



# St Peter's Church, Phibsborough

## Parish Newsletter

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: 25 December 2022

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Sunday, 25 December

*The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ*

Christopher Wall (1st A)  
Kathleen, Thomas & Eamonn Somers (A)  
John Lawrence (RD)  
Anne & Philip Murray (D)  
Brigid & John Penston (D)  
Bob, Maureen & Nano Blake (D)  
Patsy McCauley & Kathleen McMahon (D)

#### Monday, 26 December

*St Stephen, The First Martyr*

James Walsh (A)  
Jimmy Kelly (A)  
Paula Byrne (A)  
Eileen Bolger (RD)  
Harry & Maureen McHugh & Family (D)  
Enda & Martin Connolly (D)  
Lily, Philip & Philip Jnr Penston (D)

#### Tuesday, 27 December

*St John, Apostle & Evangelist*

Thomas Cunningham (MM)  
Patrick Hussey (A)  
James Sutton (A)  
Aine O'Brien (A)  
Michael O'Connor (A)  
Christy Rooney (D)  
Mary & Dan Gibbons (D)

#### Wednesday, 28 December

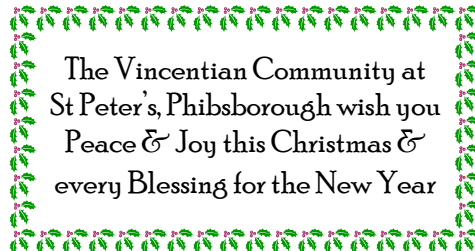
*The Holy Innocents, Martyrs*

Christopher Wall (1st A)  
Patricia Lyndon (A)  
Rita Keppel (A)  
Phyllis Abbott (D)  
Eden Heaslip (D)  
Bridget Cuddy (D)

#### Thursday, 29 December

*St Thomas Becket, bishop & martyr*

Bridget Kenny (RD) & her son John (SI)  
Fr Frank Mullan CM (A)  
Breda Freeman (A)  
James Breen (A)  
Mary Foley (A)  
Jim & Mary Kate Flynn (A)  
Enda & Maura McManus (A)  
Mary O'Connor (A)  
Mary McEntaggart (A)  
Margaret McEneaney (A)



The Vincentian Community at  
St Peter's, Phibsborough wish you  
Peace & Joy this Christmas &  
every Blessing for the New Year

### LIGHT IN DARKNESS

The Wisdom of Solomon was written about 80 years before the birth of Christ. It has these mysterious words that haunt me at Christmas-time:

*For while gentle silence lay over all,  
and night had run the half of her swift course,  
down from the heavens, from the royal throne,  
leapt your all-powerful Word.  
Into the heart of a doomed land the stern warrior  
leapt, he touched the heavens, yet trod the earth.  
(Book of Wisdom 18:14-16)*

Scholars thought this may be a reference to that Night when the Jews escaped from slavery in Egypt. Church Fathers, however, connected these words to the Holy Night when Christ, Son of God, was born into the dis-heartened, Rome-occupied land of Judah, *the town of David, called Bethlehem since he was of David's House and line.*

Legends, stories and traditions have gathered like wild flowers around this Great Event of human history. These add joy and hope to the mid-Winter *mysterium tremendum*, that **The Word, who was God, became flesh and pitched His tent among us.**

*And is it true? And is it true,  
this most tremendous tale of all,  
Seen in a stained-glass window's hue,  
a Baby in an ox's stall?  
The Maker of the stars and sea  
become a Child on earth for me?  
And is it true? For if it is, no carolling in frosty air,  
Nor all the steeple-shaking bells  
Can with this single Truth compare -  
That God was Man in Palestine  
And lives today in Bread and Wine.  
(John Betjeman)*

Fr Padraig Regan, CM

### Friday, 30 December

*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph*

Mary & Dan Corrigan (SI)  
Pat Maloney (A)  
Kathleen, John & David Cullen (D)

