Clonskeagh Parish Newsletter

Let us remember those who are sick and housebound in our Parish today!



Clonskeagh Parish Mass Times are as follows:

- •10am Monday to Friday (11am on Bank Holidays) will be celebrated in St. Joseph's (Except Funerals & Holy Days)
- •10.30am Sunday

**** Parish Office Email: clonskeaghparish@gmail.com****

Sacristy/Parish Office Telephone: 01 2837948 Website: www.clonskeaghparish.ie

Mass Intentions For This Week

Sunday 10.30am – Nellie & Bob Williams (A)
Alice McMullen (A)
Una, Anna & Avril Phelan (A)

Monday 10.00am - Sarah & John O'Neill (A)

Tuesday 10.00am - Special Intention

Wednesday 10.00am - Sr Eucharia Maguire RJM

Thursday 10.00am – Special Intention

Friday 10.00am – 1st Friday, Altar List of the Dead



We prayerfully remember all who are **Recently Deceased** and all whose **Anniversaries** occur at this time.

"May all our faithfully departed rest in peace.

Amen."

Last Weekend Collections

1st Coll. (*The support of Priests*) €490 2nd Coll. (*Share*) €335 House to House (*Incl. S/O*) €250 Thank you for your continued support.

"Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD" Psalm 1:24

Today – Cup of tea and a chat after Mass!

Please don't shoot off – we would love to hear anything you would like to see happen in our Parish Community, and if you can help achieve it, even if you have limited free time! Even half an hour a week or a month can help! Parish Council members will be circulating among you – not wearing red noses, just name labels! They are here to listen to you!



November Altar List of the Dead is one of the many ways in which we remember our deceased relatives and friends, and join our intentions in the Masses the priests offer for the repose of their souls. Please take a November Altar List of the Dead (Available at the back of the Church). Place your completed List in one of the envelopes provided and return it to the basket or, you can pop them into the post box outside St. Joseph's or, if it is open, leave them in the Sacristy. The names of all those on the Altar List of the Dead are included in the 1st Friday Masses throughout the year.

"It is a holy and a wholesome thought to pray for the dead."

A Few Words from Fr Joe...



Patrick's Kavanagh's poem Advent speaks to and from the religious culture of his own time, an era when penance was practiced and heartfelt hope in the power of Bethlehem offered redemption.

The Advent darkened room he recalls was a place of dry black bread and sugarless tea. After the wonder of waiting, struggling in the depth of mystery he finally recognises 'Christ comes with a January flower'. In light of this birth the effects of Christmas will be felt 'wherever life pours ordinary plenty'. My goodness but our culture has changed in the 90 years or so since those words were penned! Thank goodness, the dry bread and sugarless tea are gone, but maybe there is still a place for some abstinence in our sugar saturated lives.

Both then and now the darkness of the season steals our light away, and cold wintery days cause us to shiver and search out comfort and shelter. The choice to 'give something up' has moved to the other side of Christmas, around the time the Wise Men come many enter into a dry January, a New Year's diet and month of recovery. I won't say that misses the point, but it does deny Advent an essential part of its spiritual energy, fasting. Christians by their very nature are called to be counter cultural. To embrace the Lord is to seek out the poor, the lonely, the hungry and the homeless.

Advent appeals, charity cards, carol singers, purple vestments, a pre-Christmas confession and yes even a little bit of fasting can all help to prepare the space in our hearts for a rebirth of the essential relationship of faith, a connection to Christ. *Hopefully the chink isn't too wide to let the wonder in*.

Gathering in Church and celebrating together after Covid:

During the early months of the pandemic the church moved quickly to embrace and implement a whole range of restrictions in the interest of public health. All of us played our part to make our gathering as safe as possible for the vulnerable. We were socially distanced, sat in pods, took communion only on the hand, emptied the fonts, wore masks.

We are in a different place now and all the obligation to abide by these restrictions can be set aside. Individuals will continue to do whatever is prudent for their personal well-being and is thoughtful of others. But no one is required to wear a mask, either in the body of the church or while being a minister. Parishioners can again choose to receive the Eucharist on the tongue and the Holy Water

fonts will be available.

As would be the case in any winter those who have colds and flu, are feeling unwell should be very mindful of others and perhaps shelter in the warmth and comfort of home.

CROSSCARE CHRISTMAS FOOD POVERTY APPEAL



2022 has been very difficult for families coming to Crosscare needing help. For the first time in many years, they have seen a rise in the number of working families struggling with ongoing increases in the cost of living. The demands of Christmas put even more pressure on people already finding it hard to make ends meet. This Christmas, they are asking for help for the Food Poverty Service, where Crosscare supports families who find it hard to provide nutritious food. Sadly, almost 800 families and individuals, including 1,000 children, have needed help from the Service this year and demand is likely to increase in the coming months.

Crosscare ensures they have a good supply of food while at the same time looking at all the issues that may have brought them into food poverty.

If you can, you can donate online at www.crosscare.ie or call 01 8360011 or send a cheque or postal order to Crosscare Christmas Appeal, 2 Saint Mary's Place North, Dublin D07 Y768.