

**THE PARISH OFFICE & PARISH CENTRE will remain closed until further notice.**

In the meantime if you have a query, please email June at [secretary@stmochtasparish.ie](mailto:secretary@stmochtasparish.ie). Take care and stay safe. Hopefully we will see you soon.

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Each week we suggest a piece of Scripture to use in your prayer. Light a candle and read slowly the passage, re-read it a couple of times and reflect on it and listen to what God is saying to you. **This week's is Mk 13:33-37.**

**ST. MOCHTA'S BETHANY BEREAVEMENT GROUP** is

unable to hold group meetings or 1:1's. If you need support, please phone or text 086 2479216 detailing if mornings or evenings suit you and one of the members will arrange a support call to you. Also the group has set up an **online monthly Bereavement support meeting. The next online meeting will be held on Monday 30th November at 7.30pm** in place of the physical meeting. This will be facilitated through Zoom. If you want to avail of this, simply send a text or call 086 2479216 and the group will set you up for the meeting. This is a strictly confidential service. Thank you.



**KIDS CORNER:** Having listened to the readings via webcam, please answer the following:

1. Who Will God separate at the end of time?
2. How will he do it?
3. Who will he call into his Kingdom?
4. How can we be his followers?

**TASK FOR THE WEEK:** Today is the Feast of Christ our King. It is where we recognise Christ as the ruler of our lives, he is the one we try to follow and be the rock on which we build our lives. Next week we will start a new season. Do you know what its called?



**FINGAL'S COMMUNITY RESPONSE FORUM**

COVID-19 Helpline 01 8905000 from 8am to 8pm for people who need help. FreePhone 1800 459059; Email: [covidsupport@fingal.ie](mailto:covidsupport@fingal.ie).

**ALONE**—Professional staff are available to answer queries, etc. Please contact 0818 222 024 8am - 8pm

**CROSSCARE:** We need donations of toiletries – Soaps, Shampoo, Toothpaste, hand soap, baby hygiene products in their original packaging please. Please contact [vcummins@crosscare.ie](mailto:vcummins@crosscare.ie)



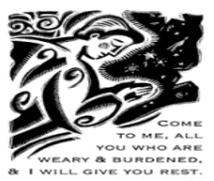
**Family Prayer in time of pandemic**

Lord Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command the sick were made well again. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of this virus, that we may experience your healing love. Lord, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and give us your peace. In your mercy Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

**Memorare**

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy, hear and answer. Amen.

**Please pray for** Fr. Paul, Fr. Flor, Joan Hartigan, Mary Phelan, Baby Freddie, Baby Jamie, Bridie, Willie, Geraldine, Kevin, Mary and all those who are sick or housebound at this time.



**CELEBRATING ADVENT:**

The season of Advent which we begin next week is an endangered liturgical season. In our modern Irish society there is no Advent. There are only so many days to Christmas. None of us are immune to the pressures and stresses to make the impossibly perfect Christmas cake or tree or party or find the perfect gift. It is however too easy to throw cheap shots at the materialism of the commercial world of which, of course, we are all a part. It has become a cliché to describe the shopping centres as the new cathedrals, and shopping as the new religion. There is some truth in it: no doubt we need to look a little deeper. If a chasm has opened up between the church and the world, what is happening in that space? Is that the place we should explore? The most challenging bit of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ, for which we now begin to prepare for during Advent, is that God became a part of this messy world. The season of Advent is about awaking that awareness. So amidst all the hustle and bustle of preparations lets try and reflect on why we do what we do at this great festive season. Our coming weeks of Advent give us ample opportunity to see, to hear of and learn about why God so loved the Lord that he sent us his only Son. Enjoy this time.



