

Today's feast, the **Baptism of Our Lord**, brings to a close the Christmas season. More significantly it marks the transition to Jesus' public life, reminding us that the reason we celebrate Christmas is because of who the child in the crib becomes. Mark, the author of the earliest Gospel, begins his account with the baptism of Jesus, which signifies Jesus' readiness to begin his ministry of teaching, healing and proclaiming the Good News of God's kingdom. That readiness comes from a profound experience of God's love: 'You are my Son, the Beloved' and the receiving of the Holy Spirit for that ministry. Our baptism too is an affirmation of God's love for us and a call to know and follow Jesus Christ. Since we are normally baptised as infants, it is parents who help us experience God's love for us. Along with the wider Christian community into which we are baptised, they also help us to discern the movement of God's Spirit in our lives. It is through our response to God's Spirit at work in our lives that we cooperate with Christ in making God's kingdom of justice, love and peace a lived reality. After the joy of seeing people attending Mass in the weeks leading up to Christmas and on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, it is hard for all of us to return to Mass via webcam only. It is particularly hard for those trying to plan a wedding ceremony,

for bereaved families who are informed that only ten people may attend a funeral in person, or indeed for parents trying to organise a baptism. However, we are also conscious of the alarmingly increasing number of Covid 19 cases, and the need to protect all those health care professionals who are under pressure at the front line in hospitals and nursing homes, as well as the need to protect vulnerable parishioners. So we thank God for the wonder of technology, which allows us to attend Mass via webcam or on the telly and to join parish meetings by zoom from the safety and comfort of our own home. If there is any way the parish can assist you at this time, do not hesitate to contact the parish office any weekday morning.

We have received numerous comments about how well the church, altar and crib have looked from those dropping in during the day or attending Mass via webcam. A particularly welcome addition in these dark days was the outdoor crib. We would like to thank all those who have assisted with constructing the cribs, putting up the Christmas tree, decorating the church for Advent and Christmas, and particularly our flower arranging team, as well as those who have donated plants and flowers.

Fr. Richard and Fr. Paddy wish everyone a very happy New Year!

PARISH

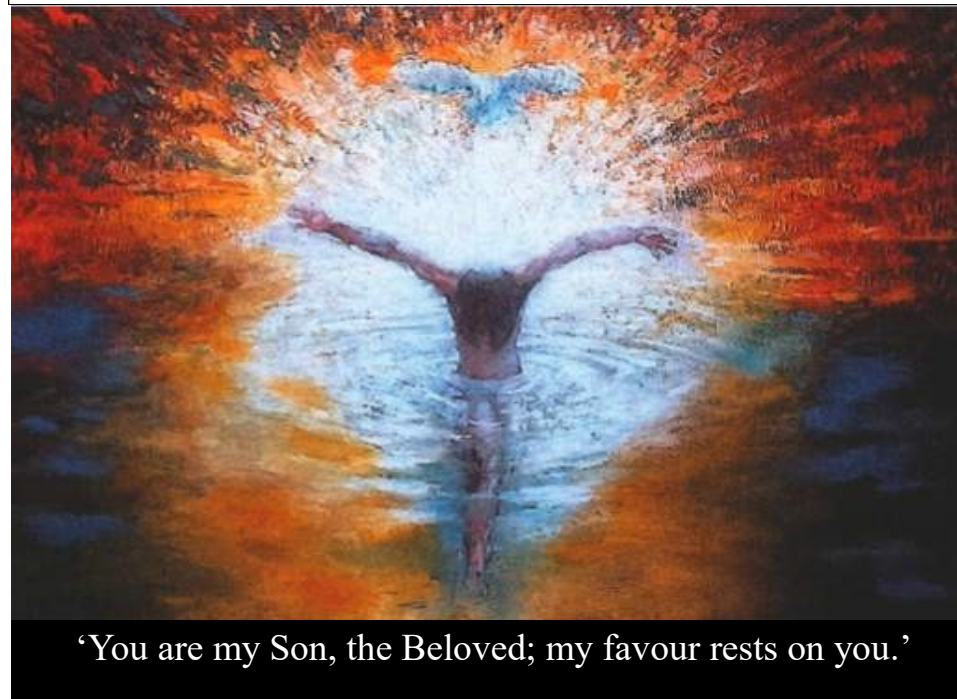


LINK

Issue No 28/ 1

Parish of St. Columba

10th January 2021



'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

On this Sunday the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord let us pray for the children who joined our Christian Community in the past year :

April Doris O'Shaughnessy
 Maisie Catherine Mary Ann McConnell
 Margot Roendal Lennon
 Theo Jack O'Connor
 Holly Kate Lenihan
 Bláthnaid Quinlan
 Cianan Óg Anthony Brennan
 Frankie Mooney McCourt
 Daniel Pearse King
 Ruairí Michael Downes

Eva Leonie Donnelly
 Con Michael Boyle
 Jack Thomas Dolan
 Ariana Markowski
 Leonardo Markowska
 Daniel Anthony Naughton
 Fintan Lee Lyons
 Remi Hannah Doyle
 Lou Charlie Shaughnessy
 Kai Gavin Connolly
 Ben Oscar Ahlstrom
 Callum Declan Mooney
 Isabella Rose Casey O'Neill

