

Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)

First Reading Isaiah 35:1-6,10

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,
let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;
they shall see the glory of the Lord,
the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands,
steady all trembling knees
and say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy
for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy,
everlasting joy on their faces;
joy and gladness will go with them
and sorrow and lament be ended.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 145(146):6-10

Response: Lord, and save us.

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free, **Response**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. **Response**

It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. **Response**



Second Reading James 5:7-10

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation s61:1(Lk4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 11:2-11

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says:

'Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you.

'I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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WHAT'S ON

Monday 15th December

Choir practise at 7.45pm in the Choir Gallery

Baptism Preparation meeting at 7pm in the Oratory for baptisms taking place next Saturday at 12.30pm.

Tuesday 16th December
Infant School Carol Singing at 12.20pm in the Church

Thursday 18th December

After Mass the Holy Rosary in the Oratory is specifically for vocations to the priesthood. All are welcome.

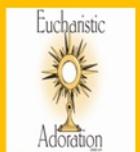
Penitential Service for Christmas at 7.00pm

Friday 19th December

The Eucharistic Prayer Group will resume again on 9th January 2026.

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday to Friday 10.30am to 5.00pm. in the Oratory.



Church Collections

w/e 6th/7th December 2025

1st Priests: €792

2nd Collection: €589

Envelopes: €708

PARISH LOTTO

Development Fund

There was no winner of last week's Jackpot.

The winning numbers were

Lotto Nos 5, 14, 17, 30

Jackpot €2.000

Congratulations to last week's winners of the three €20 Prizes.

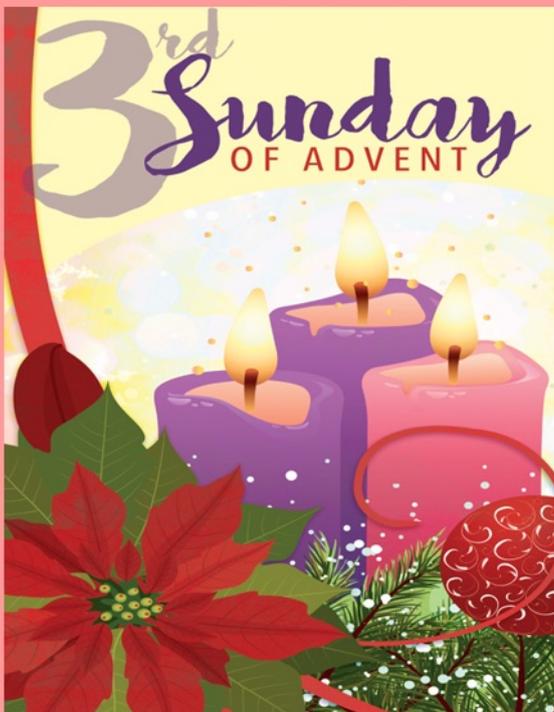
The Draw takes place on

Tuesday morning before the

10 a.m. Mass. Entries for the Lotto draw each week **must** be put into the safe in the church **by 11.00a.m.**

on Mondays.

All are welcome to attend the draw.



Parish Christmas Remembrance cards 70 cent each

Church Art Calendars 2026

€2.00 each Small Calendars €1

All on sale from the Parish Office.

Please collect a copy of the Christmas Newsletter, Parish Calendar for 2026 & Christmas Dues envelope from the Church or the Parish Office.

The Annual Diocesan Collection for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

will take place at all Masses **this Weekend**, and will replace the Share collection. SVP donation envelopes are available on the tables at the back of the church, we ask you to kindly return the envelopes to the Parish Office. Your support to help adults & children who are struggling this Christmas is very much appreciated.

Please give as generously as you can.

Thought As our society moves away from God, comfortable Christianity disappears. Isaiah 53 prophecies of Jesus, 'Like a sapling He grew up .. in arid ground.' Tough terrain causes us to stand for, or walk away from, our faith. Jesus says the gate to heaven is narrow. Those who have followed Him there await Him saying "Well done good and faithful servant." We like to sit on the fence, to not stand out, but Jesus is not the neutral fence. He's our gateway, and He alone knows best, doesn't He? When we hit arid ground let's ask Jesus to help us, like Him, grow during trials, journey on the narrow way, comfortable or uncomfortable, with Christ.



We invite you to bring a Poinsettia to the Church in memory of a loved one living or deceased. In this way we hope to fill the church with the festive colour of Christmas and at the same time remember in Christmas prayer all those we love.



We remember

Frances Becton

whose Funeral Mass takes place on Monday morning at 10.00am

Anthony (Tony) Cousins

Robert (Robbie) Ormonde

Patricia (Trish) Donohoe

who died recently

**MAY THEY REST
IN PEACE**