2022) under the new Admissions policy introduced by the Department of Education.

Our [Enrolment Forms](#) are available directly from our website, enniskerrys.ie. You may complete the forms by hand and deliver at the front door of the school, complete them online and email to info@enniskerrys.ie or of course, post them to the school at St Mary's & St Gerard's National School, Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow, A98DP70.

All PREVIOUS applications MUST be resubmitted, if you have any queries, please phone Annette in the office at 01-2868851

Notice re upcoming Baptisms

On the First Monday of each month at 7.30pm, a baptism introduction will take place by Zoom for baptisms booked for the upcoming month. This is for Parents and God Parents. Zoom link will be sent before meeting. Baptism booklet will be used to explain sacrament of baptism. Please inform office if you cannot attend.

“Congratulations to the First Holy Communion Children of St. Patrick’s & Powerscourt National Schools!!

A big congratulations to all the wonderful children who (finally!) made their First Holy Communion on Saturday, 13th November in St. Patrick’s Church, Curtlestown.

You all spoke, sang and offered your gifts impeccably - it was plain to see that you had practised your parts and had put in a lot of preparation for this mass. You should be very proud of yourselves.

Your parents, school and parish community are very proud of both you and your patience: we know you had to wait a long time for this special sacrament, but it was worth it in the end and we hope you had a fantastic day!

We wish to thank the teachers and staff of St. Patrick’s National School, Curtlestown, in particular Mr. Declan Curry, as well as the parents and guardians for preparing the children to receive this sacrament. Our thanks also go to Fr. Bernard, the St. Patrick’s Community Group, Curtlestown, and Mr. Conor Gleeson for their advice and guidance.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

St Mary's & St Gerard's NS Enniskerry First Holy Communion Children

We want to send our best wishes to all the wonderful children who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday 6th November in St. Mary's Church.

We know you had to wait a long time for this special sacrament – but it was worth it in the end.

You all looked so lovely and behaved so well during the mass. You are a credit to your parents, your school and your parish community. We are very proud of you. Well done.

We wish to thank the parents and guardians for preparing the children to receive this sacrament. Our thanks also goes to Fr. Hyacinth, Ms Langan and the school team for all the work involved in the Holy Communion ceremony. We greatly appreciate your time and dedication to the service of the Parish.

Warmest and Best Wishes
Enniskerry Parish Team.

Contributions

We thank all parishioners who continue to contribute and help keep parish finance healthy. Your generosity is very much appreciated. The parish has now set up **QR Scan Codes** for various collections which are available in our Churches.

By using the **QR Scan Code** on this newsletter your donation will go directly to parish offerings which will assist in the upkeep of the four churches in the parish.

It is simple - for newer phones all you have to do is hold your phone camera over the code and the Payzone page will automatically open. Then simply “tap”, enter the amount you wish to donate and press “proceed”, add your card details and press “pay now”. For older smart phone just download a free QR scanner from the App Store.



You may also donate to the Parish in the following ways:-

1. Online by using “Donate” feature on the parish website www.enniskerryparish.ie
2. Donate by scanning your credit card on Payzone Tap and Go in the porch in St. Mary’s
3. Standing Orders
4. Dropping Green and Pink envelopes into Parish Office during 10am-1pm Mon-Frid.
5. You may leave your envelopes for Parish and Common Fund into the ‘Donation Box’ at the Porch in St. Mary’s. & St. Patrick’s.

Envelopes for 1st and 2nd collections are available at the entrance of St Mary’s Church.

If you wish to activate a **Standing Order** for these collections please take a form as you exit. □

The normal Mass Collections have recommenced. You may bring your envelopes and hand them to collector during Mass.

You may also donate to the 1st and 2nd Collections by scanning your credit card on the **Payzone Tap and Go machine** on the Stand in the porch in St. Mary’s.

Archbishop Dermot Farrell's Reflections at the launch of the Diocesan Phase of the Synod

—Communion, Participation, Mission—

St Mary's Pro-Cathedral

17th October 2021

In order to revitalise the dynamics of governance of the Church, Pope Francis has invited all baptised Christians throughout the world to examine the way the work and mission of the Church is carried forward. The synodal process is not something new in the Church- it is a way of meeting each other, listening to each other and discerning with each other.

“What is the Spirit saying to the Churches?” (Rev 2:7). We are asked to trust the Holy Spirit to lead us together in discerning the changes that are necessary for renewal and reform. What part of the Church requires new energy, renewed efforts, some fresh vitality, in order to bring the message of Jesus Christ to the contemporary world? How do we begin? We begin at a local level in the parish by listening to each another. When we gather, Pope Francis asks “us not to soundproof our hearts; let us not remain barricaded in our certainties. So often our certainties and make us closed. Let us listen to one another” (Homily, 11th October 2021).

