



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  
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**Morning Prayer**

Mon-Sun: 9.00am

**Evening Prayer**

Mon - Sat: 5.45pm  
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**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

**“Prepare the way of the Lord...” ...**

John was born to Zacharias and Elizabeth, who were of a priestly family. Elizabeth herself was related to Mary, the mother of Jesus. After the description of how John was to be born, the scripture makes no further statements of the lives of Zachariah or Elizabeth.

The description of John appearance in the wilderness is brief and stark. He is dressed a “camel’s hair” garment, and his food is of locusts and wild honey, generally consumed by the poor. This description of John recalls the Old Testament prophets, particularly Elijah who was an important figure in Jewish tradition. John’s mission can be summed up by the word “preparer.” It was his task to prepare a people for the coming Messiah. Indeed,



Hebrews, familiar with the Scriptures, could have expected the ministry of John as paving the way for the appearance of the Messiah, as foretold by the prophet Isaiah. He becomes known as the ‘the Baptist’ as he calls to the people to ‘a baptism of repentance’. The preaching of John the Baptist had three main points: John’s message concerning the coming of Jesus; his emphasis on the coming kingdom and his warning of ultimate judgment. John’s preaching is a witness to the nature of the Christ. As the prophet generates attention, the Temple Authorities in Jerusalem dispatched a delegation to ascertain his identity. In response, John is emphatic that he is not the promised Messiah. He is instead the fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy, the voice that calls the people to prepare for the arrival of God in the flesh among them. The declaration of John that he was unworthy to either carry Jesus’ sandals is stunning testimony that the One who is to come is not simple another prophet or another man carrying a message from God but is ‘the Christ’, the Lord Who as “the lamb of God will take away the sin of the world”. In this description, John identifies Jesus as the Passover sacrifice; foretells the vicarious nature of Jesus’ death and affirms the universality of Jesus’ mission as Saviour of all the nations.

**Preparing during Advent ... ..**

Advent is all about preparing ourselves, about getting our lives in order. It is about getting ready to celebrate once again the Birth of Christ and also to be ready to greet the Lord when He returns in glory.

To be prepared is to answer the call of John the Baptist. We need to clear away those things in our lives that prevent us from having a true and deep relationship with God.

We need to take the time to stop and take stock of our lives. Through prayer, acts of charity and spiritual readings we come to see the important things in life, the things we should focus our minds and hearts upon. It is only by doing this we comprehend the important things in life and can let go of the rest..



St Thomas Aquinas

**Dominican Priory Newsletter**



**Second Sunday of Advent**

10th December 2023



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

**First Reading from the Prophet Isaiah**

Through the Prophet Isaiah God tells the people that they need worry no longer. Their sins against Him have been atoned for. They will hear a voice crying out for them to prepare a place for the Lord in their heart. They must then remove the obstacles they have placed between themselves and God, opening their hearts to receiving His grace. The glory of the Lord shall be revealed to them, their God shall return to them, and he will care for them as a shepherd cares for his flock.

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

Saint Peter tells the early Christian Church that with God ‘a day’ can mean a thousand years, time has no meaning for Him. The Lord is always true to His promises, but they must be patient in waiting for Him. The end of time will come, for the Lord has promised it will be so, but at what time they do not know. While they wait, they must live lives true to the faith so that they may not be caught by surprise. While waiting they must do their best to live as God has commanded.

**Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark**

This, the prologue of Saint Mark’s Gospel, recounts the appearance of John the Baptist. Echoing the words of the Prophet Isaiah, John calls upon the people to prepare ‘a way for the Lord’. John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, dressed as a prophet from of old, proclaiming a call to repentance. People from all over the land came to him to hear his words and to be baptised in the River Jordan. But he told them he was not the Promised Messiah. Someone else is to come who is far greater than he is. He will be so great that John will not be worthy to be His most menial of servants. When He comes, He will baptise them with the Holy Spirit.

**Saint Eustace’s Church and Priory**

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

Prepare the Way of the LORD

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 ... ..**

**Tuesday ~ Memorial of Saint Lucy**  
Born in 283, to a wealthy Roman Christian family living in Syracuse in Sicily. At a young age her father died, and the family was placed under the care of her uncle. When she came of age, Lucy decided to distribute to the poor all the money and jewels she had inherited. Such actions brought her to the attention of the authorities who arrested her for being a Christian which had been outlawed by the Emperor Diocletian. She was ordered to be put to death and was martyred on 13th Dec in the year 304.

**Wednesday ~ Memorial of Saint John of the Cross**  
Born in 1542 in Castile, he was raised in poverty. He joined the Carmelite Order but soon realised that the order had drifted away from its original charism. He suffered much for trying to restore the discipline of his Order. With the aid of [Saint Teresa](#) he would establish the Discalced [Carmelites](#) dedicated to the Primitive Rule. He was a renowned as a man of prayer and wrote many great spiritual works. He died in the year

**Christmas Carol Service**

*The College's Carrol Service will be held on Tuesday night next at 7.30pm in the Church.*

*We invite all to come along and experience this preparation in music for the Birth of Christ.*



**Christmas Gifts... ..**

One of the greatest gifts you can give to your family this Christmas is the gift of yourself... .. **Please don't drink and drive**

**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.

**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. Maybe you would like to join?

**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

**Diocesan & Parish Notices ... ..**

**SACRISTAN IN ST CONLETH'S CHURCH:** Applications are invited for the above position. Please contact the Parish Centre.

**GOD'S WORD TODAY:** For the duration of Advent, God's Word Today will take place on Tuesdays after the 10.00am Mass in Cill Mhuire.

**PRAY FOR PEACE** on Tuesday 12th at 7.30pm in St. Conleth's Parish Church.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE** will take place on Friday 22nd at 7:30pm.

**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.

**CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE** in aid of the Parish Lourdes Fund, Tickets: €2 each or 3 for €5 from the Parish Centre or over the phone by card. Ring 045 431121. Draw on 19th

**Available Help & Support Groups ... ..**

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

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

**SAMARITANS** are there for everyone - freephone 116123 / jo@samaritans.ie

**ALONE** support line for older people. 8.00am to 8.00pm. Ph: 0818 222 024.

**MEN'S SHEDS:** Mondays at 2pm in the Curate's House, Chapel Lane. Ph: Alan 086 8244591.

**COMMUNITY CENACOLO** it is dedicated to help people with additions n a Christian and Community atmosphere. To learn more see [www.comunitycenacolo.ie](http://www.comunitycenacolo.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 -

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| fr Dominic Whelan OP          | fr Norbert Grey OP            | fr Paul Mariathason OP |
| fr Louis O'Halloran OP        | fr Lorcan Connolly            | fr Placid Nolan OP     |
| fr Aengus Byrnes OP           | fr James Candon OP            | fr Patrick Burrows OP  |
| Pat McCrea (1 <sup>st</sup> ) | Nick Lindy (4 <sup>th</sup> ) | May Lillis             |
| Eileen Lillis                 | Tom & Rita Kelly              | Margaret Cash          |
| Catherine Finnegan            | Eric Williams                 | Rita Healy             |

we pray too for -

- |                                      |                            |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Sr Bernice O'Keefe OP, Cabra, Dublin | Frances Lynch, Old Connell |
| Ann Gowing, Moore Avenue             |                            |

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



Have mercy on us all, O Lord