

St Peter's Church, Phibsborough

Parish Newsletter

Third Sunday of Advent: 11 December 2022

PROPHETS AND PROPHECY: WE ARE ALL INVOLVED HERE!

Jesus in today's Gospel (Matthew 11) speaks of St John the Baptist as a prophet, "and more than a prophet." Now, in the popular view, a prophet is one who predicts the future. But in Scripture prophets are people who speak and act from the call of God. Prophecy has been woven as a luminous thread for over 4,000 years from the start of the Old Testament, through the New, into the Church, and it still goes on. The prophet may at times tell the future, but also we see the gift relates to showing God's will, enlightening, warning, guiding, pointing to fresh expressions of true religion, hope and virtue. The word itself, *pro-phetes* means one who speaks out, tells forth (the message of God).

Prophetic ministry

In the 1st Reading Isaiah the prophet, gives the people a boost by assurance of their return from the Exile (c. 540 BC). The 2nd Reading has James calling on the faithful to be ready for the coming of Christ. St John the Baptist shows his prophetic role in the historic context of Christ's salvation work. John is a Advent person, calling us to enter fully into God's plan, so that we Christians enhance our longing for saintly lives.

Through the ages

Every era has produced wonderful heroes in our Church. We think of some, like St Patrick, St Augustine, St Catherine of Siena, and St Teresa of Calcutta. These and other famed prophetic people have ploughed new furrows through which the Gospel irrigated Church and world. Multitudes of the faithful have been people of astounding virtue, renewing the face of the earth.

Our place too

Each of us has our baptism gift of prophecy. Let us activate it now and the Church will benefit so that grace and hope may shine at Christmas and always.

Fr Eamon Flanagan CM

ST PETER'S NATIONAL SCHOOL - ADMISSIONS 2023 - 2024

Admissions to junior infants for the 2023 - 24 school year will close on 21st December 2022. please download application forms from the school website at: <u>www.stpetersns.net</u> or acquire one from the school office.



A SPECIAL GUEST VISITS

On Sunday, 18 December after the 11.30am Mass a special guest will make an appearance at the front porch of the Church. There will be drinks and sweets for the children, he may even have some gifts. There will be tea, coffee and mince pies for the adults. A raffle will also take place with hampers as prizes. Tickets will be on sale in the Repository (former parish office) Monday to Thursday, 1 strip for €2.00 or 3 strips for €5.00.



THIS WEEK - Monday 12 Dec

Mass followed by Miraculous Medal Novena at 7.00pm. Confessions from 6.30pm. Rosary begins at 6.40pm. Blessing & distribution of medals.

ADORATION

Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament takes place every Saturday after 10.30am Mass from 11.00am - 12.30pm (except if there is a funeral).

MASS TIMES:

Mon: 10.30am & 7pm (Novena to our Lady of the Miraculous Medal)
Tue to Sat: 10.30am. Sun: vigil 6.30pm (Sat), 8am, 10am, 11.30am
Sat 11am - 12.30pm and at any other time on request.
Mon from 6.30pm onwards
(in Office) Mon to Thurs from 10am to 12.30pm
(in Church) Mon evening, Fri morning, Sat evening, Sun morning

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, 11 December

Gaudete Sunday St Damasus I, pope is not celebrated this year Fr Michael Dunne CM (MM) Marian Murray (1st A) Tommy McCabe (5th A) Jimmy Regan (A) Anthony Brady & Marie Casey (A) John, Mary & Kevin Daly (A) Carty Family (D) Boyle Family (D)

Monday, 12 December

Our Lady of Guadalupe & St Finnian, bishop Bernard Cogan (SI) Cristina Rivas (RD) Anne Byrne (BR) Michael & Nellie Lawrence (D)

Tuesday, 13 December

St Lucy, virgin & martyr Nettie Durnin (SI) Martin Lawrence (A) Eizabeth & Thomas O'Loughnan (A) Annie & Philip Murray (A) Ann & Thomas Howerd (A) Jimmy & Joe Haire (A)

Wednesday, 14 December

St John of the Cross, priest & doctor of the Church John Quinn (RD) (101yrs old) Susan Mungovan (A) Michael & Angela Buckley (D) James Buckley (D)

Thursday, 15 December

Gerry Hogan (A) Mollie O'Loughnan (A) Joe & Ellie Lawrence (D)

Friday, 16 December Maura O'Brien (A)

Kathleen, John & David Cullen (D)

Saturday, 17 December Terry Maguire (A) William & Mary Lawrence (D)

CHRISTMAS DUES ENVELOPES... ... are available at the Church doors.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom.

let it bring forth flowers like the jonguil, let it rejoice and sing for joy. The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon:

they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees

and say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf un-

sealed.

then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;

for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended. The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: Come, Lord, and save us

- 1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free.
- 2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan.
- 3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St James.

Now be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has

IN LOVING MEMORY

Please remember in your prayers all those who died recently especially Margaret Malone (Connaught Parade), Mikey Reddy (St Peter's Court), Jody Fitzpatrick, Johnny Shanks, John Heron and Fr Michael Dunne CM.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

CHRISTMAS CARDS ETC...

Mass Bouquets €10.00, Novena Cards €5.00, SVP (packs of 10) €5.00 & 2023 Calendars €2.50 available in Parish Office & Repository.

COLLECTIONS - Sunday 4 Dec

Parish (1st Collection, incl. Online) = €1,368.56 Envelopes (Online/Easy Payments) = € 622.70

Share (2nd Collection) = € 270.22

Thank you for your support to the parish.



SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL COLLECTION

This week's 2nd Church collection is in aid of the Society of St Vincent de Paul's Diocesan Christmas collection. It replaces Share.

SVP ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FOOD APPEAL

SVP staff are trying to keep up with the demand from food banks as Christmas approaches - particularly for families in need. Types of food urgently needed include pasta/rice, tea/coffee, juices, soup, sugar, powdered milk, tinned meat/fish, tinned veg/fruit, packaged desserts, biscuits. Please bring your non-perishable food items to any of the Masses this weekend, 10th/11th December.

had the autumn rains and the spring rains!

You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another. brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him.

'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?'

Jesus answered.

'Go back and tell John what you hear and see;

the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life

and the Good and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me'. As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John:

What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces.

Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you.

'I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is."

The Gospel of the Lord.