

# SANDYFORD PARISH NEWSLETTER

**Midnight Mass** Fr John, Fr. Paul & Fr Aaron PARISH OFFICE Tel: 01-295 6414 Mon-Fri 9am-1pm  
EMAIL: [office@sandyfordparish.org](mailto:office@sandyfordparish.org) Website: [www.sandyfordparish.org](http://www.sandyfordparish.org) 25th Dec 2021



**FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY JANUARY 6TH -  
ST. MARY'S CHURCH  
MASS AT 10AM & 7.30PM—  
NO BOOKING REQUIRED**

Parish Office is opened 29th, 30th and 31st December from 10.30am to 1pm. .  
The office will reopen on 4th January 2022 at 9am.  
You may email [office@sandyfordparish.org](mailto:office@sandyfordparish.org).

Welcome  
Christmas  
into  
your heart

## Fr John's Christmas Message

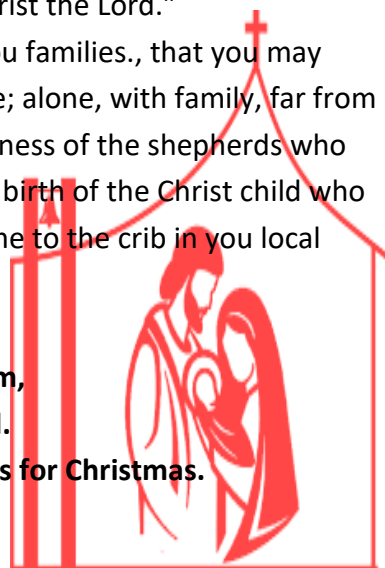
**D**ear Parishioners, this year for many people this year continues to be a time of separation rather than a time for being together. There are many people in the Parish who have loved ones abroad who cannot travel home. There are also people living here in Ireland from countries such as the Philippines, India, Poland and Romania, and are thinking about their own families too. We are mindful of those who are in hospitals, nursing home settings and those who are caring for them. We are remembering those who have been bereaved this year. Whatever your circumstances all of us have reason to give thanks to God for the gift of his Son Jesus who was born in the humble stable at Bethlehem. God is no longer a distant figure. He is God with us. God has a human face it is the face of Jesus. In the Gospel of Luke, we are told in the countryside there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turn to watch over their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them. They were terrified, but the angel said 'Do not be afraid, Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. Here is a sign for you; you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

Pope Francis in one of his homilies spoke of the Shepherds being 'infected with joy' as they saw the infant Jesus. That is what we are celebrating at the Feast of Christmas. We are infected with joy because now Jesus has come among us. This may be hard to understand if you have worries, sickness, loneliness. Be assured that this is why Jesus has come. He has come to share our worries and our cares and our burdens. Now we will never be on our own. Our God tells us that now no darkness can have the last say. For at Christmas we celebrate God made visible in Christ.

Jesus is born in a stable at Bethlehem. Our Lord has come to live among us and is by our side. "Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."

At this time I ask God's blessing on each and every one of you and your families., that you may experience the nearness of the Lord in your hearts wherever you are; alone, with family, far from home and loved ones, or in hospital. Take to your heart the watchfulness of the shepherds who came in wonder and allowed themselves to be touched by joy at the birth of the Christ child who came to bring peace. During the days of Christmas I invite you to come to the crib in your local church and thank God for the gift of his Son who lies in the manger with his hands wide open in love.

**O Come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us Adore Him, for He is Christ the Lord.  
Every joy and blessing to you, and all your families for Christmas.  
Fr John Delany**



### CHRISTMAS MASS BOUQUETS

During all celebrations of Mass on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day we pray for the intentions of all Parishioners and for all the living who are remembered through the Christmas Mass Bouquets. We also include the Altar list of dead to remember our deceased loved ones.

#### ST. MARY'S CHURCH

##### Sunday 26th Dec 11am

Dan Purcell RIP Rem.  
Fintan Byrne, 4th Anniv  
Phyllis Switzer- RIP Rem.

