



### Reflection

This Sunday the blessing of the Advent wreath reminds that we enter a new season, a season that speaks of joy and hope in the midst of darkness. May hope light up our lives and may it be visible in our engagement with others.

### BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We ask you, God, our creator, to bless this Advent wreath.

May it remind us that Jesus is in our midst

And that we are surrounded by his love and care.

Bless these candles on our wreath.

May they remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World

Bless these evergreens on our wreath.

May they remind us that Jesus' love for us

Is everlasting and that nothing we do will ever take it away.

May this wreath remind us to prepare well

For Christmas, each and every day of the Advent Season.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Fr Richard*

Thank you for your contribution to the parish FAMILY OFFERING collection, amounting to €837.00 last weekend. This is received in weekly envelopes. An average weekly total of €544.00 is also contributed by Standing Orders.

### Mass Intentions for the coming week

Sat.	27th	6.00pm	Sean O'Reilly (A) Edel Dillon (A)
Sun.	28th	11.00am	Mary Dwyer Month's Mind and pray for her husband Martin Dwyer whose anniversary occurs.
Thur.	2nd	10.30am	Funeral Mass for Teresa McCarthy
Fri.	3rd	10.30am	Mary Angela & Francis McCluskey (A)

**Please Pray for all recently deceased**

### PARISH INITIATIVE ADVENT

**I wait. I watch. I hope.**

If you are looking for something different this advent, why not join a WhatsApp group to receive an Advent reflection every day. For further details and if you like to join contact Christina 0857162152.

Archdiocese  
of Dublin

Archbishop Dermot Farrell has published a Pastoral Letter for Advent. You can read it in full on our parish website [www.ionaroadparish.ie](http://www.ionaroadparish.ie)

Items for the Parish Link can be e-mailed to [parishlink@gmail.com](mailto:parishlink@gmail.com) or dropped into the Parish Office. A contact name and phone number is required for each item.

Ph: 8308257 or email [ionaroadparish@gmail.com](mailto:ionaroadparish@gmail.com)  
St. Columba's Parish website : [www.ionaroadparish.ie](http://www.ionaroadparish.ie)

# PARISH



# LINK

Issue No 28/42

Parish of St. Columba

28th November 2021

*PLEASE TAKE THE LINK HOME WITH YOU,  
AND KEEP SAFE DISTANCE*



Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

# FIRST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

**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.

Dear parishioner, in accordance with public health guidelines, parishioners and visitors are encouraged to continue **hand sanitising** on entering the church, **maintain social distancing** and to **wear face masks** throughout the Mass.



There are now two Collection moments at Mass, the first after the homily, and the second while the parish notices are being read, We ask parishioners to **exit by the same door you entered** the church, and we will continue to keep the church ventilated during the celebration of Mass.

Sunday and weekday Mass will continue to be transmitted via webcam for those unable or not yet ready to attend Mass in person.

#### **AWARE - SUPPORT & SELF CARE GROUPS**

- If you, to connect with people in relation to your mental wellbeing, please consider using the Phone in and Zoom Support & Self Care Groups, the Support Line or Support Mail, now and throughout the holiday season. For more information about the groups <https://www.aware.ie/support/support-groups/> and all of our services on [www.aware.ie](http://www.aware.ie)

**We regret that The Service of Lament and Thanksgiving planned for this Sunday has been postponed due to public health concerns, It will be rescheduled for the New Year**

**Crosscare** is working with hundreds of families and children in Dublin who struggle to get basic food supplies. It is often the months after Christmas which many people find challenging. Crosscare helps people with food parcels and meals in our cafes and food banks and assists families with budgeting, healthy eating, long-term housing and welfare support. Due to Covid restrictions, the online appeal for donations replaces the food collection in parishes in previous years. Support our appeal to end food poverty by giving what you can online at [www.crosscare.ie/](http://www.crosscare.ie/) donate or call 01 8360011. Many thanks!

**COVID-19 SUPPORT LINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE** is open seven days a week, **8am - 8pm, call 0818 222 024.**



**The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Annual Collection will take place on the weekend of 11/12 December**

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul continues to support those seeking assistance to the best of our availability. For the many families that are helped they are faced daily impossible choices, but at this time of year for many these impossible choices get harder, put oil in the tank or get the present on their child's list.

This year, more than ever, your help is needed to make sure that children and families have what they need to share in the magic of the season.

On Sunday 11th December, St Vincent de Paul will be holding a church collection in the hope to raise funds for people who are struggling this Christmas. For more information, please contact your local SVP Volunteers

#### **Iona Active Retirement**

Owing to the surge in Covid 19 the Christmas lunch has been cancelled. Hopefully it will be possible to meet in the New Year.



The Share Collection THIS weekend 27/28 November is for **Sick & Indigent Roomkeepers Society**, which is the oldest charity in Dublin founded in 1790.

This collection occurs on an annual basis and is in line with the Diocese's appreciation of the work of the Society. The

area between the canals represents traditional boundaries within which the Society originally carried out its relief work, an area that now represents only 18% of the parishes within the City and County of Dublin. We are particularly grateful to parishioner for their generosity to the Society in past years.

Over the past few weekends we distributed a letter encouraging parishioners from January 2022 to place their donations for both collections in an envelope which can then be placed in the collection basket. This will enable the parish to trace the contribution and claim tax back on it. If you are happy to do this, we now invite you to complete the form which is available at the back of the church, with your name and address on it, and drop it into the safe at the back of the church.

We thank parishioners for your contributions to the First and Second Collections and to the Family Offering. Contributions can also be made through the 'Donate' button on the parish website: [www.ionaroadparish.ie](http://www.ionaroadparish.ie)

A ceremony of Enrolment for children and their families preparing for the **Sacrament of Confirmation in 2022** will take place at the vigil Mass at 6.00pm on Saturday 11th December, third Sunday of Advent.



Due to the numbers involved, we ask the children and families to participate via webcam at

[www.ionaroadparish.ie](http://www.ionaroadparish.ie)  
A few representative families will attend in person.

On the Thursdays of Advent, parishioners are invited to participate (via zoom) in a reflective reading (Lectio Divina) of the Gospel for the following Sunday. We will meet on Thursday 2nd December at 7.00pm. If you would like to join us, just contact the parish secretary to ask for the zoom link.

The Office for Mission and Ministry are offering daily reflections for the Advent Journey. The theme of these reflections is 'Be Still'. The reflections will be posted each morning on the Facebook page for the office of Mission and Ministry. [www.facebook.com/officeformissionandministry](https://www.facebook.com/officeformissionandministry)

**The monthly meeting of our Parish Pastoral Council takes place on zoom next Thursday 2nd December at 8.00pm.**