Now is the time to face whatever needs renewal in the Church. We are now called into service of God's way of bringing the Church to new life. Let us discover the same confidence that Ezekiel had in the valley of the dry bones. Remember it was the movement of God's Spirit that came upon the dry bones and restored flesh to them. So, too, with what awaits enlivening in our Church. We cannot renew the Church by surveys or questionnaires. The voice of God must always reframe questions about how the Church fulfils its vision and mission, since the Church is something God makes. Ultimately it is the Spirit of God who will energise the dead bones of our Church and restore its vitality. This is an opportunity for us to listen to the Holy Spirit and discern what God wants from the Church in the Archdiocese of Dublin, from the Church in Ireland and the Universal Church.

“We have worked all night long and caught nothing”(Luke 5:5). There are at least two responses to this situation.

Understandably, some people might say cut your losses, it's useless to continue, give up and move on! The fact that you have worked hard and caught nothing is a sign that you are fishing in the wrong place, investing in the wrong thing. It is natural that cynicism would take over; after all, only fools fail to learn from experience.

The way of Jesus when faced with no catch is another. Jesus has a different experience, another vision: we can put out into the deep. We can journey into more difficult places—into the desert, as it were, where we will come face to face with what is important. What our Church needs today—what we need today—is renewal. This can only be carried out by encounter, mutual listening, free of ideology and predetermined agendas. Renewal requires a radical openness to each other and to *our* future. “Isolation and withdrawal into one's own interests are never the way to restore hope and bring about renewal...it is closeness;” (*Fratelli Tutti* § 30). -----

It is reaching out towards the other, listening to the other, listening *with* the other, meeting the other, serving the other.

The Synod is not an event, but a style and way of being Church. The synod itself is only a beginning, but it is an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest. "Church and Synod are synonymous" (St John Chrysostom). A synodal church, Francis says, is a church that listens, "in which everyone has something to learn...all listening to each other, and all listening to the Holy Spirit in order to know what he says to the churches." What is called for is a heart-to-heart mutual listening to discern how the way of life that, puts flesh on the Gospel and the living Tradition can be discerned afresh (anew) and lived out in the contemporary world. Sometimes we hear calls for a new church; but what we need is not a "new" church, but a church which lives in new ways. ["There is no need to create another church, but to create a different church," to quote the words of that great father of the Council, Yves Congar OP (Francis on 9th October 2021)].

Simply put, don't take refuge in the usual excuses: "it's a waste of time" or "we've always done it this way." "If everything remains as it was, if we spend our days content that 'this is the way things have always been,' then [God's] gift vanishes, smothered by the ashes of fear, and by the anxiety of defending the *status quo*" (Pope Francis, *Homily at Opening of the Amazon Synod*, October 6, 2019). We need to accept the responsibility of mission as we experience it now. Walking together is the way for the Church in our time. We walk with each other and we walk with our Lord. We need his presence and his word "in order to know what the Spirit, the 'Spirit of Truth' (John 14:17), 'says to the Churches' (Rev 2:7)."

Do not give up any expectation of a change. Faith in a real way is that surrender to God and radical trust in God. Let us listen to each other and to the Lord. Here is our 'both-and'—both the other *and* the Lord. Ask yourself the question: "What does God want from the Church in Dublin at this time? This is how we are asked to respond to the Second Vatican Council's vision of the church as the people of God.

The synodal way is a way of discernment. The Spirit is the driving force of the life of the Church and of every Christian who seeks to discern what God is saying to the Church. It is not just reading the signs of the times on the surface of life, but in life's depth. "Put out into the deep!" Let us be attentive to the voice of Christ. May his Spirit guide us as we seek his way: a way with each other, the Lord and the world.

Pastoral Letter for Advent 2021

In the First Sunday of Advent our Church, and many others, begin a new Church year. The Church begins its year with a time of hope, and Advent—so frequently ‘lost’ in the preparation for Christmas—is the season of hope *par excellence*. It is the season of hope, because our God who gave himself to us by creating us, and who came to us in the coming of his Son, will come again.

Our God “comes to enrich our personal and collective histories, our dashed hopes and our sterile yearnings.” (Pope Francis, Homily for the First Sunday of Advent, Bangui Cathedral (CAR), November 2015). Our God comes to save us. “Unless the Lord comes to us, we are completely helpless,” as St Maximus the Confessor, so dramatically put it.

In Advent, we proclaim and celebrate our hope and our trust that our God is faithful: that the Lord will come again and again to rescue us, to heal us, to console us, to be with all that he has called into life.