Archdiocese of Dublin – Blanchardstown Deanery

**ST. MOCHTA'S PARISH**

Porterstown / Clonsilla

**PARISH NEWSLETTER 22ND NOVEMBER, 2020—34TH—CHRIST THE KING**

"St. Mochta's is a young and developing faith community, which is conscious of its proud and ancient history, and seeks to be a welcoming and spirited Parish in the service of the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

(Parish Mission Statement)

Parish Priest : V. Rev. Paul Ward Tel: 8213218  
 Parish Deacon: Rev. Deacon Timothy Murphy Tel: 8213218  
 Parish Pastoral Worker: Mary Greene Tel: 8213218  
 Parish Secretary: June Phelan Tel: 8213218  
 Parish Sacristan: Mary Stacey Tel: 8213218  
 Parish Pastoral Centre Enquiries to: Terry Duffy  
 Parish Pastoral Committee: Chairperson Bryan Maher  
 Parish Finance Committee: Chairperson John Sherwood

email: [secretary@stmochtasparish.ie](mailto:secretary@stmochtasparish.ie)  
 email: [deacontim@stmochtasparish.ie](mailto:deacontim@stmochtasparish.ie)  
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 email: [sacristan@stmochtasparish.ie](mailto:sacristan@stmochtasparish.ie)  
 email: [pastoralcentre@stmochtasparish.ie](mailto:pastoralcentre@stmochtasparish.ie)  
 email: [pastoralcouncil@stmochtasparish.ie](mailto:pastoralcouncil@stmochtasparish.ie)  
 email: [secretary@stmochtasparish.ie](mailto:secretary@stmochtasparish.ie)

Parish Website Address: [www.stmochtasparish.ie](http://www.stmochtasparish.ie)

Webcam Link: <https://www.stmochtasparish.ie/home/mass-times-and-webcam>

**Our Lord Jesus Christ Universal King**

The Church calendar (aka the Liturgical Calendar) teaches us about the duration of the human life that Jesus Christ came to share with us on this earth and is divided into Seasons during which we reflect of the different aspects of Christ's life and celebrate them in our liturgy.

It is different from the calendar we use to mark the Seasons of the year (Winter, Spring, Summer and Autumn), which provides us with days dates and time which we use as our personal diary and it tabulates the years. We count the years in numbers before Christ which we refer to as BC and then in numbers after his death and resurrection which we refer to as AD. Hence, we are embarking on the 2021<sup>st</sup>. year AD on the first of January next.

The Church calendar year begins on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November 2020 which is next weekend. We begin with the season of Advent, which is the time in which we reflect of the first coming of Jesus among us and on his second coming at the end of the world as we know it. The liturgical calendar year ends with a celebration of the feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, which is this weekend in the current year 2020.

We are currently living at 'level 5' of the government plan to cope with the covid-19 virus, which is proving to be more difficult for some than when we were restricted by it some months ago. Gathering for Mass is at the heart of who we are. The restrictions attached to level 5 means we cannot get to Mass at the present time. Our

webcam means we can participate in the celebration of our Sunday Mass (and daily Mass for those who can).

It's very important that we mark Sunday as the Lord's Day (the Sabbath Day). We can do this by participating in Mass online, reading the Mass Readings, participating in our weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament online on Sunday evenings from 7pm to 8pm, spending time in quiet prayer, doing acts of love for people who are elderly or sick or alone, including helping them to participate in Mass online. They can, of course, participate in Mass on television if they know how and when and where to find it on the tv. Participating online with their own parish gives a sense of belonging to the 'parish family'. Family and friends at home and abroad contact us to say how much it means to them to be at Mass in their home place online. We have more than 2000 people (from at home and abroad) tuning into Mass here in St. Mochta's every week. **Why not tell your family and friends living abroad how to link in to Mass in St. Mochta's.**

Our faith can be nurtured in simple ways every day e.g. by blessing ourselves with holy water as we enter and leave the house, saying a prayer in the morning and evening and or at bedtime. Praying the rosary, full or in part, at some time each day. Saying Grace before and after meals. Visiting the church for private prayer (St. Mochta's is open Monday to Friday and Sunday from 11am to 4pm for private

Cont'd from page one prayer). Simple private moments of saying "thanks" to God for blessings we've received.

