

23-12-18

Cabinteely website : www.cabinteelyparish.ie – includes Mass Live Link
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Fourth Sunday of Advent

JUMPING THE GUN

We live in an instant society. If we wish to speak to Australia we pick up the phone. If we want to know about the traffic in Times Square we

go to the web camera. If we require a Chinese Banquet then we order a take away. We have got used to the quality of life being measured by the speed at which we are served.

Maybe that's why we can't wait for Christmas. The store displays are up in October. The festive street lights are switched on in November and the strains of "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas" are already proving to be a bit repetitive, especially when we're feeling a little precious after yet another Christmas party. Even our schools have moved on following the success of their Nativity Plays.

Not so with the Church. One of the loveliest seasons is that of Advent because, in a world that cannot wait, it teaches us to savour the promise that is to come. Advent is a time of preparation, of readying ourselves, of longing expectation for one of the most important feasts of the year.

In just a few days we will come face to face with what it means for God to have shared our human lot. Knowing that we could not make it by ourselves, God agreed to enter into our world of time. The baby in the manger is God's human matrix, God's pattern for how to be fully a man, fully a woman. And by coming as a defenseless child God endured all our limitations. There is no depth to which God will not stoop, for he consented to be like you and me.

Just as nobody gulps down a glass of vintage wine in one go, so we take time to savour the full impact of God's coming in our midst. We hear the ringing tones of Advent echoing the themes of coming, fulfilment, wonder, justice, harvest, judgement, joy, exultation, expectation, anticipation, motherhood, growth, maturity, gratitude, power, vigilance, preparation, promise and liberation.

Not long now. Just a few days. Days to cherish the never-ending goodness of our God. Days to thank him for bothering with us.

Weekend Intentions



Along with their families and friends the following people are especially remembered this weekend. This time of the year holds a special significance for all those who knew and who loved them.

6.30 pm – **1.** Fearghal O'Farrell and the **Vigil** deceased members of the O'Farrell and Boyle families.

2. Mass of Thanksgiving

10.00am – **1.** Jim Gibbons - Anniversary

2. Gerard Holmes – 2nd Anniv

12.30pm – **1.** Thomas, Anne Nancy, Patrick & Marie Therese Walsh

2. George & Christina Humphries and George Jnr.

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Pat Brennan (3rd Anniv)

Mass times in St. Brigid's this week

Mon - 10am, Vigil 5pm and 6.30pm (Park

Tues - 10 am and 12.30 pm

Wed - 11 am

Thurs, Fri - 10 am

Saturday (Vigil Mass) - 6.30 pm

Sunday - 10 am and 12.30 pm

Would it help to talk? The Bethany Bereavement Support Group holds its '**Drop In**' on the last Friday of each month in the Parish Centre from 10.30 – 11.30 am. Next '**Drop In**' 25th January 2019.

A warm welcome, chat and a cuppa for all who wish to attend, no need to book, just arrive.

There are **Confessions** every Saturday after 6.30pm Mass here in St. Brigid's, Cabinteely.

Family Offering Boxes

If you donate to the Parish Family Offering by monthly envelope, these envelopes are available for collection from the Sacristy this weekend.

Thank you for your continued support to the Family Offering by this method.

If you wish to donate by envelope please contact the Parish Office so that this can be arranged.