

Newsletter December 2023 .

Assumption Church Walkinstown .



Dear parishioners and Christmas visitors,

The Parish Team & I wish you all a blessed and joyful Christmas with your families. To those back from abroad or elsewhere in Ireland, a warm welcome! The Christmas Story shows us that we are truly blessed once we have God and our family. God comes as a baby to a poor family and yet they had all they needed. A parishioner told me how he invited a mum with young children into the church to visit the crib and Christmas tree. The joy of the children as they learned the Christmas story!

For those who find this time of year difficult or lonely I offer a special prayer. The empty chair around the table or someone joining on a screen from afar. Or being far away from home and family. May the Lord console you in a special way. We think too of the Holy Land in these sad days of war. May our humble Prince of Peace help us and all leaders bring peace back there and in other places where war is taking place.

Christmas can sometimes be a nostalgia for the past, but the Lord wants you to know he is with you, Emmanuel, 'God with us', no matter how sad or bad things might be he is with us and nothing is impossible to him!

We give thanks for all who support our parish financially and as volunteers. Without you we could not continue our mission. Those on various teams who do so much to keep everything running. Thanks to the Emmanuel Community who with Ailish are coordinating the sacramental programme this year. Thanks to Joe who is ever present in the sacristy with Shay and Ann keeping everything going in the office.

I pray God's blessing on you all, on your families, your homes. Have a lovely and blessed Christmas,

Fr Paul and the Parish Team.

Crib Blessing Prayer (Holy Water required! It can be obtained at Our Lady's exit)

O God, out of love for us you sent your dearly beloved Son to become man. You willed that he be born in a humble stable in order to give us an example of humility. We pray that you bless this crib, a representation of the scene of his birth; may it draw us closer to him. By imitating his humility may we become a worthy dwelling place for the Baby Jesus, thy Son our Lord. May it help us think of those going through similar difficulties; homelessness, crisis pregnancies etc. We ask this through Christ Our Lord.



Amen.

Hospitality by 3rd year Boys

Our very special thanks to the Drimnagh Castle Secondary School 3rd year Boys who provided hospitality after Wednesday morning masses during the year. They each received a Cert of Appreciation from Fr. Paul. Our thanks to Joan, Ailish, Sandra (SNA) and their teacher Barry.



Message from the Legion of Mary

(encouragement for young singles to join and make friends.)

1. **Make friends.**
2. **Find a spouse.**
3. **Serve God.**
4. **Learn about your faith.**
5. **Find out your vocation.**
6. **Overcome shyness.**
7. **Succeed professionally**
8. **Spend time with Mary .**
9. **Learn your way around town.**
10. **Help find the best parish for you.**

Contact:

Legion of Mary

www.legionofmary.ie

www.walkinstownparish.ie

Mass Times

Monday — Friday 10am
Saturday - 6pm (Vigil Mass)
Sunday 11:30am

Holy Days – Mass at 10am

Vigil Mass 7pm previous evening.

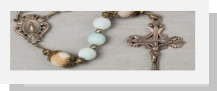
Confessions before weekend masses or on request.

Adoration takes place every Thursday morning after 10am Mass in the Church. All are welcome.

Rosary

We say the rosary every morning from 9.30am until Mass at 10am.

You are all welcome to come and join in.



Parish Priest

Fr. Paul Glennon.

089 2389681

Sacristan

Parish Secretary

Ann Conway

01-4502649

Joe Morrison

Baptisms are the **3rd** Sunday of every month. If you would like to book a baptism please contact the **Parish Office 01-4502649.**

Mon - Fri 9.30am– 1130am.

Out of hours please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Parish website;

www.walkinstownparish.ie

Email;

walkinstownchurch@gmail.com

The Pope's Monthly Intentions for December.

For Persons with Disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation .

Holy Water

We have holy water at the side entrance of the Church, if you would like to bring some home with you.



Holy Water has been blessed by a priest and is called a sacramental as it is a visible sign that imparts invisible grace. It is extremely effective at protecting us from evil and temptation. Sprinkle yourself with it before leaving home in the morning and before you go to sleep.

Sunday Gospel Reflection

A small group of lay people meet every Friday after the 10 o'clock Mass to reflect on the gospel of the up-coming Sunday. We follow a simple format:



1. The gospel is read aloud.
2. We stay silent for a short time to allow the reading to speak to us.
3. Anyone who wishes may say a word from the gospel that has meaning for them.
4. The gospel is read again.
5. We discuss the reading and relate it to our lives.

We meet in a room off the sacristy for just 30 minutes. No specialist knowledge is required. We believe that the Word of God is alive and speaks to each of us now. What comes up can be powerfully inspiring and encouraging. Come and see, you would be very welcome. If you would like more information, please contact **John on 087 615 7795**

We remember our parishioners who have passed away recently. Especially, **Seamus Marken, Alan O'Neill, Teresa Perry, Gerard Nolan & Helen Kinsella.** We will continue to keep them and their families in our prayers.



Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year to all our parishioners.



PRAYER FOR PEACE

Mary, look at us! We stand here before you. You are our Mother, and you know our struggles and our hurts.[...] By ourselves, Mother, we cannot succeed; without your Son, we can do nothing. But you bring us back to Jesus, who is our Peace. Therefore, Mother of God and our Mother, we come before you and we seek refuge in your Immaculate Heart. Mother of mercy, we appeal for mercy! Queen of Peace, we appeal for peace! Touch the hearts of those imprisoned by hatred; convert those who fuel and foment conflict. Dry the tears of children— at this hour, so many are weeping!—be present to those who are elderly and alone; strengthen the wounded and the sick; protect those forced to leave their lands and their loved ones; console the crestfallen; awaken new hope [...] Mother, grant that glimmers of light may illumine the dark night of conflict. Dwelling-place of the Holy Spirit, inspire the leaders of nations to seek paths of peace. Queen of all peoples, reconcile your children, seduced by evil, blinded by power and hate.[...] You, who have compassion on everyone, teach us to care for one another. You, who reveal the Lord's tender love, make us witnesses of his consolation and peace. Mother, Queen of Peace, pour forth into our hearts God's gift of harmony.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS at the Conclusion of the Pacem in Terris Holy Hour

Saint Peter's Basilica, Friday, 27 October 2023