God calls us forward to a new world, to embrace a new future. That is God’s deeper gift to us. His call is not to return to a wonderful place where “everything was wonderful”—be that Bethlehem or the ‘wonderful world’ of our shared past. Our prayer this Advent and always is, therefore, shaped by that hope. In this time, for many, it is also framed by the experience of loss and continuing grief. Our anticipation of the joy of Christmas is all the greater for the depth of the crisis through which we have been travelling. Christian hope is not naive. It does not give rise to nostalgia, denial or conformity. Rather it is realistic in its faithfulness and bold in its imagination. Pope Francis tells us that hope ‘is able to see a tomorrow; hope is the door that opens onto the future.’ Hope changes everything.

As we prepare to celebrate the overwhelming gift of love that was the Incarnation, we are invited to take stock of how well prepared we are, not only to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord at Christmas, but to live the kind of life we are meant to live, loving one another and the whole human race as much as we are loved.

The Gospel for the First Sunday of Advent reminds us that the Christian life is rooted in prayer; we are urged to pray at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, so that we can stand with confidence before the Son of Man.

We have been living through a very testing time. Sickness and death resulting from the Covid-19 virus have taken a heavy toll. The necessary restrictions on everyday life have at times been very hard to bear. The continuing pressure on healthcare staff and other vital workers has increased our admiration for their commitment and care. Our gratitude for the remarkable success of those developing vaccines and treatments has been tempered by a growing realisation that there is no easy or simple solution for this crisis.

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So it is for us, the community of faith that is the Church in this Archdiocese. We are living through dark days. We confront immense challenges, not least that the dominant culture is hostile to faith, while there is much in our story that discourages and even repels many people. Yet as Christians we are called to bring Good News to the whole world, to accompany those at all stages of life's journey towards an encounter with Jesus Christ. We are hopeful, despite the immensity of these challenges, some of which have become even more stark as a result of the coronavirus crisis.

It was to build hope that, some months ago, I established a Task Force to develop a pastoral strategy to support parish communities of faith to undertake a radical renewal, looking to the future with creativity, while enabling the Archdiocese of Dublin to act now so as to give effective witness and service in the years ahead. The Task Force received views and suggestions from over 3,000 people, the vast majority of them lay people involved in different ways and to different degrees in the life of the Church. I have received the recommendations of the Task Force and I am reflecting upon them and praying about them.

The strategy that has been recommended involves principles to guide our renewal, a process of engagement that would involve the whole diocesan family, and a framework to guide discussion and discernment. It is my intention to invite the whole diocesan family, and every parish, to begin the process of discussion and discernment early in the New Year, and to provide guidelines and suggestions to support this journey, which will be, in itself, an expression of the synodal path on which the Church has embarked.

Any pastoral strategy that is true to our Christian calling will acknowledge, as the Task Force has, our need to hear the call to conversion of hearts and minds, and to deepen the spirit of prayer and attentiveness to the word of God.

I am therefore inviting the Church in the Archdiocese of Dublin to use this season of Advent as a time of prayer and reflection to prepare ourselves spiritually for the challenge of renewal. Responding to the Task Force Report, we need to create a prayerful atmosphere this Advent as we begin to look to the future of parishes, groupings of parishes, and the Diocese itself. Our prayer must be, above all, to be open to the Spirit to guide us in our mission as bearers of light and carriers of good news to the people of our time. We honour our history and our traditions. We draw strength from what has been built up. But we are not afraid to craft new wineskins to carry the new wine of the Good News to those who thirst for it today.

In Advent we begin the Liturgical Year preparing for the coming of the Lord. Our diocesan theme this year is 'Be Still', waiting for the Lord, preparing ourselves for the year ahead with Him.

There is a 'Be Still' resource available on the Diocesan Website, and our Mission and Ministry Team are offering a daily prayer posting on Facebook every day during Advent with a variety of contributors.

We need to 'be still' during Advent, and mark time a little with the Lord, as we set out on a year of prayer, reflection and planning.

Advent resources are available from [Advent 2021 | Archdiocese of Dublin \(dublindiocese.ie\)](https://www.dublindiocese.ie)

I am asking each parish community to pray for conversion of heart so that we may be effective missionaries. **I ask that the Synod prayer be prayed every day during Advent**, especially during our celebrations of the Eucharist, so that we are reminded of the call we have received and the hope-filled response which we will craft together under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

In the season of Advent, we unite ourselves with our Blessed Mother Mary, whose own preparation models for us the spirit of hope and faith that brings the light of Christ to life.

Let us pray:

Ever faithful God,

You sent your son into the darkness of human history
to fulfil your will, and guide your people home to you.

Fill our hearts with the hope of your coming
that we may draw close to all our sisters and brothers
especially those who bear the cross of Jesus in the heart of our world.

May the Light of his victory over darkness and death,
guide our feet on the way of justice and peace.

We ask this in the name of Him who came and will come again,
Jesus, our Lord, for ever and ever. Amen

+Dermot Farrell,
Archbishop of Dublin

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