



St Peter's Church, Phibsborough

Parish Newsletter

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
3 September 2017

Does the bird sing in the South?

In the play "Murder in the Cathedral", the women of Canterbury ask anxiously "does the bird sing in the south" hoping that some small sign of spring will relieve their foreboding that evil is afoot. The absence of bird song in the south is the first sign that things are not right in the world, hinting at the dreadful murder to come of St Thomas a Beckett in his own cathedral. This week, by contrast, on 8 September we celebrate the Nativity of our Lady, a feast that suggests the opposite of foreboding; here there is hope because the bird does sing! The cry of a girl child, born to a previously childless couple, is a sign that the Messiah is coming, the waiting is drawing to a close.

Waiting for what? During the years of the Roman Occupation, the women and men of Jerusalem were waiting for a sign, something that would give them hope that the invader was not part of some dreadful unravelling of God's plan for his people. They read the scriptures and scanned the skies for some consolation, some evidence that God had not deserted them. Many were persuaded by false prophets, who acted big but could not deliver, when all the while God's plan was unfolding, a bird was singing in the south, but by looking in the wrong place, by listening for the wrong sign, they missed it.

In a house near Jerusalem's Sheep Gate, on 8 September the cry of a newborn was heard. The birth, though the couple were older, probably didn't cause a stir beyond the immediate neighbourhood. Yet that wordless cry of a new born girl child would eventually take form and become her definitive "yes" to the most extraordinary partnership between God and humanity in history, a partnership that would result in the birth of the Messiah.

As a sign of extraordinary things to come, the birth cry of a girl child in a middle-eastern provincial capital is a bit bland; no bells and whistles, no eclipses or earthquakes to demand our attention. The problem is a failure to appreciate that the Messiah, the Christ, was not that kind of Messiah, and by expecting the wrong signs, it is impossible to see that, in a girl's birth, the extraordinary plan of God is unfolding exactly as intended. The Human partner in God's wonderful act of Redemption is born, soon she will grow up to give birth, in turn, to the Saviour. In Canterbury, there was no birdsong to give hope against despair. In Jerusalem, the sound of Mary's birth cry is a hint of the great things in store, the Messiah will soon come, REJOICE!

Your birth, O Virgin Mother of God, heralded joy to all the world.

Fr Joseph Loftus CM
(Beijing, China)

Mass Times

Sunday

Saturday vigil 6.30pm, Sunday 8.00am, 10.00am, 11.30am, 2.15pm (African Mass, 1st Sunday of each month), 4.00pm (Indian Mass, 2nd Sunday of each month)

Monday - Saturday

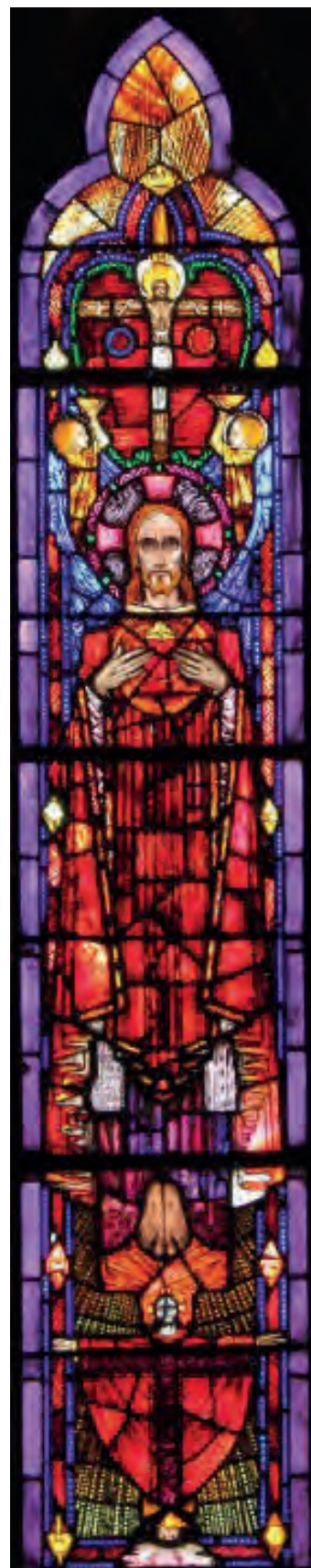
10.30am (& Monday at 7.00pm followed by Novena, except Bank Holidays)

