



Saint Dominic
pray for us

THIS WEEK

Masses

This Sunday

9.30am, 10.30am
12noon

Tuesday - Friday

10.00am ONLY

Saturday

10.00am

Confessions

Saturdays

See Christmas List

First Friday

9.30am to 10am
5.30pm to 6.00pm

Morning Prayer

Mon-Sun: 9.00am

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

1st Sunday of the month at 3pm



Saint Eustace
pray for us

They will be done ...

The Annunciation marks the beginning of the greatest change in the history of humanity. This “angelic message” is a message of hope and a message of joy. The Archangel is announcing the “beginning” of Jesus in His human nature. Through His mother Mary, Jesus becomes a real member of the human race.

The Incarnation of the Son of God did not necessitate this course of action, for nothing is impossible to God, but this is the way God chose to fulfil His promise of a Messiah, who will restore the Line of David forever. About to re-establish this generation of the children of God, the Redeemer does not arrive in the way that may have been expected by the people. He instead comes among them (and us) in the same way as every earthly generation has ~ He has come as a human being. By power of the Holy Spirit, the Virgin Mary becomes pregnant, forming the humanity of Christ while not diminishing His divinity.

For such a plan ~ plan of redemption ~ the consent of Mary was essential to this. She was asked by God not told. Her agreement was without doubt a leap of faith, but it can also be seen as the expression of the human race’s desire and hope for redemption.

The Dominican theologian, St Thomas Aquinas, tells us that it was always the will of God that the redemption of mankind would depend on the free consent of the Blessed Virgin Mary so that the Son of God would also be Son of Man and in this way lead the people back to the Father and back to life.

This, of course, does not mean that God’s plan was bound by the will of a creature. Nor does it mean that humanity would not have been redeemed if Mary had not consented. It means that Mary chose to be part of this plan.

God’s desire is for all peoples to be saved and His Holy Will is always fulfilled. Mary’s consent was the final step before the promise of God to the prophets of old would be fulfilled. Her willingness brought about the great chance in the future of humanity. Those words ‘Thy will be done’ were probably the most important words anyone has ever said.

Every Christian since then has been called upon to answer those exact same words when called upon to carry out the ‘Will of God’. Sometimes the requests will be small, and will be easy, but there will be other times in our lives when our will and His will clash it is then we say in faith ‘Thy will be done’.



St Thomas Aquinas

Dominican Priory Newsletter



Fourth Sunday of Advent

24th December 2023



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

First Reading from the Book of Samuel

King David speaks to the Prophet Nathan about the place where the Ark of the Covenant is being housed. But the Lord tells Nathan to tell King David that it is not for him to provide a place for the Lord to dwell. Recounting all that He has done for the people He then tells David of what He will yet do. He will establish the kingship of David for ever. The Lord will place a descendent on the throne and He will be a father to him, and he a son to Him. His sovereignty will be secure before me and his throne last for ever.

Second Reading from the Letters of Saint Paul

Saint Paul gives praise to God who has enabled the disciples to live according to the Good News of the Gospel. Saint Paul tells them that the message he gives them is the preaching of Jesus Himself, preached to everyone so that they may become part of the faith. This is part of God’s plan so that they may inherit eternal life.

Holy Gospel according to Saint John

The Angel Gabriel announces to Mary that God has chosen her to be the Mother of His Son. She is asked to accept this call from God, by which she is so favoured by the Lord. By the power of God, she will conceive and bear a Son who will be of the line of King David. He will the fulfilment of the promise made by God to the prophets of old. Her Son will be the ‘Son of the Most High’. God Himself will be the Father and her Son will rule over the House of David for ever. Gabriel also tells her that Elizabeth, who people thought to be barren, is also with child. Nothing is impossible to God.



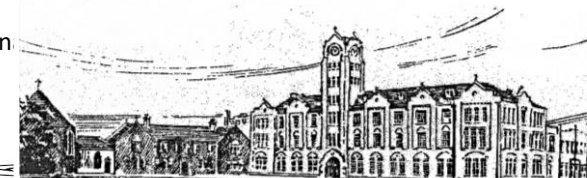
Saint Eustace’s Church and Priory

&

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On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light the last Advent candle representing the “peace” that the Messiah brings.



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 ...

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.

Christmas Rosary

Recitation of the Rosary on Christmas Day at 4.00pm

This Week's Saints & Feasts

Tuesday ~ Feast of Saint Stephen

One of the disciples who looked after the poor in Jerusalem. He was the first martyr of the Church, overseen by Saint Paul [then Saul]. He was renowned for his gift to forgive.

Wednesday ~ Feast of Saint John the Evangelist

He was the brother of Saint James and son of Zebedee. One of the Twelve Apostles, known as the beloved disciple, he was also author of the Gospel and letters.

Thursday ~ Feast of Holy Innocents

Today we mark the feast of those innocent children who suffered death because of King Herod's greed and fear of losing his power. This was a terrible event showing the struggle between the light of Christ and the darkness of sin.

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: unionoffice@newbridge-college.ie

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.



CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

Sacrament of Confession

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.

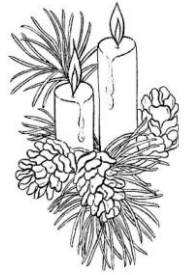
preceded by carols at 9.40pm.

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

ST CONLETH'S CHURCH from 26th to 29th Mass will be at 11.00am.

THE PARISH OFFICE & PARISH CENTRE will reopen Tuesday 3rd Jan 2024.

GOD'S WORD TODAY will resume Tuesday 9th January.

The CHRISTMAS COLLECTION for the Priests of the Parish takes place next weekend.

Christmas message

There is something about a baby that captures all our attention. It's magnetic. Even the most stubborn heart softens in the presence of a newborn baby. I saw it recently on a visit to bless a school extension, in the staff room later when their colleague on maternity leave, called in with her new bundle of joy, everyone just wanted to see the baby. The adult in us becomes the child again, cooing and making all sorts of funny faces! Babies make people smile and that's such a good thing.

Christmas is about smiling; it takes much less face muscles to smile than it does to frown. We adults complicate matters. In the words of Pope Francis "Jesus is God's smile ... when we look down at the nativity scene; when we look at Baby Jesus, we can feel God smiling at us". It all began in Bethlehem, in the simplicity of a stable. This is the essence of what we celebrate at Christmas. God becoming a baby. God stooping down to be like one of us. + Denis

We remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time -

fr Michael Casey OP
fr Brendan O'Rourke
John Butler (20th)

fr Gerard O'Keeffe OP
fr Reginald Walsh OP
Christy & Alan Cox

fr Aloysius Carroll OP
fr Richard McLoughlin OP
Jim Peg & Bernard McGarvey

we also remember

Pamela Quinlivan, Allenview Heights

Ann Origan, The Elms

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

