

Parish Newsletter

SUNDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2026



Why do we fast?

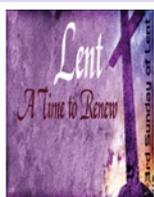
Because we have a hunger for God, which is the deepest hunger.

We're meant to get access to that hunger. We're meant to feel it so that it can direct us toward God.

Every spiritual master recognizes the danger that if we allow the superficial hunger of our lives to dominate, we never reach the deepest hunger.

Fasting is a way of disciplining the superficial hunger. It is a way of quieting those desires by not responding to them immediately, so that the deepest desires emerge.

Unless you fast you might never realize how hungry you are for God. (Wordonfire.org)



During Lent candles for "Healing & Renewal" are available at all Masses and from the Parish Office. Offering €1

Thought The name Jesus means Yahweh Saves, honouring both the Father & Jesus. In the first line of the Our Father we call God's name holy. Sadly, the holy name is often used as a joke, an insult, a curse. Let us choose to bless the name of Jesus by praying in love and reverence, Jesus, Jesus, over and over. This pleases the Father. Respectfully praying the holy name helps renew our mind so that if it slips out inappropriately we repent "Forgive me Lord. Help me love Your name". Of all the things we could give up for lent, abusing His son's name must come high on the Father's list. After all, He calls us by name, and never without love.

The annual collection for Accord Dublin, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family,

will be made at all Masses this weekend.

ACCORD Dublin

throughout the Diocese offers:

Marriage Preparation courses – online, small groups. Counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships, currently online or by phone. A Relationship and Sexuality Programme for schools. ACCORD Dublin needs your support this year more than ever.



PLANNED GIVING BOXES 2026

Will be ready for collection from the Parish Office from Tuesday 17th February.

A huge thank you to the volunteers who helped to label and assemble the boxes. Your help is very much appreciated.

WHAT'S ON

Monday 16th February

Choir practise at 7.45pm

Parish Pastoral Council

meeting at 7.30pm.

Baptism Preparation

meeting in the Oratory at 7pm.

Wednesday 18th February

Ash Wednesday

Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 19th February

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

Friday 20th February

Eucharistic Prayer Group

meets in the Oratory from 2.30pm-3.30pm. All welcome.

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday to Friday

10.30am to 5.00pm.

in the Oratory.



Miraculous medals and a leaflet with prayers are available in the church for anyone who wishes to pray the Miraculous Medal Novena.

Church Collections

w/e 7th/8th February 2026

1st Priests: €711

2nd Collection: €501

Envelopes: €554

PARISH LOTTO

Development Fund

There was no winner of last week's Jackpot.

The winning numbers were

Lotto Nos 16, 17, 29, 31

The Jackpot is €2,700

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

The Draw takes place on

Tuesday morning before 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.

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Day of Prayer for Temperance

First Reading Ecclesiasticus 15:16-21

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,
to behave faithfully is within your power.
He has set fire and water before you;
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.
Man has life and death before him;
whichever a man likes better will be given him.
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is almighty and all-seeing.
His eyes are on those who fear him,
he notes every action of man.
He never commanded anyone to be godless,
he has given no one permission to sin.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm 118(119):1-2,4-5,17-18, 33-34

Response: They are happy who follow God's law!

They are happy whose life is blameless,
who follow God's law!
They are happy who do his will,
seeking him with all their hearts. **R.**

You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. **R.**

Bless your servant and I shall live
and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may see
the wonders of your law. **R.**

Teach me the demands of your statutes
and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law,
to keep it with my heart. **R.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: *the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.*

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Matthew 5:17-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, not one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: *You must not kill*; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: *You must not commit adultery*. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: *Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal*. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: *You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord*. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.