



Saint Dominic pray for us

THIS WEEK

Masses Sunday

9.30am, 10.30am
12noon & 5.30pm

Monday - Friday

7.30am; 10.00am
& 6.00pm

Saturday

8.00am; 10.00am
& 7.30pm {Vigil}

Confessions

Saturdays

10.30 - 12.30pm
& 7.00pm - 7.30pm

First Friday

9.30am to 10am
5.30pm to 6.00pm

Morning Prayer

Mon-Sun: 9.00am

Evening Prayer

Mon - Sat: 5.45pm

Devotions

Rosary

Mon - Sat
before 10am Mass
Sun at 11.30am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

First Saturday
10.30am-12.30pm

Divine Mercy, Rosary & Benediction

Sunday of Advent
at 3pm



Saint Eustace pray for us

“Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God...” ...

As we begin the Season of Advent, we look to what it is we are preparing for, namely the Birth of Jesus, that is the Incarnation of the Son of God, and also the promise of His return in glory. The Incarnation is the mystery of the Word made Flesh ~ the fact that the Son of God became a human being in order to accomplish our salvation. Belief in the Incarnation of the Son of God is a fundamental part of Christian faith, as St. John wrote “God so loved the world as to give His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him may not perish, but may have life everlasting”. Therefore, it was necessary for our salvation that God should become Incarnate. The Incarnation holds true to three facts:

- (1) The Divine Person of Jesus Christ;
- (2) The Human Nature of Jesus Christ;
- (3) The Union of the Human with the Divine Nature in the Person of Jesus.

Jesus was a real person in history; He is the Promised Messiah in the Old Testament and He established an infallible Church to never fail teaching the deposit of revealed truth entrusted to it by Jesus. From the terms used it is certain that the ‘One promised’ is God, is a Divine Person in the strictest sense of the word. The texts of the Old Testament, by themselves and together with the New Testament, make the overwhelming certainty of the Divinity of Jesus Christ. From the Psalms and the Prophets and many others we read, again and again, phrases such as “Thou art my son, this day have I begotten you”; “I will be his father and he shall be my son”; the uncreated Logos (attributed with the works of Creation and Divine Providence) shall come to the people. Probably the best known is from Isaiah “A child is born to us, his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, God the Strong One, the Father of the world to come, the Prince of Peace”, speaking of the birth of this child as something wondrous.

From the very beginning of the New Testament, we see that Jesus’ birth is no normal event. The authors refer back to the O.T. drawing a connection between the various prophesies and the Birth of Jesus. In the New Testament the Divinity of the Promised Messiah is also seen in all the Gospels. Also, Jesus Himself clearly assumed the title as He constantly spoke of God as “My Father” and says “he that sees me sees the Father”. From the very beginning, the Early Church and for over 2,000 years since, this same Church has held to the firmest belief in the Jesus the Son of God becoming man for our salvation. As the Church began to spread further and further, and as the living memory of the Apostles began to fade, the Church Councils defined the Divinity of Christ and the Humanity of Christ.

In celebrating Christmas, the Incarnation of Christ, we celebrate not the fulfilment of the promise of a messiah, but that God fulfilled His promise of a Messiah by sending His Only Son, Jesus the Christ, and that Jesus Christ is both God and man.

The Advent Wreath ...

This tradition of Advent sees the wreath as a “time-keeper” as part of the preparation for Christmas. Christ “the Light that came into the world”.

The four candles represent the weeks of Advent. Three candles are purple, and one is rose. The purple symbolizes the prayer, penance and preparatory sacrifices and goods works undertaken at this time and hope, peace and love. The rose symbolises rejoicing as the faithful have only a short time to wait for the joy of the Birth of the Saviour.

The white candle is for Christ our Saviour, the Son of God, born for us.



