



St Brigid's Parish Cabinteely



December 26th 2021 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often colour what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can



too.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Dec 26th 2021

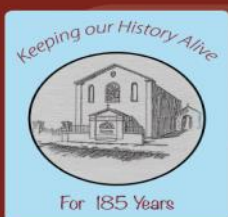
***St Brigid's Church closed on
Nov 1st for essential
maintenance work which is
expected to take approximately
4 months.***

We are encouraging our parishioners to attend Masses both on the weekday and Sundays in the other two Churches in the Pastoral area, namely Johnstown and Foxrock. Masses can also be viewed online from these Churches.

<https://www.churchservices.tv/foxrock>
<https://www.churchservices.tv/johnstownourlady>

<https://cabinteelyparish.ie/mass-times-in-neighbouring-parishes/>

Parish of St Brigid's Cabinteely
www.cabinteelyparish.ie
info@cabinteelyparish.ie
Fr. Aquinas Duffy 01 5672374
pp@cabinteelyparish.ie
Fr Arthur O'Neill and Fr Tom O'Keeffe
Parish Office/Sacristy 01 2858835
Monday - Friday 9 - 1pm
Registered Charity Number (RCN) 20016166
and CHY 7424



Our Church is Closed for Essential Works until early 2022
Thank you for your continued support

www.cabinteelyparish.ie

**Parish Office & Centre
will remain open**

PLEASE TAKE HOME A COPY OF THIS NEWSLETTER

AWARE- SUPPORT & SELF CARE GROUPS

If you wish to connect with people in relation to your mental well-being, please consider using the Phone In and Zoom Support & Self Care Groups, the Support Line or Support Mail. These services provide support, coping skills and information and most importantly help people who are in distress to know and feel that they are not alone in their experience. For more info. about the groups <https://www.aware.ie/>

Christmas Mass times in Neighbouring Parishes

Foxrock

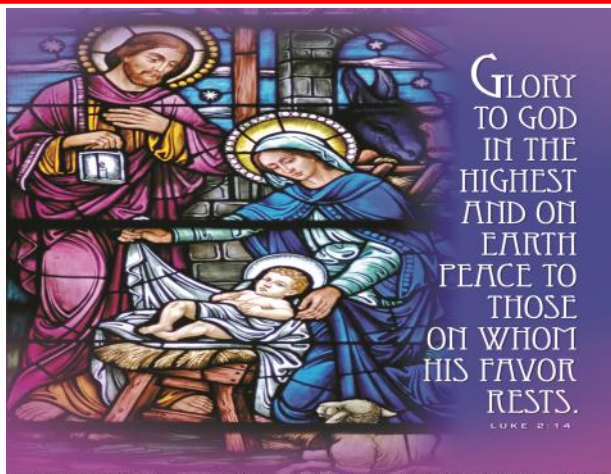
Christmas Eve 4pm, 6pm, 8pm and 10 pm

Christmas Day 8.30 am, 10am, 11.30am and 12.45pm (Cabinteely Gospel Choir)

Johnstown

Christmas Eve 5pm, 7pm [Cabinteely Church Choir], & 8.30 pm [Cabinteely Church Choir]

Christmas Day 9am, 10am, 11.30am



COVID-19 - Support Line for Older People - ALONE manage a national support line & supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19. Professional staff are available to answer queries & give advice. The line is open 7 days, 8am- 8pm, by calling. **0818 222 024.**

Supporting St. Brigid's Parish-

Registered Charity Number (RCN) 20016166 and CHY 7424

The Easy Payments online donate button is below through which you can set up once off or monthly payments to all the collections. Also here are Print Version of Standing Order Forms

For First and Second Sunday Collections
[standing-order-collections](#)

For Parish Planned Giving to support the Parish

[Standing Order FAMILY OFFERING](#)

For Church Renovation Fund

[Standing Order FUNDRAISING](#)



Here we are again....

As I write, I feel like it is still Christmas 2020 and that little has changed. But of course that is not true. Since then the majority of people have been vaccinated and we are on the third shot at this stage. So we have as they say some defence structures to protect us. Its probably the uncertainty that is difficult to live with. But that's where we are. Stuff happens that we have so little control over and we have to learn to live with it. As Joseph and Mary set out on the journey, little did they know what was ahead of them. On that journey they encountered good and bad alike. But what helped them through the uncertainty was their faith in God who was guiding them and the mystery of Jesus unfolding in front of them. The wise men too set out on a journey to Jesus, not sure if they would make it, but they were prompted to persevere and not to give up.

In the midst of uncertainty be it about Covid or the future of our parishes, we trust that we are not alone. Emmanuel, God with us, is there guiding us along a path that is yet to be discovered. In a sense we are being asked to open our hearts to the wonder and awe of God. It's a wonder and awe that comes naturally to children who await this time with great expectation and hope. Let's hold on to that sense of Wonder and Awe so that each day holds new possibilities which allow us to begin again.

May I take this opportunity to thank all our Parish Staff and Volunteers for all you do for the Glory of God. A special thank you to the Principals, Staff, children, Parents and Board members of our schools.

I am glad to report that the necessary repairs to our Church are half way through and we are on target. It is wonderful that thanks to the continuing generosity of parishioners we have been able to do this work. We could have been closed permanently otherwise. It will be beautiful when completed and a fitting place to worship and praise God. Thank you also to Johnstown-Killiney & Foxrock Parishes for accommodating us during the temporary closure of our Church.

On behalf of Fr Tom and Fr Arthur, may I wish you a very peaceful Christmas and every blessing for the journey of 2022.

Fr Aquinas T Duffy

Your Local SVP Christmas Appeal. Click here to donate.

<https://pay-payzone.easypaymentsplus.com/customer/10373/product-list/>

Christmas Dues can be given online or there are envelopes in the Parish Pastoral Centre.

Thank You for Your Generosity

Thank you to those who continue to contribute to the 1st Collection (Common Fund which pays an allowance to priests) and the 2nd Collection (Share which supports developing parishes & the Diocesan Administration) in addition to the planned Giving which supports the running of the parish. There are permanent boxes in place for 1st & 2nd Collections. There is also a double envelope for the 1st & 2nd Collections. **If you put your name and address on the envelope we can claim the tax back on it.**

Fr Aquinas