

Rest in Peace / Requiescat in Pace

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of the following parishioners whose anniversaries are being remembered on the following dates.

Day	10.00 a.m.	7.00 p.m.
Monday 08.01.2012		Special Intention
Tuesday 09.01.2012		Special Intention
Wednesday 10.01.2012		
Thursday 11.01.2012		
Friday 12.01.2012		
Saturday 13.01.2012		Pat O'Keeffe (AR) John & Bridget Jones (AR) Ann Coffie (AR)

Day	9.00 a.m.	10.30 p.m.	12.00 p.m.
Sunday – 14.01.2012	Sarah Kane (AR) Joseph Kane (AR)	Thomas Caulfield (AR) Mary Caulfield (AR) Rose Duffy (AR) Michael Duffy (AR)	Thomas McGuire (AR)

(MM) = Months Mind (AR) = Annual Remembrances (BR) = Birthday Remembrance

May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace, **Amen.**

Although at this time of the year it is difficult to see beyond the sorrow brought on by the loss of a loved one, and you feel that no words can really help to ease the loss you bear, please remember that we keep you and your loved ones in our prayers every day.

Hold tight to memories for comfort, lean on your friends for strength, and always remember how much you are cared about by all of us.

Weekly Bulletin

Issue No. 02 / 2012 (059)

St Patrick's Parish, Ringsend & Irishtown

Saturday 7th / Sunday 08th January 2012

The First Week of Ordinary Time

Year B

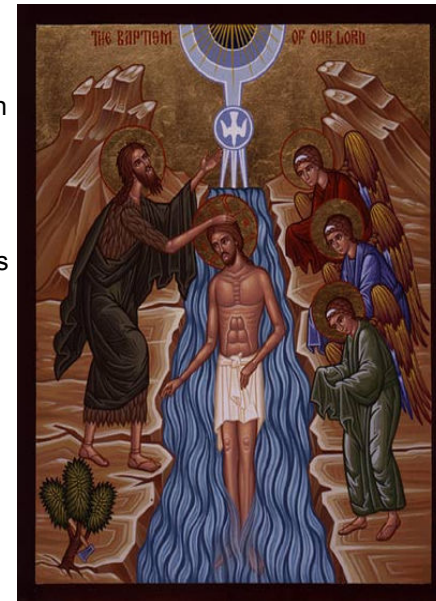


Parish Office: 01 6697429 - Opening Hours: 9.30 to 13.30 – Monday to Wednesday

Website: www.stpatrickschurchringsend.com

The Baptism of the Lord

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord, Jesus Christ. This feast brings an end to the season of Christmas. The baptism of Christ commences his public ministry. In the Eastern Church this feast is called **Theophany** (taken from the Greek word “**Theophaneia**” meaning appearance of God) because at the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan God appeared in three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Even though Jesus



presented himself for baptism by John the Baptist in the River Jordan. He did not need the baptism of John. Although He was human He was absolutely sinless and impeccable. He conferred upon the water the power of the true Baptism which would remove all the sins of the world: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him Who takes away the sin of the world". At our Lord's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Holy Trinity took its abode in our soul.

Theme for this Sunday

At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us.

Please remember to take a bulletin for your neighbour who, for whatever reason, is unable to join us today.

The ORLAGH CENTRE
retreats–bible study–lectio divina–meditation–liturgy–parish support–community

EXPLORING FAITH THROUGH FILM - Fri, Jan 13

The showing of "Of Gods and Men" before Christmas was so popular we are going to show it again on Friday, January 13th 2012 at 7.00pm. The film will be followed by a snack and a discussion. (€10)

DAY FOR YOURSELF - Sat, Jan 14

Our first DAY FOR YOURSELF of the new year will be on Saturday, January 14th from 10.00am to 4.30pm. The theme is a very appropriate one as we start a new year: Open to possibilities and opportunities. So, if you would like to start the new year on a positive note why not join us on that day. It will be led by Dr. Bernadette Toal and Fr. John Byrne. Cost €50

To book for either of these events, contact Fr. John Byrne in Orlagh: info@orlagh.ie. Tel (01) 495 8190

Do this in Memory
 The next "Do This In Memory" Mass, for the boys & girls of the parish First Holy Communion & First Confession Class, will take place on Sunday 15th January at 12.00.

Ringsend Technical Institute
 Enrolment for the Ringsend Technical School's Evening School "Spring Term Programme 2012" commences on Monday 9th January and Monday 16th January. Classes start the week of the 23rd January 2012. A list of courses can be obtained from the Tech.

Unwanted Gifts Appeal

The staff at St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral in Dublin have a solution for your unwanted Christmas gifts -- bring them to the crib in the Cathedral and they will give them out to people around the city who may not have received anything this year.