Holy Days of Obligation

10.30am & 6.30pm

Confessions

Saturday immediately following the 10.30am Mass and at the Parish Office by request



Parish Clergy

Fr Aidan CM - pp@stpetersphibsboro.ie

Fr Ioan CM - fr.ioan@stpetersphibsboro.ie

Parish Office

Monday - Friday

9.30am - 12.30pm

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F: +353 1 838 9950

E: info@stpetersphibsboro.ie

W: www.stpetersphibsboro.ie

Pastoral Office

Ms Kirsten Mahon

T: +353 1 810 2572

E: pastoral@stpetersphibsboro.ie

Monday Novena

"O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee."

The Miraculous Medal Novena continues each Monday evening at 7.00pm. All are encouraged to attend.

A Word on the Word

Held Monday's from 7.30pm in the Conference Room (via Parish Office), the sessions take on a new format - **'An Introduction to the Bible, Understanding the Old Testament'**. Resumes Monday, 11 September.

Join us as we Pray for Vocations

On Thursday's after Mass the Vincentian Community here in St Peter's invite you to join with them in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for vocations to the Vincentian Community in Ireland.

Cuidiu

Cuidiu Breastfeeding Group welcomes all mothers and babies on Wednesday's from 10.00am - 11.30am in St Peter's Club (entrance at car park on Cabra Rd). Cuidiu

Legion of Mary

Meetings take place on Monday and Wednesday evenings (ex. Bank Holidays) from 7.00pm in the

Frank Duff Room

(entrance via Parish Office)



Monday -

Our Lady of All Nations

Wednesday -

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament

In Loving Memory

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those who died recently especially Martin Maughan (formerly Cabra Park). Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.



Weddings

Congratulations to Robert McFarlane & Vanessa Kernan and Barry Coleman & Michelle Cassidy who were married here in St Peter's in August. May the peace of Christ live always in their hearts and in their homes and may the Lord bless them with many years together.

Sunday Evening Mass

It will resume on Sunday, 10 September at 6.30pm.

Guided Prayer

We are delighted to announce that this October we will have a Week of Guided Prayer. This is a great opportunity to make a mini spiritual retreat in the midst of daily living. It will give us a chance to come away with a sense of confidence in praying with the scriptures. More information on how to become involved in the Week of Guided Prayer to follow.

Weekday Readers Needed

If you are interested in reading at our weekday Masses, one day per week, please see Kirsten, our Sacristan or Antoinette, our Parish Secretary.

Church Cleaners

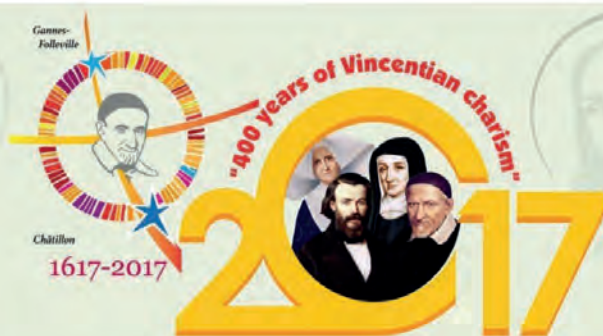
We urgently need people to help clean the Church on Mondays after the 10.30am Mass. If you can spare 2 hours per week we would be very grateful. Light refreshments provided.

New Garda Vetting Procedures

There appears to be some confusion over the Garda Vetting Online process. Earlier in the summer we sent off numerous forms from volunteers who provided us with their own email addresses. Some of these forms were processed and confirmed to you by email from the Diocese. You then had a maximum of 30 days to confirm your details. Unfortunately a number of your documents have come back to us as the 30 day limit expired. This now means that some of you will have to re-apply. We will send these volunteers another vetting invitation form. Those who have not provided their own email addresses, your forms are still in our possession and we will let you know in due course when these will be processed.

Knock 2017

There are still places available on our annual Pilgrimage to Knock this coming Saturday. Bookings will continue to be taken at the Parish Office up to 12.00pm on Friday, 8 September.