##### Monday 27th Dec 10am

Fintan, Byrne, 4th Anniv  
Ita O'Keefe, First Anniv  
Catherine Lawless, 3rd Anniv  
Brendan Cardiff 1st Anniv

##### Tuesday 28th Dec 10am

Special Intentions  
John & Evelyn Murray RIP  
John Flanagan, RIP  
Souls in Purgatory

##### Thursday 30th Dec 10am

Dec.Members McAndrew Family  
De.Members Lynn Family  
Good Intentions for Books Family  
Health Intention for Jimmy  
Health Intention

##### Friday 31st December, 10am

Eoin McDermot, Months Mind

### THE CHRISTMAS OCTAVE --

Octave meaning "Eight" are the eight days liturgically seen as one that celebrate Christmas with great Joy! They run from Dec 25-Jan 1 incl. – Continue to join us in the days of the Octave – Mon –Fri 27<sup>th</sup>- 31<sup>st</sup> 10am in St Mary's – NO booking needed. With the conclusion of the Octave the Season of Christmas continues as it looks on to the Great Feast of the Epiphany on Jan 6 - 10am & 7.30pm in St. Mary's.

### VISIT OUR CHRISTMAS CRIBS

St Mary's will remain open until 6pm.  
Our Lady of the Wayside 8.30am to 4.30pm  
St. Patrick's 10am to 5pm

### CHRISTMAS DUES

The Christmas Dues envelopes are now available at the Church doors. The Christmas Dues together with the First Collection provides the monthly remuneration of all Dublin diocesan priests.

**Offerings to the Christmas Dues can be included in the total of annual donations from parishioners for Tax Reclaim purposes.**

With your consent, the Parish can claim back 31% of the total annual donation in excess of €250.

We thank you in advance for your generosity.

### FAMILY OFFERING ENVELOPES

Next year's Family Offering Envelope Boxes are now available for collection from the Parish Office or sacristy in St Mary's.

**SANDYFORD PARISH BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP IN PARISH PASTORAL CENTRE** Weekly meetings will resume on Thursday 13th January from 11am to 12.30pm. (Phone 087 2983591 to contact directly).

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION NEW TIME IN NEW YEAR

Resumes on Tuesday the 11th January, 2022 at the new time of 7.30 to 8.30. We encourage you to sign up to sit with the Blessed Sacrament for any half hour during this period.



### Please check online for lotto results

Tickets cost €2 each with a minimum spend of €10. Why not buy an annual ticket for €100 and be in the draw every week for 52 weeks?

Buy a ticket as a Christmas Present and Support our Parish



### DONATIONS TO THE PARISH DURING NOVEMBER 2021

Family Offering Envelopes Total €3,623

Standing Order Total : € 4,461

Online Donations Total : €756

Donations to all the above go entirely to our own Parish for upkeep and running of our three Churches. The parish is very grateful for your contribution to the Parish. **With your consent, the Parish can claim back 31% of every total annual donation in excess of €250.**

### DONATIONS TO THE COLLECTIONS

Online Donations to Collections for November 2021 €523

Please note that donations made online to the Collections can also be included in the total of donations to the Parish for Tax Claim purposes.

We are very grateful for all your contributions.

### SUNDAY 19TH DECEMBER CHURCH COLLECTIONS

**FIRST COLLECTION €480**

Goes to the Diocese for distribution towards the livelihood of all its Priests

**Share Collection €240**

Goes to the Diocese to fund Diocesan, Administration, Pastoral Workers & upkeep of Church Properties

### Contactless Payment in St Mary's

During November 2021 the new Tap & Go machines in

St Mary's collected a total of €1,373.

This will be divided between the Diocesan First Collection and the Share Collection. Contributions to the Collections can also continue to be made in the envelopes provided in the Church Porches.



Donations to the local St Vincent de Paul can be left into the Parish Office or post box at St Mary's. You can also now lodge to Sandyford Vincent de Paul online or through the bank:

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