In previous years, the response to this initiative – the first of its kind in Ireland – has been incredible. "Despite the difficult economic times we are in, we have found that people have been even more considerate since times got tough," said Fr. Pat O' Donoghue, who started the Unwanted Gifts Appeal at the Pro Cathedral in 2006.

Crosscare, the social care agency of the Archdiocese of Dublin, will collect the unwanted gifts after January 6th and redistribute them to people most in need.

Last year they collected 7 van loads full of gifts and gave them out in their services throughout 2011. Thousands of people received a gift through the year – among them young teenagers in care who were given gifts on their birthdays and men and women who use Crosscare's homeless services, who may not have received gifts for many, many years. This year Crosscare is also planning to distribute unwanted gifts to elderly people living alone in Dublin's North Inner city – who they support through the Care Local Project.

Fr. O Donoghue stressed that they were not expecting people to buy gifts; "The essence of the initiative is the fact that most of us received much more than we need at Christmas and just one unwanted gift given back could bring some happiness to others in our community who will be struggling with various difficulties in life in 2012."

Community Notice Board

Ringsend and Irishtown Community Centre (RICC)

RICC **Free Bus Service to Post Office**. Just a reminder to anyone who would like free transport over to the Post Office in Barrow Street. RICC have a free Bus Service every **Friday at 10.30am and 2.30pm from outside the Church.**

Child Protection Policy

Please note that a copy of our Parish Child Protection policy is displayed in the church. A copy may be obtained from the parish office.

Parish office opening hours are 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Monday to Wednesday.

St. Pio Mass Group

The St. Pio group would like to remind us that we are all welcome to attend the St. Pio mass on the third Wednesday of every month at 7.00 p.m. in our Church and bless ourselves with the St. Pio relic. The next scheduled St. Pio mass is on Wednesday 18th January 2012.

Christmas Dues

We would like to thank all parishioners who have already sent in their Christmas Dues. Envelopes may be handed into the sacristy before or after mass each day. They can also be put in the collection basket on Sunday.

Bingo

Every Monday Night in the C.Y.W.M.S. to support our Local Boys and Girls Schools. **Doors Open at 7pm.**

Penny Catechism

Question:

What is man?

Answer:

Man is one of God's creatures, composed of a body and soul and made unto God's likeness.

Question:

In what is man made to God's likeness?

Answer:

Man is made to God's likeness in his soul.

Liturgical Year

This week is the start of the First week in Ordinary time. Take a look at the structure of the Liturgical Year in the Liturgical Section.

Church Collections

We thank you for your contributions to the church collections. The amounts collected for the last three weeks were:

Date	First Basket	Second Basket	Other Collections
17th / 18th December 2011	€ 708	€ 628	€
24th / 25th December 2011	€ 1,392	€ 1,178	€
31st Dec. / 1st January 2012	€ 530	€ 462	€

The first basket is a collection for the support of priests of the parish and the Diocese. The second basket is for the Share collection.

The Book of Isaiah

The book of Isaiah is named after a great prophet who lived in Jerusalem in the latter half of the eighth century B.C. This book may be divided into three sections: 1 - Chapters 1-39 come from a time when Judah, the southern kingdom, was threatened by a powerful neighbour, Assyria. Isaiah saw that the real threat to the life of Judah was not simply the might of Assyria, but the nation's own sin and disobedience to God, and their lack of trust in him. In vivid words and actions the prophet called the people and their leaders to a life of righteousness and justice, and warned that failure to listen to God would bring doom and destruction. Isaiah also foretold a time of world-wide peace and the coming of a descendant of David who would be the ideal king. 2 Chapters 40-55 come from a time when many of the people of Judah were in exile in Babylon, crushed and without hope. The prophet proclaimed that God was about to set his people free and take them home to Jerusalem, to begin a new life. A notable theme of these chapters is that God is the Lord of history, and his plan for his people includes their mission to all nations, who will be blessed through Israel. The passages about "the Servant of the Lord" are among the best-known in the Old Testament. 3 Chapters 56-66 are for the most part addressed to people who were back in Jerusalem, and who needed reassurance that God was going to fulfil his promises to the nation. Concern is expressed for righteousness and justice and also for Sabbath observance, sacrifice, and prayer. A notable passage is chapter 61 verse 1-2, words used by Jesus at the beginning of his ministry to express his calling. (Outline of Contents: Warning and promises 1.1-12.6; Punishment of Nations 13.1-23.18; God's judgement of the world 24.1-27.13; Further warnings and promises 28.1-35.1; King Hezekiah of Judah and the Assyrians 36.1-39.8; Messages of promises and hope 40.1-55.13; Warnings and promises 56.1-66.24).

