

**Reflection :** *It has been a great joy to welcome back parishioners to daily Mass this week. It's a wonderful start to our Advent journey and gives us all a lift. We look forward this Sunday to our first Sunday Mass with a congregation in nearly ten weeks. The beautiful words of Isaiah in the First Reading seem to resonate with our experience: 'Console my people, console them' says your God. Speak to Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended'. With the easing of restrictions we can look forward to spending Christmas with loved ones, do some shopping and enjoy a meal out. Amid all the excitement and joy of the Advent season, Isaiah also reminds us to prepare a way for the Lord, and John the Baptist takes up the call in the Gospel. There are so many ways we can do that this year, without leaving home. As well as online retreats and daily email or facebook reflections, parishioners will have received a colourful Advent journey activity pack with our Christmas mailing, with simple suggestions for prayers and activities we can do alone or as a family at home. This Advent let's truly welcome Christ into our homes!* **Fr. Richard Sheehy**



## REFLECTIONS FOR THE TIME AND SEASON

Advent Reflection Online at [olv.ie](http://olv.ie)  
Thursdays 10<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> December At 7.30pm  
Facilitated by Fr. Paddy Sweeney

10<sup>th</sup> Dec : 'It doesn't make sense'  
17<sup>th</sup> Dec : 'Extravagant Abundance'

### Mass Intentions for the coming week



Sun.	6th	11.00am	Conor Cronin, Cait Nolan both Months Mind
Tue.	8th	10.30am	Holy Day
Wed.	9th	10.30am	Tom Murphy (A)
Fri.	11th	10.30am	Niamh Ní Nuallain (A)
Sat.	12th	6.00pm	
Sun.	13th	11.00am	

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.

Please visit St. Columba's Parish website at [www.ionaroadparish.ie](http://www.ionaroadparish.ie) and email your comments, good news stories and special parish events to [info@ionaroadparish.ie](mailto:info@ionaroadparish.ie)

# PARISH



# LINK

Issue No 27/47

Parish of St. Columba

6th December 2020

## A PRAYER FOR THE Second Sunday of Advent

Jesus, you came among us  
with the irresistible power of a baby,  
requiring both our hands  
and captivating our whole hearts.  
Help us to cast aside the sin  
and brokenness that we cling to,  
so we might be ready to hold you  
when you come again.  
Amen.



[www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org)

## Make his paths straight

**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.

**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](http://www.ionaroadparish.ie))  
Monastery of St Alphonsus webcam ([www.rednuns.com](http://www.rednuns.com))  
Our Lady of Victories Ballymun Rd webcam ([www.olv.ie](http://www.olv.ie))  
Our Lady of Dolour's Glasnevin webcam ([www.glasnevinparish.ie](http://www.glasnevinparish.ie))  
Out Mother of Divine Grace Ballygall webcam ([www.ballygallparish.ie](http://www.ballygallparish.ie))  
Corpus Christi, Drumcondra ([www.corpuschristidrumcondra.ie](http://www.corpuschristidrumcondra.ie))



**Please support the St. Vincent de Paul Collection;  
Sunday 13th December 2020**

SVP St Columba's Conference will be conducting their  
Annual Giving Sunday collection on  
**Sunday 13th December 2020**

Each year our Conference makes approximately 300 visits  
to families & individuals in need in this community.

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions currently we  
are unable to have the usual Monthly collections at the Church door but you can donate  
directly to our Conference at [svp.ie/support](http://svp.ie/support) or calling 0818 176 176 giving our  
Conference Name (St. Columba Iona Road) or using the pre addressed Blue envelopes at  
the back of the church and placing them in the safe there.

The funds raised will be spent IN THIS COMMUNITY helping those who need it most  
with food and education costs throughout next year and beyond.

We rely almost entirely on the support of you, the generous parishioners of St. Columba.

Thanks to you in advance for your continued support

SVP Iona Road Conference

**The St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to acknowledge receipt of 3 anonymous  
donations of €20 €20 and €100**

**Crosscare Appeal - We need donations of toiletries – Soaps, Shampoo,  
Toothpaste, hand soap, baby hygiene products.**

Donations of new toiletry products and in their original packaging can be delivered to:  
Community Food Bank, Darndale, D17, Fri 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Dec, Time: 1-2pm.

Please contact [vcummins@crosscare.ie](mailto:vcummins@crosscare.ie) if you need to make an alternative drop off  
arrangement. Remember you can donate on line at [www.dublindiocese.ie](http://www.dublindiocese.ie)

Items for the Parish Link can be  
e-mailed to  
**[parishlink@gmail.com](mailto:parishlink@gmail.com)** or  
dropped into the Parish Office  
letter-box, marked 'Parish Link',  
by 5pm on the Thursday of week  
of publication. A contact name  
and phone number is required for  
each item. **Ph: 8308257** or email  
**[ionaroadparish@gmail.com](mailto:ionaroadparish@gmail.com)**

**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

Each **Thursday** at a weekly Zoom meeting 7.30pm-8.15pm we read and discuss the  
Gospel for the following Sunday. Anyone wishing to participate is asked to contact the  
parish office or email Fr. Richard ([richarddesheehy@gmail.com](mailto:richarddesheehy@gmail.com))  
for the meeting ID and password.

**COVID-19 Support Lines for Older People ALONE** manage a national support  
line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing  
difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff  
are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where  
necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8.00am – 8.00pm,  
by calling 0818 222 024..

**IDEAS AND INFORMATION ON ADVENT**

Parishioners should have received our **Christmas Mailing** this week, including  
the parish Christmas card and timetable of Christmas Services, an **Advent  
activity pack** with suggestions for simple activities and prayers we can do at  
home during Advent, a prayer card with the Act of Spiritual Communion prayer,  
and the Christmas Offering envelope. If you did not receive delivery of our  
Christmas mailing, please let us know so that we can add you to our mailing list.  
**An Advent Prayer Tree** has been placed in the sanctuary. Prayer requests sent  
in by parishioners can be placed on the tree. One suggestion this year is that  
parishioners may wish to remember a loved one who cannot travel home from  
abroad or travel home from Ireland for Christmas this year. You might like to let  
us know of someone in your family who will not get home this year, and we will  
put their name on the Prayer Tree. We may try to read out some of the names  
over Christmas. You might mention which country or city they are living in. **You  
can also remind your loved ones that they are welcome to join us for Christ-  
mas Mass via webcam (through the parish website [www.ionaroadparish.ie](http://www.ionaroadparish.ie))  
from any part of the world.**

**Living Advent Calendar 2020** The Christmas story is being narrated by  
parishes across the diocese in 25 days. On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>, a young parishioner  
began the story at OLV church, Ballymun Road. Trish Close continues the story  
at Iona Road church this Sunday. These are being shared on Facebook,  
accessible from our website, every morning at 8am.

Preparation during Advent for the celebration of Our Lord's Nativity continues  
in OLD Glasnevin with **A Children's Advent Story** this  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm.

On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm there will be a short service based on  
the O Antiphons, readings and music for Advent. Parishioners can attend at the  
church or participate via the webcam at [www.glasnevinparish.ie](http://www.glasnevinparish.ie)

Advent Service **Fr. Pat O'Donghue** led an Advent service on Saturday  
28 November 2020 in the **Monastery of Saint Alphonsus**. You can watch the  
recording of the service at [www.Rednuns.com](http://www.Rednuns.com) under the recordings section