Mass Intentions for the coming week

Sat.	9th	6.00pm	Thomas Doyle (A) Sheila Hamell (A) William & Nellie Scott (A)
Sun.	10th	11.00am	Graham Fitzpatrick (A)
Sat.	16th	6.00pm	
Sun.	17th	11.00am	Sheila Sweeney (2nd A)

We pray for Recently deceased:
Maureen Woodley of Lindsay Grove &
John Gavin of Dalcassian Downs



Please visit St. Columba's Parish website at www.ionaroadparish.ie and email your comments, good news stories and special parish events to info@ionaroadparish.ie



**Mass in the Glasnevin Grouping of Parishes
AVAILABLE ON WEBCAM UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

The website for each of the churches webcam is the following

Iona Rd. webcam (www.ionaroadparish.ie)

Monastery of St Alphonsus webcam (www.rednuns.com)

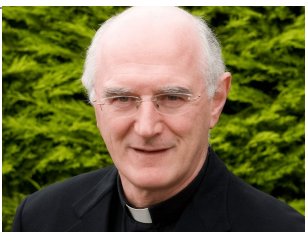
Our Lady of Victories Ballymun Rd webcam (www.olv.ie)

Our Lady of Dolour's Glasnevin webcam (www.glasnevinparish.ie)

Out Mother of Divine Grace Ballygall webcam (www.ballygallparish.ie)

Corpus Christi, Drumcondra (www.corpuschristidrumcondra.ie.)

We congratulate **Most Rev. Dermot Farrell**, currently Bishop of Ossory, on his appointment as Archbishop of Dublin to succeed **Archbishop Diarmuid Martin**, and we look forward to welcoming him to the diocese in due course. As well as his experience as Bishop of Ossory for the past two years, Bishop Farrell has also served in parish ministry and as president of the national seminary at Maynooth. Archbishop Diarmuid Martin has retired as Archbishop having reached the age of 75 at his last birthday. We are grateful for his dedicated service to the people and priests of the diocese for the past 16 years, during what has been a difficult time for the Church in Dublin and in Ireland, and we wish him happiness in his retirement.



For the past two years Fr. Anthony has celebrated the 9.30a.m. Mass every Saturday in the Monastery. However on Saturday 2nd January he said farewell to the Sisters and to all those who were linked in via the webcam. Four years ago Fr. Anthony came from his native Nigeria to do his Masters at Maynooth and during that time has helped out in many parishes. Sr. Lucy thanked Fr. Anthony and wished him God's blessing and every success in Nigeria.

We thank parishioners who have been kind enough to drop in their contributions to the First and Second Collections and to the Family Offering each week. It is greatly appreciated. We also draw parishioners' attention to the 'Donate' button, on the Parish website which some parishioners may find an easier way to make their regular contributions, especially during this time of lockdown.

Any household who is waiting for the 2021 box of envelopes to be delivered to your home please note that during this current time of lockdown we are not in a position to deliver them and we hope to get them to you as soon as it is possible.

Items for the Parish Link can be e-mailed to parishlink@gmail.com or dropped into the Parish Office letter-box, A contact name and phone number is required for each item.

Ph: 8308257 or email

ionaroadparish@gmail.com

Mission Statement: St. Columba's parish is a vibrant and welcoming community of faith, continuing to give practical witness to the Good News of Christ, through worship and reflection, and through Christian service to the community.

Our weekly Zoom meeting to read and reflect together on the readings for the following Sunday resumes this **Thursday 14th January at 7.30pm.**

No expertise is required, but all kinds of questions and insights arise from the shared reflection and discussion. Those of us who participate find that it prepares us to hear the Sunday Mass readings in a deeper way.

Everybody is welcome to join us any week. Just give the parish your email address, and a link to the meeting will be sent to you each week.

COVID-19 Support Lines for Older People ALONE The support line is open seven days a week, 8.00am – 8.00pm, by calling 0818 222 024..

Senior Line If you are an older person and would like someone to talk to, particularly since Covid-19, consider phoning Senior Line. We are Ireland's national confidential service for older people. We are open every day of the year from 10am-10pm. We are older people too, trained to listen and support. We would love to hear from you.
Freefone 1800 80 45 91

This Year:

Break a bad habit

Learn a new skill

Do a good deed

Visit a new place

Read a difficult book

Write something important

Try a new food

Do something good for someone who can not thank you

Take an important risk

The Young Church Dublin – Young Adult Alpha Course

The Young Church Dublin team would like to invite you to join us for our Young Adult Alpha online course which we will start from Monday, 18th January, from 7.00-8:15pm. The course will be run from the comfort of your own home over Zoom for 11 weeks until March 29th. This Alpha course with YCD is an opportunity for you to grow in your own faith. Alpha is also a wonderful opportunity for friends, family or community members to explore the Christian faith together. Taking part might even encourage you to run Alpha yourself in the future! All participants must register by emailing your name and contact details to kirsten.mahon@dublindiocese.ie
*Please note that numbers are limited.

Prayers of the Faithful for Vocations

The Baptism of the Lord January 10, 2021
That all those initiated by baptism to be followers of Christ may discern and live out the vocation to which Christ is calling them, we pray to the Lord.

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION
FOR JANUARY 2021

FOR EVANGELIZATION - HUMAN
FRATERNITY

MAY THE LORD GIVE US THE GRACE TO
LIVE IN FULL FELLOWSHIP WITH OUR
BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF OTHER
RELIGIONS, PRAYING FOR ONE

ANOTHER, OPEN TO ALL. AMEN