Live the Present Moment. We normally spend so much time revisiting the past or planning for the future, that we can easily forget to focus on the present. Today's feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ Universal King teaches us that we can contribute to bringing about the Kingdom of God here and now by demonstrating our love for others, especially caring for the vulnerable members of our families, our parish community, our society. Everything is connected, everyone is connected! COVID-19 has forced us to 'slow down', providing us with an opportunity to contemplate nature and take care of each other and the planet. Let us keep praying for a successful vaccine to become available soon. Stay safe and well and let's all look out for each other. God Bless.

Fr. Paul

**Church Open for Private Prayer**

- The church will be open each day from 11am until 4pm. You are welcome to visit for Private Prayer. We ask you, when visiting, to please follow the health and safety guidelines.
- Please sanitise your hands, using the free-standing sanitisers on entry and exit to and from the church.
- Please sign the sheet provided giving your name and contact number and the time you are in the church for HSE contact tracing purposes.
- Please use a face covering indoors at all times.
- Private Prayer should be **silent** so as not to affect other people who are praying in silence.
- If you are lighting a candle(s) please use the taper provided and **be careful that you do not expose your hands to the naked flame** as sanitising liquids can be flammable.
- Please do not visit the church if you are ill or displaying the virus symptoms.

Thank you. Fr. Paul.

**People may make a Spiritual Communion using the following prayer:**

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.



**REMEMBERING SOULS IN NOVEMBER:**

Please return your list to the church **NOW**. Thank you.

**Webcam and Donate Button**

The installation of a 'webcam' has successfully kept us in touch with parishioners and we have discovered that many people from outside of the parish and the country can 'attend' our liturgical celebrations from their home anywhere in the world. **Our access link is: <https://www.stmochtasparish.ie/home/mass-times-and-webcam>** You can also access the link through our website [www.stmochtasparish.ie](http://www.stmochtasparish.ie).

By adding a provision to 'Donate Online' to our Parish website it will now be possible for parishioners to make contributions without 'handling' money coins or notes. It affords everyone the option of reflecting on why contributions are vitally essential to keep the church in good running order. Contributions are welcome and can now be made on the Online **Donate** facility for:

**Family Offering:**

The day to day running expenses/ light, heat, sound, phones, altar breads and wine for Masses, candles, salaries, cleaning and regular recurring maintenance of screens and projectors, drains, gutters, roof and maintenance of outside toilet, Insurance on Parish buildings (€6000+), burglar alarms, fire alarms, monitoring of same, maintaining the church grounds and carpark including trees, webcam, broadband, lease charges on photocopier, stationery, printing, bank charges, Administration. V.A.T. (we pay VAT on all purchases, services, etc.) postage, photocopying, sacramental expenses, flowers, water charges, annual service and de-sludge of our pumping station, Coffee Dock essentials, cleaning products, annual sanitary expenses, support for various parish groups, etc. and now sanitizer, disposable gloves, disposable masks, daily cleaning, etc.

**Restoration:**

The church is now 130 years old. The fabric of the building needs repair work, some subsidence in the plasterwork requires urgent attention. Dampness needs to be treated, a new boiler and improvements to the radiators along with a form of 'insulation' to keep the heat in the building. The windows require insulation for their protection and to assist with insulating the building. Trees are creating problems to the fabric of the building on one side of the church and trees need attention in the car park as they have reduced the space available for cars to park. Painting and decorating are required in the building and on the outside doors and gutters etc. Car park needs re-surfacing and marking. We are currently seeking estimates to ascertain the exact cost of this work, which will cost thousands of euros.

**First and Second collections and Easter & Christmas Dues:**

**The First Collection and Dues** are sent to the Archdiocese to pay the income of all priests in the

diocese including sick and retired priests. Since the church closed and the collections stopped *The priests of the Dublin Archdiocese have had a further 25% cut to their income in addition to the previous 25% cut within the last 8 years.*

**The Second Collection** is sent to the Archdiocese to support the salaries of the administration who provide services to the parishes, to subsidise poorer parishes and makes a contribution to projects of the Irish Episcopal Conference.

