



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**  
First Sunday - 3pm



Saint Eustace  
pray for us

*You are My Beloved ... ..*

As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, we recall our own baptism and the promises made for us at that time, on the day our parents brought us to the Church to have us formally admitted into the family of the Christian faith and to give to us what their parents in turn handed on to them. Baptism confers an 'indelible character' on the soul, it imprints a permanent, supernatural quality on the person.



The Sacrament 'assimilates' a person to the life of God. Being indelible, means that Baptism remains permanently in a person's soul even if they may have lost sanctifying grace or even lost the faith. The sacramental character is called a character because it permanently seals the person with a supernatural quality. It is a character because it permanently gives the one who receives it certain 'position' that one without it cannot possess. Baptism opens us up to so many graces, especially actual grace. Actual graces are temporary influences from God that enlighten our minds and inspire us to perform those actions that lead us to heaven, those thoughts and desires that enable us to reach heaven. Strengthened by the Sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist and Confession, we journey through life with God.

An up-to-date definition of this sacrament is provided by the new Code of Canon Law issued by Pope St. John Paul II on 25th January 1983, the feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul. After quoting the definition, we shall briefly analyse its principal elements. Baptism, the gateway to the sacraments, is necessary for salvation by actual reception or at least by desire. By it, people are freed from sins, are born again as children of God and made like to Christ by an indelible character, are incorporated into the Church. It is validly conferred only by a washing in real water with the proper form of words used - that is: 'I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit'. The first thing that strikes us in this definition is that Baptism is the gateway (Latin janua = door) to other Sacraments. In other words, no other Sacraments can be received except by a person who has been baptized. It means that a baptized person has a unique title which belongs to no one else. It is the entitlement to those graces which Christ reserved exclusively to the people who call upon Him as the Lord and Saviour.

Our faith is a gift, but it is also a responsibility that we, as our ancestors before us, hold in trust for the coming generations. As we look at our history, we can see that many great sacrifices were made by those who have gone before us.

Despite the many attempts to quash the faith in Ireland generations have held on to it and faithfully passed it on to their children and their children's children, keeping it safe and alive in the face of great opposition, so great is this gift from God Himself. But of course, the greatest danger of all is apathy.



St Thomas Aquinas

**Dominican Priory Newsletter**

1224 800 years in Ireland 2024



**Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**



**First Reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus**

Through the Prophet Isaiah the Lord invites the people back to Him - to receive his gifts without need for payment. Return to Him and they will live. He will make an everlasting covenant with them, as He promised to David. They will be witnesses to that fact that He is their Lord and God. They must turn to Him while He is willing to receive them, turning away from their wicked ways and thoughts to gain His forgiveness. Their ways of thinking are nothing compared to the Lord's. His word will go out into the world and will not return until His plan is fulfilled.

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

Saint John writes that all who believes in Jesus as the Christ has accepted God and lives according to His commandments and living in love of Him. To love the Father is to keep His commandments in faith. Those baptised in Christ are filled with the Holy Spirit and the Spirit leads them in the ways of truth. God Himself has testified that Jesus Christ is His Son.

**Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke**

Saint Mark, Apostle and Evangelist, recounts that as John the Baptist was preaching, he told the people that someone else is coming after him, someone who is more powerful and greater than him. So great that John is not even fit to be one of his lowliest servants.

As John has baptised them with water, "the One to come will baptise them with the Holy Spirit". Jesus came from Nazareth and was baptised by John in the River Jordan. When He come up out of the water the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in the form of a dove. And then a voice came from heaven saying: 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you'.



**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 JAN 2024



Let us pray that the Spirit help us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

## DOMINICAN PRIORY NOTICES ...

**First Sunday Devotions:** The Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary and Benediction this Sunday afternoon at 3.00pm.

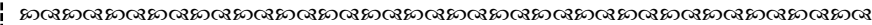


**Mass Times:** from this Monday we shall return to the normal Church timetable.

**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 ~ Ordinary Time

With the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, this year's Christmas Season comes to an end. Tomorrow, we begin the ordinary time calendar again.

### 800 years of Dominican presence in Ireland

In this coming year our Province will celebrate 800 years of our presence in Ireland. Arriving in 1224, very shortly after the foundation of the Order, the first Friars set up home in Dublin near where the Four Courts now exists.

A community was founded under the patronage of Saint Eustace in the year 1356 at Naas and remain there until the Protestant Reformation. The suppression of religious communities brought about the closure of our Priory there in 1590, although the friars remained in the area. In 1731 the Dominicans were expelled from Yeomanstown near Caragh and in 1756 the community there moved to Newbridge.

We remember that in founding the Order, Saint Dominic wanted people to know the truth, the truth of God's great love for them and the awesome gift of life He has bestowed upon us. He wanted peoples everywhere to know this great news and for this reason he sent his friars to the four corners of the earth. He wanted the light of faith to bring hope to the hearts of people, faith burning like a



### Newbridge Dominican Church "Communion Choir"

will start this coming Sunday, 7 January 2024.

Practice, in a parlour near the sacristy, at 11.30am for 12.00 noon Masses at which we'll sing one hymn at Communion.

Come on the Sundays, you can make it, and bring a friend!

We'll begin with singing in unison the first few weeks, building up to SATB, also helping support the congregation led by the cantor/organist in any new hymns.

### 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 ... ..

**NEW TERM:** after their Christmas break, our pupils return to the college this Monday.

**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 ... ..

**SPECIAL COLLECTION:** The priests of the parish would like to thank everyone who gave to their recent Christmas collection.

**ADORATION** takes place in Cill Mhuire every Friday morning from 10.30am -11.30am.

**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

**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 anniversaries occur at this time -

<i>fr John Heffernan OP</i>	<i>fr Clement Pierce OP</i>	<i>fr Anselm Moynihan OP</i>
<i>fr Eugene Delahunt OP</i>	<i>fr Gabriel O'Dea OP</i>	<i>fr Myles Nolan OP</i>
<i>Archbishop F Ryan OP</i>	<i>fr Dominic O'Neill OP</i>	<i>fr Philip Pollock OP</i>
<i>Nora Fahy</i>	<i>Rose Farrell</i>	<i>Jim Cullivan</i>
<i>Andy Cullen</i>	<i>Michael Deely</i>	<i>Cliff Casey</i>
<i>Kathleen Noone (B Rem)</i>		

we also remember

<i>John Douglas, Hawthorn Close</i>	<i>Niall McDonnell, Connell Drive</i>
<i>Charlie Doyle, frm Newbridge</i>	<i>Patricia Dolan, frm Newbridge</i>

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



Have mercy on us all, O Lord.