St Thomas Aquinas

Dominican Priory Newsletter



First Sunday of Advent

3rd December 2023



~~~~This Sunday’s Readings & Gospel~~~~

**First Reading from the Prophet Isaiah**

Isaiah cries out to God in prayer, recalling Him to be their Father and Redeemer. He asks why the Lord has let the people go astray. He asks the Lord to make His presence known among them once more for there is no God but Him. The Lord guides those who follow His commands.

But when peoples rebel against Him they are lost. Because of the sins of the people God has turned away from them, but now Isaiah pleads for the Lord to return, for is their Father and they are the work of His hands.

**Second Reading from the Letters of Saint Paul**

In writing to the Christian Community, Saint Paul tells them he has never stop thanking God for all the graces they have received through Jesus Christ. In this way they have been enriched in so many ways and are strong witnesses to Christ. The Spirit will keep them true to Jesus until the last day. God is always faithful.

**Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark**

Jesus tells His disciples they must be constantly vigilant and ready for the return of the Lord. No one knows when that will be, but like the doorkeeper they are to be ready to open the door when the Lord knocks – that can be at any time.

The Master will return at a time and hour they do not know. So, they must stay awake and be ready.



**Saint Eustace’s Church and Priory**

&

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O Mary, conceived without sin, Pray for us who have recourse to you.



POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS DEC 2023



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.

## DOMINICAN PRIORY NOTICES ...

**Advent Devotions:** We will have the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary and Benediction on the Sundays of Advent at 3.00pm.



**Christmas Novena Mass Cards:** our Christmas Novena Mass Cards (as well as a variety of other Cards for the living & deceased) are available at the School Office.

**Childrens' Sunday Rosary:** each Sunday morning children will recite the Rosary at 11.40am. All are welcome.

**Webcam:** our webcam will broadcast the Rosary at 9.40am & Mass at 10.00am on weekdays and the 12.00noon Mass on Sundays.

**Catholic Faith Discussion Group:** 2nd Fri of the month at 7pm in the Walker Building.

### This Week's Saints & Feasts ... ..

**Monday ~ Memorial of Saint John Damascene**

Born in Syria in 675, he was a theologian who became renowned for his defence of the faith. He died in 749.

**Wednesday ~ Memorial of Saint Nicholas**

Probably one of the best-known saints in the world, though may be not always as a saint, he was Bishop of Myra in Turkey during the fourth century, and yet very little is known about him. He is the Patron Saint of Russia, of sailors and children. He became renowned for his devotion to protecting children and their rights. In medieval times, many religious observances became associated with him, particularly around Christmas. In other languages, he also became known under the names of Sint Klaes, Sanctus Nicolaus and Sanctus Claus ~ or as he is better known in present day times - Santa Claus. Saint Nicholas (aka Santa) was a real person and a real saint devoted to the well-being of the people and as such should not be confused with the American version of Santa. He is also the Patron Saint of the City and Diocese of Galway.

**Thursday ~ Memorial of Saint Ambrose of Milan**

Born in 339, to a Roman Christian family. Ambrose grew up with no interest in the faith. He became a renowned lawyer, not just at home but throughout Italy. Because of this he was appointed as the Roman Governor of the Province of Milan. It was during this time that he began to explore the faith in an attempt to fill the emptiness of his life. Very soon, he found himself loving the faith. In 374 he was chosen as Bishop of Milan. He defended the faith through preaching and writing. He was one of the most influential Church figures of his day. He is one of the four original [Doctors of the Church](#). He died in 397.

**Friday ~ Immaculate Conception of the BVM**

Today we celebrate that from the very moment of her conception Bl. Mary was preserved from the state of original sin. It was only fitting that the Mother of Christ would be spared from this state of sin for she was to be the vessel of the Incarnation. In accordance with God's plan, she was privileged to be kept free from original sin.



## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Next Friday is the feast of the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM



A special rosary will be recited at 3.00pm here in the Church, followed by Benediction.

All are welcome.



## DOMINICAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES – 800yrs celebration

with Fr. John Harris OP & Fr. David McGovern OP - 24th June to 1st July 2024. Cost: €975.00pps. Contact Marian Pilgrimage on 01 878 8159.

### Dominican Festival Choir

Come and join the Dominican Festival Choir for Christmas Day Mass (12noon). Practices on four Mondays before Christmas: 4, 11, 18 December. 8.05pm to 9.30pm in the organ gallery of the Dominican Church.

To ensure we have enough copies of words/music for you, please sign up with Fr. Fergus after any Sunday Mass, or email him: [fergus.ryan@dominicans.ie](mailto:fergus.ryan@dominicans.ie), or give your name and contact details to the College Office during the week.

### Choristers of Saint Dominic

During the Season of Advent, we will have a new choir - a small group of young choral singers - singing at our 5.30pm Mass on Sundays.



### Dominican College News ... ..

**PAST PUPILS' UNION LUNCH:** The Past Pupils' Union are holding a business lunch on Fri 11 Jan next. For details, please see the PPU website or email: [unionoffice@newbridge-college.ie](mailto:unionoffice@newbridge-college.ie)

### Diocesan & Parish Notices ... ..

**NEWBRIDGE PARISH SHARE FOOD:** Many thanks to our donors for helping us to replenish our stocks over the past few weeks. We look forward to your continued support. We welcome all kinds of in-date dry and tinned foods as well as toiletries and baby care. Donations can be made at the back of the Church.

### Available Help & Support Groups ... ..

**ACCORD:** Contact 045 431695 (10am to 2pm) or email: [accordnewbridge@gmail.com](mailto:accordnewbridge@gmail.com)

**GROW:** local meeting held on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre.

**SAMARITANS** are there for everyone - freephone 116123 / [io@samaritans.ie](mailto:io@samaritans.ie)

We remember those whose names are enrolled in our November List of the Dead we also remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time -

|                                  |                       |                            |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| fr Ailbe O'Connor                | fr Alexis Keily OP    | Most Rev William Barden OP |
| fr Ruggi d'Aragona OP            | fr Philip O'Reilly OP | fr Dominic Whelan OP       |
| fr Cathal Manley OP              | Seamus Royce          | John Caffrey               |
| Danny Farrell (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) |                       |                            |

we pray too for -

|                                          |                                   |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Bridget O'Shea, Moorefield Park          | Thomas Tougher, Ryston Close      |
| Freda Farrell Fogarty, Moorefield Park   | Cornelius Linehan, Cedarwood Park |
| Philomena Connolly, St Patrick's Terrace | Phyllis Bennett, frm Newbridge    |



Have mercy on us all, O Lord.

Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

