



St Peter's Church, Phibsborough

Parish Newsletter

Fourth Sunday of Advent: 24th December 2023

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, 24 December

Betty Murphy (SI)
Michel & Family (SI)
May Foley (BR)
Carmel Moore (A)
Josephine Wall (A)
Michael & Angela Buckley (A)
Kathleen & Thomas Somers (A)
Mary Ellen Peoples (D)
Mary Finn (D)
Michael & Betty Gill & Nestor Families (D)

Monday, 25 December

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ CHRISTMAS NOVENA LIST

Chris Wall (BR)
Eamonn Somers (A)
Catherine Maguire (RD)
Gary Ward (RD)
Sinclair, Murray & McHugh Families (D)
Anne & Philip Murray (D)
Teresa, Maurice & Michael Murphy (D)
Sheila Dunne (A)

Tuesday, 26 December

St Stephen, First Martyr

CHRISTMAS NOVENA LIST

Margaret Reilly (SI)
Nuala Matthews (BR)
James & Mary Breen (A)
John Boyle (A)
Mary Maughan (A)
Jimmy Kelly (A)
Clare King (RD)
Billy & Molly Burke (D)
John & Nora Sheehan (D)
John & Elizabeth Tyrrell (D)

Wednesday, 27 December

St John, Apostle & Evangelist

CHRISTMAS NOVENA LIST

Special Intention
Patrick Hussey (10th A)
Aine O'Brien (A)
Brigid & John Penston (D)
Deceased members Somers Family
Holy Souls

CHRISTMAS, 800 YEARS AGO

The year was 1223, tradition recalls Francis of Assisi as resolving to create a Christmas manger or creche like the one he had seen in Bethlehem, while travelling in Palestine.

He chose a cave in the Italian hill-town of Greccio.

He placed a baby - a live infant or an image of a baby - on hay;
He had an ox and a donkey stand beside the manger to keep the baby warm with their breath.

Word went out to the people of Greccio, they arrived carrying torches and candles.

One of the friars began celebrating Mass. Francis (who was not an ordained priest) himself gave the sermon.

An observer recalled that Francis "stood before the manger...overcome with love and filled with a wonderful happiness".

On Monday, Christmas Day, we will stand or kneel before the Crib.

We believe God has loved us so much that He sent His Son to us;

The Word became flesh and lived among us - John's Gospel.

Please tell this to our children.

O come let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.

Fr Padraig Regan CM

The Vincentian Community

at St Peter's wish you Peace & Joy this Christmas

& every Blessing for the New Year

Thursday, 28 December

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

CHRISTMAS NOVENA LIST

Funeral - Dermot Byrne RIP

Chris Wall (A)
Philip Snr & Jr & Lily Penston (D)
Maureen, Bob & Nano Blake (D)
Patricia McCauley (D)
Kathleen McMahon (D)

Friday, 29 December

St Thomas Becket, bishop & martyr

CHRISTMAS NOVENA LIST

Funeral - Rory Larkin RIP

Fr Frank Mullan CM (A)

Breda Freeman (A)

Kathleen, John & David Cullen (D)

Enda & Maura McManus (D)

Jim & Mary Kate Flynn (D)

Mary O'Connor (D)

Mary McEntaggart (D)

Mary McEneaney (D)

Saturday, 30 December

CHRISTMAS NOVENA LIST

Marion Grehan (SI)

Pat Moloney (A)

Peggy McKee (A)

Gerry Hogan (D)

Holy Souls

A = Anniversary

B = Birthday

BR = Birthday Remembrance

D = Deceased

GW = Get Well

MM = Months Mind

RD = Recently Deceased

SI = Special Intention

W = Wedding

WA = Wedding Anniversary

LITURGICAL READINGS FOR: Sunday, 24th December 2023

FIRST READING

A reading from the second book of Samuel

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan,

'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'.

Nathan said to the king, *'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you'.*

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? This is what you must say to my servant David,

"the Lord Sabaoth says this:

I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel;

I have been with you on all your expeditions;

I have cut off all your enemies before you.

I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth.

I will provide a place for my people Israel;

I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel;

I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House.

And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors,

I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure.

I will be a father to him and he a son to me; if he does evil, I will punish him with the rod such as men use, with strokes such as mankind gives.

Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

'I am the handmaid of the Lord:

let what you have said be done to me.'

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

He went in and said to her, *'Rejoice, so highly favoured!*

The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, *'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour.*

Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, *'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?'* *'The Holy Spirit will come upon you'* the angel answered *'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God'.* *'I am the handmaid of the Lord,'* said Mary *'let what you have said be done to me.'*

And the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Please remember in your prayers all those who died recently especially Dermot Byrne (St Mary's Hospital), Rory Larkin (Phoenix Care Centre), Mary (Maire) Kelly, Elizabeth (Ettie) Gorman & Marie Mills. 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 CONCERT

Thank you to St Peter's Parish Choir and Offbeat Ensemble for the joyful and inspiring concert on Wednesday last 20th December. Thanks also to those who organised and all who contributed to the raffle and donations which raised the magnificent sum of €1,210. This will be used with sensitivity and care to reach out in support of people who are experiencing social isolation.

VOLUNTEERS

Thank you so much to all our volunteers who give so selflessly of their time and talents throughout the year. You are the backbone of every event. Please know that we could not do this without your hard work. We are forever thankful for the time you have given.

COLLECTIONS - Sun 17th Dec

Parish (1st Collection, incl. Online) = €1,287.41

Envelopes (Online/Easy Payments) = € 328.20

Share = € 369.03

Thank you for your continued support to the parish and diocese.