St Peter's Parish Vincentian Pilgrimage to Knock

Saturday, 9 September 2017

Cost: €50 per person

(includes coach, morning coffee & evening meal)



Celebrant: Fr Michael McCullagh CM

Bookings at the Parish Office Monday to Friday

10.00am - 12.00pm Tel: (01) 838 9708

(Bookings commence on Monday, 17 July)

**Coach leaves St Peter's at 7.45am sharp and
returns to St Peter's at approx. 10.00pm**

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Gregory the Great, pope & doctor of the Church is not celebrated this year

Readings

Jer 20:7-9.

Ps 62:2-6, 8-9, R/ v 2.

Rm 12:1-2.

Mt 16:21-27.

Monday

St Mac Nissi, bishop

Mass with Novena Prayers 7.00pm

Legion of Mary 7.00pm

Wednesday

Legion of Mary 7.00pm

Thursday

Prayer for Vocations directly after Mass

Friday

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday

St Ciaran, abbot

Bl. Frédéric Ozanam, Founder of the Society of St Vincent de Paul

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Peter Claver, priest is not celebrated this year

Readings

Ez 33:7-9.

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9.

Rm 13:8-10.

Mt 18:15-20.

Weekly Collections

Recent collections amounted to:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Church (15 Aug) | = € 414.71 |
| Share (15 Aug) | = € 121.95 |
| Church (20 Aug) | = €1,291.08 |
| Share (20 Aug) | = € 232.04 |
| Church (27 Aug) | = €1,237.85 |
| Share (27 Aug) | = € 220.25 |

Thank you very much for your continued support.

Church Gate Collections

This week's is in aid of essential Church repairs. Next week's will be in aid of the Society of St Vincent de Paul.

Happy Anniversary

The African Chaplaincy of the Catholic Archdiocese of Dublin is celebrating its 10th Anniversary and cordially invites you to the following events:

Anniversary Mass & Thanksgiving with Archbishop Martin on **Sunday, 3 September at 2.00pm** in St Peter's Church, Phibsborough.

Annual Harvest Thanksgiving takes place at the National Show Centre, Cloghran Roundabout, Swords, on **Sunday, 17 September at 12.30pm**. This is an annual event whereby the African Catholic faithful from the Archdiocese come together to worship God in praise and thanksgiving for his bountiful blessing of love, kindness, mercy, forgiveness and protection in their lives.

Our Lady's Choral Society & RTÉ Concert Orchestra

Our Lady's Choral Society (OLCS) presents, in the National Concert Hall, the Irish Premiere of *Liszt Missa Coronationalis* (on the 150th Anniversary of the 1st Performance in Ireland) on Sunday, 3 September at 3.00pm. The concert also includes the popular *Stabat Mater* of Rossini. Tickets cost €25, €22.50 (Concs. €22.50, €20.25). For more information go to: www.olcs.ie.



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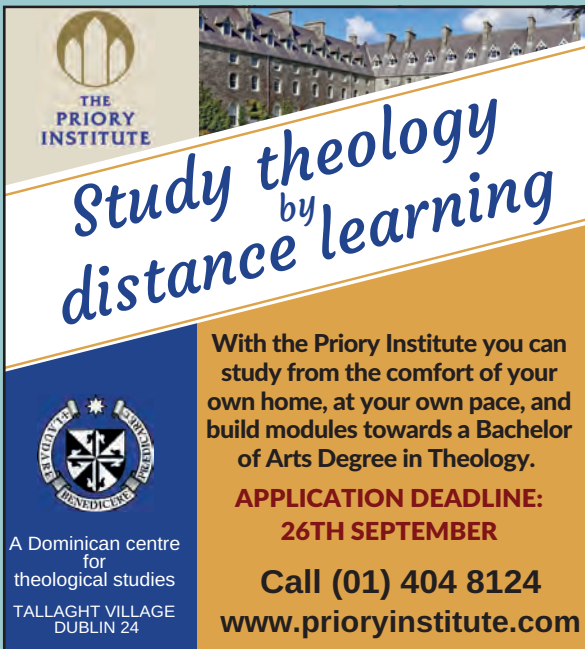
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