The First Letter from John

The First Letter from John has two main purposes: to encourage its readers to live in fellowship with God and with his Son, Jesus Christ, and to warn them against following false teaching that would destroy this fellowship. This teaching was based on the belief that evil results from contact with the physical world, and so Jesus, the Son of God, could not really have been a human being. Those teachers claimed that to be saved was to be set free from concern with life in this world; and they also taught that salvation had nothing to do with matters of morality or of love for others. In opposition to this teaching the writer clearly states that Jesus Christ was a real human being, and he emphasizes that all who believe in Jesus and love God must also love one another. (Outline of Contents: Introduction 1.1-4; Light and darkness 1.5-2.29; Children of God and children of the Devil 3.1-24; Truth and error 4.1-6; The duty of love 4.7-21; Victorious faith 5.1-21).

The First Book of Samuel

The First Book of Samuel records the transition in Israel from the period of judges to the monarchy. This change in Israel revolved mainly around three men: Samuel, the last of the judges: Saul, Israel's first king: and David the great king. The theme of this book, like other historical writings of the Old Testament, is that faithfulness to God brings success, while disobedience brings disaster. This is stated clearly in the Lord's word to the priest Eli "I will honour those who honour me, and I will treat with contempt those who despise me". The Lord himself was regarded as the real king of Israel, but in response to the people's request, the Lord chose a king for them. The important fact that both the king and the people of Israel lived under the sovereignty and judgement of God.

Daily readings for the week :

Although the Mass is made up of the liturgy of the Word and the liturgy of the Eucharist, the two parts are so closely connected as to form one act of worship. In the Mass the table of God's word and of Christ's body is prepared and from it the faithful are instructed and nourished. When the scriptures are read in the Church, God himself speaks.

Sunday 08.01.2012	The Baptism of the Lord – First Sunday in Ordinary Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •First Reading •Psalm •Second Reading •Gospel 	The Book of Isaiah - ch.55 v.1-11 Psalm – Isaiah 12: 2-6, First Letter of St. John - ch.5 v.1-9 Gospel of Mark - ch.1 v.7-11

For those who cannot join us for daily mass here are the readings for the week (09.01 - 14.01.2012):

Day	First Reading	Gospel
Monday 09.01.2012	The First Book of Samuel - ch.1 v.1-8	Gospel of Mark - ch.1 v.14-20
Tuesday 10.01.2012	The First Book of Samuel - ch.1 v.9-20	Gospel of Mark - ch.1 v.21-28
Wednesday 11.01.2012	The First Book of Samuel - ch.3 v.1-10	Gospel of Mark - ch.1 v.29-39
Thursday 12.01.2012	The First Book of Samuel - ch.4 v.1-11	Gospel of Mark - ch.1 v.40-45
Friday 13.01.2012	The First Book of Samuel - ch.8 v.4-7, 10-22	Gospel of Mark - ch.2 v.1-12
Saturday 14.01.2012	The First Book of Samuel - ch.9 v.1-4, 17-19	Gospel of Mark - ch.2 v.13-17

Sunday 15.01.2012	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •First Reading •Psalm •Second Reading •Gospel 	The First Book of Samuel - ch.3 v.3-10 Psalm - 39: v2, 4, 7-10 First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians - ch.6 v.13-15, 17-20 Gospel of St. John - ch.1 v.35-42

The Church has always revered sacred Scripture even as it has revered the body of the Lord, because, above all in the liturgy, it has never ceased to receive the bread of life from the table both of Gods word and of Christ's body and to offer it to the faithful.

(Vatican II. Constitution on Revelation, 21)

The Liturgical Year

The Catholic Church sets aside certain feast days and seasons of each year to recall and celebrate various events in the life of Christ. The liturgical year begins with the first Sunday of Advent and finishes with the feast of Christ The King, which is the Last Sunday of Ordinary Time (the last Sunday before advent). Within the sacred calendar every Sunday is kept holy as the Lord's Day – the day that extends Christ's resurrection throughout the entire year. The liturgical year is divided into seasons, feasts and ordinary time:

Advent, from the Latin *adventus*, "arrival" or "coming", the first season of the liturgical year begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. Its purpose focuses on preparation for the coming of Christ. Advent is the beginning of the new Church year and this season initiates a new cycle of readings. The Church uses a three-year cycle of Sunday readings: most of the Gospel readings in Year A are from Matthew, in Year B from Mark and in Year C from Luke. During Advent, we prepare for Christ's coming at Christmas, and Christ's coming each day. The liturgical colour for Advent is purple and violet.

