

REFLECTION: *We welcome everyone to our Christmas celebration of the Lord's Nativity. In a particular way we welcome those who, for whatever reason, may not have been with us in a while. We think especially of those who are living abroad and perhaps have not been able to travel home for a year or two but who have managed it this year. You have already made your family's Christmas! We also welcome parishioners who are joining us via webcam, especially from overseas. May our Christmas celebration help you to feel connected with loved ones at home and to reconnect with your faith.*

This church too is your home. And we think of those who are missing a loved one around the table this year. Christ welcomes each of us as we are, and simply invites us at this time to draw closer to him. And may the love of God revealed in the simplicity of the birth of a child in Bethlehem touch our hearts anew and may it inspire us to reach out to those who are struggling in any way or who are lonely. May our lives give witness that Christ continues to be born, and may our presence be a blessing to those with whom we share Christmas this year. Happy Christmas!

Fr Richard

Thank you for your contribution to the parish FAMILY OFFERING collection, amounting to **€1539.00 last weekend**. This is received in weekly envelopes. An average weekly total of €544.00 is also contributed by Standing Orders.

We also thank parishioners for your contributions to the **First and Second Collections** at Mass. We have installed a **Tap and Go** machine at the back of the church which will facilitate parishioners and visitors who wish to contribute to the First and Second collections but who don't have cash. You simply tap the machine with your credit card and choose the amount you wish to contribute, which will then be divided 60/40% between the First (priests) and Second (Share – diocesan services) collections. Contributions to the parish can be made through the **'Donate'** button on the parish website: www.ionaroadparish.ie

Mass Intentions for the coming week

Mon 27th	Monica, Patrick & Felicity Padgen (A)
Wed. 29th	Ken Kilkenny (A)
Thur. 30th	Teresa Morrissey (A)
Sat. 1st.	Mary O'Reilly (A)



Please pray for all our recently deceased.

Items for the Parish Link can be e-mailed to 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
St. Columba's Parish website : www.ionaroadparish.ie

PARISH



LINK

Issue No 28/46

Parish of St. Columba

25 December 2021

PLEASE TAKE THE LINK HOME WITH YOU

Alleluia, Alleluia

A Holy Day has dawned on us

Come, you nations, and adore the Lord.

For today a great light has come upon the earth.

Alleluia Alleluia



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.

Parishioners and visitors are encouraged to **hand sanitise** on entering the church, to **maintain social distancing** and to **wear face masks** throughout the Mass. An MC will introduce the Mass.

There are two Collection moments at Mass, the first after the homily, and the second while the parish notices are being read.

Christmas Mass times are the following:

Christmas Eve: 6.00pm Family Mass of the Nativity
9.00pm Mass of the Lord's Nativity

Christmas Day: 11.00am Mass
There is no evening Mass on Christmas Day

Sunday 26th December
(Feast of the Holy Family) 11.00am Mass

Monday 27th to Friday 31st December (*except Tuesday): 10.30am Mass

Friday 31st December 8.00pm Vigil to welcome the New Year in
Our Lady of Dolours church, Glasnevin
(www.glasnevinparish.ie)

Saturday 1st January 2022
(Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God) 10.30am Mass

All our Christmas Masses will be live streamed, which will be of particular interest to those parishioners who have family members living abroad.

A huge thank you to our sacristy and parish office team, and flower society for all their hard work in preparing our church for the celebration of Christmas! A big thank you as well to our stewards, to those who organised the nativity on Christmas Eve, and to all our ministers and volunteers who have assisted in so many ways throughout the past year. It is deeply appreciated.

1,500 anniversary of the birth of St Columba Colmcille Exhibition of objects associated with the saint at the National Museum, Kildare Street.
Free admission

Contact AWARE - SUPPORT & SELF CARE GROUPS - in relation to your mental wellbeing,
For more information about the groups <https://www.aware.ie/support/support-groups/> and all of our services on www.aware.ie

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

We thank parishioners who assisted with delivering our parish Christmas card, timetable of Christmas services and Dues envelope. Our thanks also to those who have already returned Christmas Dues, which support the priests of the parish and of the diocese.

IONA ACTIVE RETIREMENT
The President and Committee wish all members a very happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.



Many Thanks to Parishioners who donated a poinsettia plant to help decorate the church and the crib this Christmas.



Archbishop Dermot Farrell will celebrate the annual **Mass for Peace** at Our Lady of Victories church, Ballymun Road at 11.00am on New Year's Day.

Parishioners may participate in the Mass via webcam on www.olv.ie

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. 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/donate or call 01 8360011.

PEACE is not something you wish for: it's **SOMETHING YOU** make, something you **DO**, something you **ARE** and something **YOU GIVE AWAY**.

John Lennon



**THE PARISH LINK TEAM WISH ALL PARISHIONERS
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS**