

## ST. MOCHTA'S COMMUNITY & SOCIAL NEWS

**CHRISTMAS DRAW:** Tickets for our Christmas Draw are on sale after mass and in the Parish Centre. **The draw is limited to 500 hundred tickets at €10 each.** All the proceeds this year will be going to cover the cost of installing an electronic striker for the church bell. This will mean that we will be able to ring The Angelus each day and set it to ring for Mass and other liturgical celebrations. It will be a great addition to our celebrations. **Any donations of prizes for the Christmas Draw would be greatly accepted and appreciated.** Please see Fr. John after Mass. Thank you for your ongoing support. Our Christmas Draw will take place on **Sunday 21st December** after our Carol Service.

**CAKE SALE:** We are holding a cake sale for Christmas **this Sunday 7th December** after mass in the Parish Centre. All proceeds will go to buy equipment for youth to use in our new Pastoral Centre. A big thank you to Sharon and her team and all those who baked.

**CHRISTMAS FAIR—ST. MOCHTA'S N.S.** is hosting its Christmas Fair **this Sunday, 7th December, 2008 from 1pm to 5pm.** The money raised will be used to purchase Interactive White Boards, etc. Your child needs you to support this event. It will be a fun day with lots to do for all the family.

**CHRISTMAS FAIR—ST. PATRICK'S N.S.** Parents' Association would like to thank everyone who supported the fair last weekend which was a great success. All proceeds go to the running of the school in the coming year.

**CROSSCARE—A DAY FOR REFLECTION AND CELEBRATION:** Key Note Speaker Marion Carroll. **Sat. 13th Dec** from 10am-4.30pm in Crosscare, Main St., (Capuchin Oratory), Blanchardstown, Dublin 15. To book pls. ph 01 8360011 or email mcarroll@crosscare.ie.

**ST. MOCHTA'S WAY:** Donate a brick and be part of the heritage of our Parish. To commemorate our new Parish Centre and to build the heritage of our parish, St. Mochta's Way has been created so that you can make history for your family in the future. Everyone can participate by having a personalised engraved brick placed in St. Mochta's Way. You can order a single brick with up to two lines of lettering or a double brick with up to four lines. The bricks, available in gold lettering, are professionally engraved and hand painted with a long lasting gold infill. You could donate a brick with your family name or for any occasion, e.g. Birth, Christening, Birthday, Holy Communion, Confirmation, Graduation, Engagement, Wedding, Family Remembrance or any special personal or family occasion. If you would like more information about the scheme, pick up a brochure in the church, at the Parish Centre or you can download an order form, on our website. Take a look at 'St. Mochta's Way' at [www.stmochtasparish.ie](http://www.stmochtasparish.ie). **The 1st order of bricks for St. Mochta's Way will take place in December. 1st 250 applications will be accepted.**

**SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCH:** We are going to host a Christmas Lunch in our new Pastoral Centre **next Saturday, 13th December** beginning with Mass at **12.30 pm** for all the senior members of our parish. There are only 50 tickets available and they are on sale costing just €10. Tickets are available in the Sacristy after Mass and in the Parish Centre Mon.-Fri. 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Lunch will be followed by some entertainment. This is a first for our parish so do support it if you are free. It offers a great opportunity to meet some new people.

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

1. Who was out in the wilderness?
2. What was John asking the people to do?
3. Who was John preparing the way for?
4. What will be baptise us with?

**TASK FOR THE WEEK:** Why not begin the journey to Bethlehem now! Set up the crib in the front room of your house. Place Mary and Joseph in your bedroom and each day move them a little so as the days pass they move closer to the crib. They should arrived for Christmas Eve. Full details at the back of the church.



Archdiocese of Dublin - Deanery of Finglas

# ST. MOCHTA'S PARISH

Porterstown & Clonsilla, Dublin 15

## PARISH NEWSLETTER 7TH DEC. 2008 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Parish Priest :** Rev. John Daly Tel: 8213218

email: [frjohn@stmochtasparish.ie](mailto:frjohn@stmochtasparish.ie)

**Parish Pastoral Worker:** Mary GreeneByrne Tel: 8213218

email: [pastoralcare@stmochtasparish.ie](mailto:pastoralcare@stmochtasparish.ie)

**Parish Secretary:** June Phelan Tel: 8213218

email: [secretary@stmochtasparish.ie](mailto:secretary@stmochtasparish.ie)

**Parish Pastoral Committee:** Chairperson George McLellan

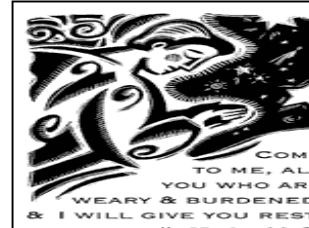
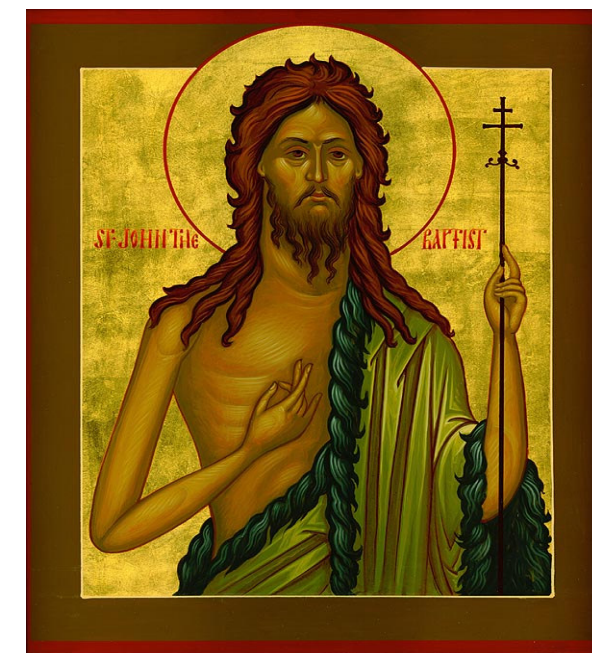
**Parish Finance Committee:** Chairperson Colm O'Neill

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

**Parish Office Hours :** Monday - Friday : 9.30am – 12.30pm

## PREPARING THE WAY FOR THE LORD

In today's liturgy we hear again the lonely voice of John the Baptist calling us to prepare a way for the Lord. This involves finding time in our busy lives, and space in our busy hearts, for the Lord. Let us offer that time and space to the Lord now so that he can come to us in this Eucharist.



Please pray for those who are sick or housebound at this time:

**Irene Hoey, Bridget Matthews, Bernie Byrne, Joan Allen, Pdraig Byrne, Sarah Harris, Baby Patrick, Peggy McKeown.**

## WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP



### 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7.00 pm: Jan & Olive Skrobisz (Anniv.)  
8.30 am: Mary & Tom Ryan (Anniv.)  
10.30 am: Andrew Brennan (Anniv.)  
12.00 pm: Joseph Brannigan &  
Christina & Francis Brannigan (Anniv.)

**EXPOSITION 7pm—9pm**

**Monday: The Immaculate Conception of Our Lady**

10.00 am: Int. of the Sick of the Parish  
7.00 pm: Vincent Travers (Anniv.)

**Tuesday:**

10.00 am: Margo Lynn (R.I.P.)

**Wednesday:**

10.00 am: Service of Word & Communion

**Thursday: St. Damasus I**

10.00 am: Intentions of the Parish

**Friday: Sts Finnian & Jane Frances de Chantal**

10.00 am: Special Intention

**Saturday: St. Lucy**

10.00 am: John Swan (Anniv.)

### 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7.00 pm: May, Mick, Tom & Jim O'Brien (Anniv.)  
8.30 am: Fr. Browne (Anniv.)  
10.30 am: Pdraig O'Toole (Anniv.)  
12.00 pm: May Caldwell, Doyle & Connell Family (Ann.)



**WEDDING BELLS:** Congratulations to **Dara Brohoon and Anita Jenkins** who were married this past week. May the Lord continue to bless them and deepen their love in the years ahead.

**WELCOMING SUNDAY:** This weekend we welcome all those who are to be baptised this coming month and introduce them to our community. May they continue to grow strong in body, mind and spirit. Anyone enquiring about baptism please take one of the leaflets from the back of the church or see Fr. John after Mass. Thank you.



**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** meeting takes place this coming **Monday, 8th December** at **8pm** in the Parish Centre. All members are asked to attend

## WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

If you are a new parishioner or just visiting St. Mochta's you are very welcome and we, the existing community, hope you feel at home. If you are new to the parish please make yourself known to Fr. John. I would be also grateful if you could fill out a **Registration Form** in order to register with the parish. These can be found at the back of the Church.

### ARE YOU REGISTERED IN THE PARISH?

Are you on the parish data base? If you have not registered with the parish please fill out one of the forms at the back of the church and return it to Fr. John. It is very important that we continue to build our data base and keep it up to date. Thank you.

**PARISH OFFICE:** For all parish enquires please ring our secretary June on 8213218 or email: [secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie](mailto:secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie) **Our parish office is open Monday to Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.**

**PARISH WEBSITE:** The address for our new site is: [www.stmochtasparrish.ie](http://www.stmochtasparrish.ie)

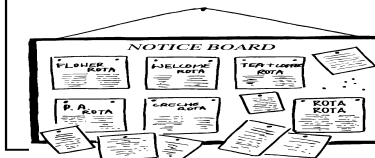
**MASS INTENTIONS:** If you would like to have Mass offered for someone or offered for a particular intention please see our sacristan, Mary after Mass.

**CONFESSION:** the sacrament is celebrated each Saturday from 6.00pm 6.45pm or by appointment. The sacrament offers you an opportunity to receive the Lord's forgiveness and healing.

**HOSPITAL VISITATION:** If you know of a parishioner who is sick and would like a visit please don't hesitate to contact Fr. John.

**CHRISTMAS LEAFLET VOLUNTEERS:** Our Christmas leaflet is ready for collection this weekend. We'd be grateful if our usual volunteers would collect them from the sacristy after mass or call into the parish office between 9.30 and 12.30 pm during the week and deliver them this coming week. The leaflet contains Mass details for Christmas etc. We are also looking for new recruits for our ever expanding parish. Please see Fr. John after Mass.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES:** Our Masses for Christmas Eve will be the Family Mass at 6pm with the Mass of Christmas celebrated at 9pm. Christmas morning Masses will be celebrated at 8am; 9am; 10.30am and 12 noon. **Please note that there is NO 8.30am Mass.** Our congregations are usually very large for Christmas. So I would encourage you to arrive in plenty of time for Mass.



# PARISH NEWS



### WEEKLY REFLECTION

The voice of John the Baptist was a lonely voice which many of his contemporaries ignored.

There are many lonely voices in our world. Somewhere at this moment a child is crying - crying for love or maybe simply for bread.

Somewhere a young person is crying - crying for a listening ear or an understanding heart.

Somewhere an old person is crying - crying for a visit or a word from his/her children. There are a thousand unheard cries in our world, coming from the victims of injustice and neglect.

Lord, help us to listen to these voices.

Above all, help us to listen to your voice, whispering to us in the wilderness of our hearts, telling us that we are loved by you, and that we are to love one another.

**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 John 1:6-8.19-28.**

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:** It's important to understand what the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception is and what it is not. Some people think the term refers to Christ's conception in Mary's womb without the intervention of a human father; but that is the Virgin Birth. Others think the Immaculate Conception means Mary was conceived "by the power of the Holy Spirit," in the way Jesus was, but that, too, is incorrect. The Immaculate Conception means that Mary, whose conception was brought about the normal way, was conceived without original sin or its stain—that's what "immaculate" means: without stain. The essence of original sin consists in the deprivation of sanctifying grace, and its stain is a corrupt nature. Mary was preserved from these defects by God's grace; from the first instant of her existence she was in the state of sanctifying grace and was free from the corrupt nature original sin brings. So, the grace Mary enjoyed was not a result of the angel's visit. In fact, Catholics hold, it extended over the whole of her life, from conception onward. She was in a state of sanctifying grace from the first moment of her existence. **The feast of Mary's Immaculate Conception is a holy day of obligation and Masses will be celebrated on the 8th December at 10am and 7pm in the evening.**

**2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT:** John the Baptist was full of the Holy Spirit. That's why his words hit home with so many. But he knew there was a greater power and greater effectiveness than he could ever have. For however much he was inspired by God, he could not send that Spirit into anyone. Could he cause them to put their sins behind them? Yes. Or strive to be holy? Yes. But he could not give them the presence of God; he could only tell them to prepare for the One who could and would give it. It was John's job to tell of the One to come, the Messiah, the One who would send the Holy Spirit into those he baptized. One whose words and deeds would have even more impact than John's. One who would separate out or winnow the good from the bad, the fruit from the waste materials. One that John knew as friend and family, whom John had already come to respect and highly value, but didn't know as the One. The One was Jesus. Throughout His ministry, and in the early years of the apostles after Jesus' death, Jesus and his followers would keep coming across people who had come to love God through John's work. Some who heeded John's call soon took up their crosses and followed Jesus. But John's call for repentance helps us prepare, too, for John was just trying to get people to do what God wanted, and that's how anyone can be prepared for the presence of God-with-us.

### SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

**CHRISTMAS APPEAL** takes place next weekend **13th/14th December** at all our Masses. Members of our local conference will make the appeal at each of our celebrations. This collection is vital to the work of the SVP in enabling them to extend their programmes of assistance to those in need throughout the Diocese.

**GIVE UP YOU AULD SINS:** The sacrament of Confession is available each Saturday evening from 6pm –6.45pm or by appointment during the week. **We will have a Reconciliation Service during Advent after the Sunday Masses beginning the 3rd Sunday of Advent 14th December** to help prepare us spiritually for the celebration of Christmas.