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday, 31 December

*St Sylvester, pope*

Mary & Dan Corrigan (SI)

#### Sunday, 1 January

*Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

*World Day of Peace*

Mary & Dan Corrigan (SI)

John & Peg Doyle (A)

Ellen Hannah (A)

Hubert & Nora Staunton (A)

Tommy & Anne Gough (A)

Billy & Billie Maher (twin babies) (D)

#### Monday, 2 January

*Ss Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, bishops,  
doctors of the Church*

Marie McElligott (A)

#### Tuesday, 3 January

*The Holy Name of Jesus*

*St Munchin (Mainchin), bishop*

Edward Dunne (A)

Una O'Sullivan (A)

Walter Murphy (A)

Gabrielle McCullagh (A)

#### Wednesday, 4 January

*St Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton, religious*

Special Intention

Lily O'Toole (A)

Holy Souls

#### Thursday, 5 January

*St Charles of St Andrew, priest*

Special Intention

Holy Souls

#### First Friday, 6 January

*The Epiphany of the Lord*

*(Holyday of Obligation)*

**Mass times 10.30am & 6.30pm**

Patrick Breen (A)

Nora & George Heaslip (A)

Kathleen, John & David Cullen (D)

#### Saturday, 7 January

*St Raymond of Penafort, priest*

**Bl. Lindalva Justo de Oliveira, virgin & martyr**

Susan Breen (A)

Jane Power (A)

Elizabeth O'Connor (A)

(correct at time of going to print)



## LITURGICAL READINGS FOR: Sunday, 25 December 2022

### FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news,  
who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion,  
'Your God is king!'

Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices,  
they shout for joy together,  
for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion.  
Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem.  
The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.  
The Word of the Lord.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Response:** All the ends of the earth  
have seen the salvation of our God.

1. Sing a new song to the Lord  
for he has worked wonders.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have brought salvation.
2. The Lord has made known his salvation;  
has shown his justice to the nations.  
He has remembered his truth and love  
for the house of Israel.
3. All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.  
Shout to the Lord all the earth,  
ring out your joy.
4. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,  
with the sound of music.  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
acclaim the King, the Lord.

### SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as

far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel:

*You are my Son, today I have become your father; or:*

*I will be a father to him and he a son to me.*

*Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says:*

*Let all the angels of God worship him.*

The Word of the Lord.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

A hallowed day has dawned upon us.

Come, you nations, worship the Lord,

for today a great light has shone down upon the earth.

Alleluia!

### GOSPEL (shorter form)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the beginning was the Word:

and the Word was with God

and the Word was God.

He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him.

All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.

The Word was the true light

that enlightens all men;

and he was coming into the world.

He was in the world that had its being through him,

and the world did not know him.

He came to his own domain

and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who did accept him

he gave power to become children of God,

to all who believe in the name of him

who was born not out of human stock

or urge of the flesh

or will of man but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh,

he lived among us,

and we saw his glory,

the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father,

full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord.

### COLLECTIONS - Sunday 18 Dec

Parish (1st Collection, incl. Online) = €1,143.60

Envelopes (Online/Easy Payments) = € 880.70

Share (2nd Collection) = € 303.00

Thank you for your support to the parish.

### IN LOVING MEMORY

Please remember in your prayers all those who died recently especially Eileen Bolger and Margaret Malone.

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.**

### THE CRIB

The crib in front of the altar reminds us of the God who came among us, to give Himself for us in the sacrifice of Calvary, and gives Himself to us in the Eucharist. The crib inside and outside the Church this year proclaims the gift of God among us, our salvation and our joy.



### Seasons Greetings

Marion McCormack  
(Administrator),  
Antoinette Dunne  
(Parish Secretary),  
Ecaterina Lungu &  
John O'Sullivan  
(Co-Sacristans)  
would like to wish  
you all a very happy  
Christmas and a new  
year full of peace  
and good health.  
We look forward to  
seeing you in 2023.