Christmas Season immediately follows Advent. The Christmas season continues until the Feast of the Baptism of Christ, which is celebrated on the Sunday after 6th January. We celebrate Christ's Incarnation, the feast of the Holy Family, the solemnity of Mary, and the Epiphany during this season. The liturgical colour for the Season of Christmas is white or gold.

Ordinary Time consists of 33 or 34 Sundays and is divided into two sections in each liturgical year – one between the Christmas Season and Lent: the other is between Easter Time and Advent. Ordinary means normal or standard time in the church calendar. For more than thirty weeks Sundays have a dominant character where we learn to carry out the mission of Christ. The liturgical colour during Ordinary Time is green.

Lent is a major penitential season of preparation for Easter and is celebrated for forty days between Ash Wednesday and the Easter Triduum. It begins on Ash Wednesday and, if the penitential days of Good Friday and Holy Saturday are included, lasts for forty days, since the six Sundays within the season are not counted. It is a time of fasting, penance, and almsgiving, and good works in preparation for the resurrection of the Lord. The alleluia (which is used before and after the psalm) ceases during lent. The liturgical colour for Lent is purple.

The **Easter Triduum** is the summit or high point of the liturgical year, lasting from Holy Thursday until Easter Sunday at sundown. Liturgically, these three days are considered one celebration in which the Paschal Mystery unfolds. We celebrate the institution of the Eucharist, the commemoration of the suffering and death of Jesus (liturgical colour; red), and Christ's resurrection from the dead (liturgical colour: white and gold). At the Easter Vigil, the new fire is lit, the Exsultet proclaims Christ is risen from the dead, holy water is blessed, and baptismal vows are renewed.

Easter Time lasts for fifty glorious days from Easter Sunday until Pentecost. The Church celebrates the resurrection with the joyful spirits and the reinstatements of the alleluias. Most of the Gospel reading, telling of the post-resurrection appearances of Jesus, are from St. John. The liturgical colour for Easter Time is white.

Liturgical Section:

Weekday Morning Mass: 10.00 a.m.:- Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri, Sat

Weekday Evening Mass: 7.00 p.m.:- Mon, Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri (except Bank Holidays)

Sabbath Masses: Sat:- 7.00 p.m. Vigil

Sun:- 9.00 a.m., 10.30 a.m. [Choir](#), 12.00p.m. [Folk Group](#)

Eucharistic Service: 10.00 a.m.:- Wednesday (unless there is a funeral)

Benediction: Every Monday after 7.00 p.m. Mass (except Bank Holidays) First Friday of each month.

Rosary: Monday to Saturday after 10.00 a.m. Mass
Mon to Friday after 7.00 p.m. Mass

Baptisms: Please enquire in the sacristy for available dates. Baptisms are held on Sunday after 12.00 Mass. One months notice is required.

Reflection on today's readings

In today's first reading, we hear that a servant of God, a chosen one, will courageously serve God and help others to salvation – like Jesus, this servant “fulfils all righteousness.”.

In today's second reading we hear St John tell us that the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan was an “anointing with the Holy Spirit” after which he went about doing good. Baptism gives us, too, the power to do good.

In today's Gospel St. Matthew tells us that Although baptised by John, Jesus was not personally a sinner. His mission was to show whatever sinful man had to do in order to be restored to friendship with God.

(Extract for Fr. Jack McArdle's, His Baptism and Ours – Homily Resource - <http://www.associationofcatholicpriests.ie/2012/01/08-january-the-baptism-of-the-lord>)

In Matthew's account, John the Baptist proclaiming the coming of the Messiah prefaces today's gospel, and it is followed by Jesus encountering Satan in the desert. There is a definite pattern to all of this. The Spirit has shown John who Jesus was and, once the Spirit had come upon Jesus, Satan is waiting his chance to test that Spirit. One of the greatest gifts we receive from what Jesus achieved is that, with the Spirit within, we can face up to any evil spirit we meet on the road of life. John the evangelist writes in one of his letters, “little children, there is a power within you that is greater than any evil power you may meet on the road of life.” The baptism of Jesus is an extraordinary moment in our story of salvation. Not only did Jesus join us in our sinfulness, but the Father and the Spirit are seen and heard to be there with him. The language of the gospel may appear so simple, when we are told that “the heavens were opened,” but considering the banishment incurred through original sin, it is indeed a powerful statement. Later on, when Jesus will have completed his journey on Calvary, we are told that “the veil of the Temple was rent in two.” For the first time, we were free to enter into the Holy of Holies. Today's gospel is the beginning of a journey, which, through our own baptism, each of us is asked to travel.