



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

#### Confessions

##### Saturdays

See Christmas List

##### 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



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# Rejoice

Rejoice the Church calls out to the faithful.

Rejoice and be glad! ...

*“Rejoice and be glad” – at what? As we look around our world today with its wars and battles, its poverty and strife, natural disasters, one could be excused for asking what is there for us to rejoice about. As we look closer to home – the homelessness, the severe pressures people are living under and our country moving further and further away from the teachings of Christ and basic human values – one could be excused for asking what is there for us to rejoice about.*

*When John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, it was at a time of great difficulty for the People of Israel. They lived under the harsh and unforgiving rule of the Roman Empire. The weight of the Imperial taxes meant that a man had to work from dawn to dusk simply to put food on the table for his family. If you were a childless widow or an orphan your hope of survival was not great.*

*It was to these people that John the Baptist preached the words spoken by Isaiah so long before “rejoice and be glad”. They had reason to rejoice, just as we have. God was to fulfill His promise and send the Messiah. This Messiah, the Chosen One, would free them from their sins and reconcile them once more to God. The Messiah would show the way to the Father and to His Kingdom, the way to everlasting life.*

*The birth of the Infant King would begin a new chapter in the lives, not only of the People of Israel, but in the lives of peoples of all nations. It would mark a new way of living. His birth would bring an end to slavery and misery, to sin and death.*

*Of course, John the Baptist called on the people to prepare themselves for this. Unless they are ready, unless they are willing to listen and to be open to the Messiah, then nothing will be achieved.*

*The same is true for us today. Unless we are willing to live according to the message of the Christ and live in accordance with the ways He has thought then there will be no change. He will not force anyone to carry out His will, it must be done of the person’s choice.*

*What a different world we would live in if the message of Christ was truly accepted and was lived out in all its fullness?*

- if love of neighbour replaced hatred?
- if forgiveness replaced revenge?
- if peace replaced violence?
- if concern for our neighbour replaced selfishness and greed?
- if every effort was made towards supporting life?

*This Advent we are called to ask ourselves how well we have accepted the message of Christ – what are we doing so people may rejoice and be glad?*



St Thomas Aquinas

# Dominican Priory Newsletter



## Third (Gaudete) Sunday of Advent

17th December 2023



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

### First Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Isaiah outlines the role of a prophet. The prophet is one chosen by God to proclaim His message of hope, to tell the people the forgiveness of God is close at hand. The Lord makes all things new and grants them salvation. The goodness of God will be seen by all the nations.

### Second Reading from the Letters of Saint Paul

Saint Paul calls on the disciples to pray constantly and to be always thankful for what they have. They should open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and not let their own desires take control. Always seek what is good and avoid anything evil. Then Paul prays that they will receive God’s grace so that when Christ returns in glory, they will be worthy to meet Him.

### Holy Gospel according to Saint John

John the Baptist appears in the wilderness as the witness to the Messiah - to announce the coming of the Christ. He is the ‘announcer’ not the Messiah. When John started preaching, the Jewish Authorities went to question him to see if he was claiming to be the Christ. John clearly denies this and also that he is one of the old prophets come back to life. Then they ask if he the one Isaiah foretold. Again, John denies that this is his role. He tells them that his mission is to be a voice that has come to prepare the way. Not happy, the Authorities continue to question him as to why he is baptising and calling the people to repent. John tells them this is nothing compared to what will happen. The One to come is far greater than he.



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.

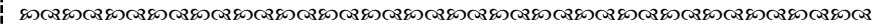


**Christmas Novena Mass Cards:** our Christmas Novena Mass Cards (as well as a variety of other Cards for the living & deceased) are available at the School Office.

**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 ... ..

**Monday ~ Memorial of Saint Flannan**

Born in the 7th century, he was the son of the King of Thomond. He entered the Monastery at Killaloe where he became Abbot and became renowned for his preaching. He died in 549.

**Wednesday ~ Memorial of Saint Fachanan**

The date of his birth is unknown, but he lived in the sixth century. He entered the monastic way of life and in the late 4th century established the Monastery and Church at Kilfenora, in Galway, where he served out his life as its Abbot.

**Thursday ~ Memorial of Saint Peter Canisus**

Born in 1521 in Holland, he went to university to become a lawyer but later joined the Jesuits instead. He promoted the proclamations of the Council of Trent and compiled a catechism of 211 questions and answers on the faith. He died in 1597.

**Friday ~ Anniversary of the Foundation of the Dominican Order**

Today we celebrate the foundation of the Order of Preachers by St Dominic de Guzman in 1215.

### 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 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:

## CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

### Sacrament of Confession

**Saturday 23rd**

10.30am to 12.30pm; 2.00pm to 6.00pm, & 7.00pm to 8.00pm

**Sunday 24th**

3.00pm to 6.00pm

### Masses

**Sunday 24th**

Masses at 9.30am, 10.30am & 12.00noon (NO 5.30pm Mass)

### Christmas Vigil Mass

at 10.00pm.

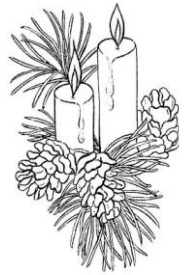
preceded by carols at 9.40pm.

### Christmas Day

Masses at 9.30am, 10.30am & 12.00noon (NO Evening Mass)

**Tuesday 26th to Saturday 30th**

Mass at 10.00am only.



## Diocesan & Parish Notices ... ..

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE** on Tuesday 19th at 7.00pm in St. Conleth's Parish Church.

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

**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.

### The Best Christmas Gift... ..

*One of the greatest gifts you can give to your family this Christmas is the gift of yourself.*

**So please DON'T DRINK and DRIVE**

*Someone is expecting you, or one of their family, to come home safely. Don't disappoint them.*

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 Canice Murphy OP*

*fr Gerard O'Keeffe OP*

*fr Michael Casey OP*

*Ed Jones (5th)*

*Maura & John Kirby*

*Catherine & Patrick Devenney*

we pray too for -

*Breda O'Shea (months mind)*

*Esther Walsh, College Park*

*Ann Gowing, Moore Avenue*

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