Thank you to those who are currently keeping us 'afloat' by contributing to the parish 'Family Offering' through standing orders and through the envelope collection. **We greatly value and hope you will continue your support.**

By donating via Standing Order, envelope and via the Donate option on the website, St. Mochta's church can benefit from the 'tax back' incentive by including all the contributions in the total yearly recorded contribution of each donor and claim the tax back without any extra cost to the donor. This would greatly enhance the contributions received by the parish. (\*There is a small charge for transactions for the company who operate the online Donate facility.)

I am well aware that the Pandemic has also impacted negatively on the people who have lost their jobs and on those whose working hours have been cut and are currently dependent on government subsidies to give them a wage that they can manage to live on and support families. I appreciate that your circumstances may mean that you are not in a position to contribute at this time. I hope and pray that your situation will improve very soon.

If every **wage earner** in each **household**, young or old, contributed something, our parish would be in a more secure place. For example, the following template illustrates how a small donation can work. **Is our request reasonable?** Consider the subscriptions that many of us make for additional services into our homes every month? **For example:** the cost per month of TV packages Sky Sports, Sky Movies, Netflix? The consumption of a bottle of wine or beer: take away foods: concert tickets: cigarettes: phone apps. etc.?

**The following template illustrates that for a modest annual contribution per household St. Mochta's can, (with the tax incentive scheme), receive extra money at no extra cost to you. For the minimum contribution (in the tax incentive scheme) of €250 per annum St. Mochta's will receive €362.**

(I would like to encourage those who can afford to give a little more to please do so.)

<b>*Per Household Family Offering</b>	
€10 per month	total annually €120
<b>Church Restoration</b>	
€5 per month	total annually €60

<b>First Collection</b>	
€3 per month	total annually €36
<b>Second Collection</b>	
€2 per month	total annually €24
<b>Easter Dues</b>	
€15 once a year (€1.25 per month)	total annually €15
<b>Christmas Dues</b>	
€15 once a year (€1.25 per month)	total annually €15

<b>Total contribution per month</b>	<b>Total contribution Annually</b>
<b>€22.50 Per Household</b>	<b>€270 Per Household</b>

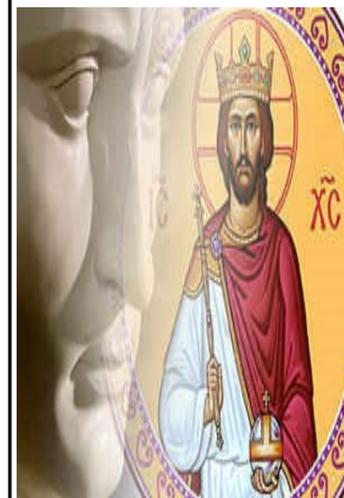
I would be grateful for any support you can give at this time; we are in need of your support.

I can assure you that you are always in my prayers and my hope is that, please God, we can all make a brighter future for our parish together.

Sincerely, Fr. Paul

**PRIORY RETREAT:** We are taking registrations now for our **Advent Retreat**. It's a series of filmed reflections on the Sunday gospel readings of Advent. We are subsidising the production costs to encourage participation, the cost of the retreat is €40 and **registration closes on Friday 27th November**. Maybe it's a sign of the times but it seems people are interested in looking at the 'big' questions especially coming up to this very unusual Christmas. More information on <https://prioryinstitute.com/events/2020-advent-retreat>

**FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING**



This Sunday brings us to the end of the liturgical year. We have travelled a long road since the 1st Sunday of Advent. Christ has been on the road with us as the invisible companion on our journey. Let us hope that during it we have grown to know him better, to trust him better, and to love him better, so that next week we can rejoice in calling him our King.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:** Due to COVID-19 restrictions Mass is celebrated via webcam only so we are unable to hold church gate collections. If you would like to donate to SVP, please pick up a **BLUE envelope at the back of the church**. Envelopes can be placed in the large box at the back of the church. St. Mochta's Conference thanks you for your help and continued support.

