

THE PARISH OFFICE & PARISH CENTRE will remain closed until further notice. If you have a query please email secretary@stmochtasparish.ie and June will get back to you as soon as she can.



SCRIPTURE READING: Each week we suggest a piece of Scripture to use in your prayer. **This week's is Jn 1:35-42.**

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 25th January, 2021 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.

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.



ALONE—For older people who have concerns re. COVID-19—Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. Please contact **0818 222 024 8am-8pm, 7 DAYS A WEEK.**

ACCORD: Relationship Counselling Service—for more information please phone 8201044.

AWARE is the national organisation providing support and information to individuals and families impacted by depression and bipolar disorder. See aware.ie for information.

CONSOLE 24/7 national suicide prevention helpline **FreeFone 1800 247 247** provides free professional counselling, support, advice and information for anyone in suicidal crisis or who has been bereaved by suicide. www.console.ie

JIGSAW Offering younger people going through a hard time, or for those **worried about a young person** in your life. www.jigsaw.ie <https://www.jigsaw.ie/news-and-events/post/covid-19-what-were-doing>

PRIORY INSTITUTE: Our next semester starts on **13th February, 2021.** Our **Open Day** on the **23rd January** online is a chance to look into what it would be like to study with us. People attending our online Open Day here in Tallaght will have the opportunity to meet with current students and staff over Zoom, attend a short introductory lecture on theology and find out if studying theology with us is the right thing to do. www.prioryinstitute.com

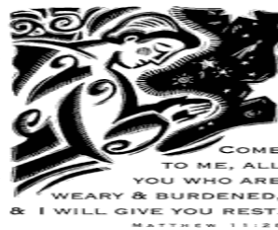
KIDS CORNER: Having listened to the readings, please answer the following:

1. Who baptised Jesus?
2. What happened after he was baptised?
3. Do we receive the same baptism?
4. What do we celebrate when we are baptised?



TASK FOR THE WEEK: I bet each one of you knows the date of your birthday which you no doubt celebrate each year. But how many of you know the date of your baptism? So if not try find out this coming week, there must be photos at home or even a video!!!

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



EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT takes place each Sunday via webcam from **7pm-8pm** and offers us an opportunity to spend some quiet time with God.



Spiritual Communion 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.



Prayer for those affected by the Virus

Merciful God, come to the help of your people. Be our shelter in this time of peril and strengthen the bonds of our community. Bring healing to all who suffer the ravages of disease and assist those whose skill and art can put an end to this affliction. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.

Archdiocese of Dublin – Blanchardstown Deanery

ST. MOCHTA'S PARISH

Porterstown / Clonsilla

PARISH NEWSLETTER 10TH JANUARY, 2021—BAPTISM OF THE LORD

"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

email: deacontim@stmochtasparish.ie

email: pastoralcare@stmochtasparish.ie

email: secretary@stmochtasparish.ie

email: sacristan@stmochtasparish.ie

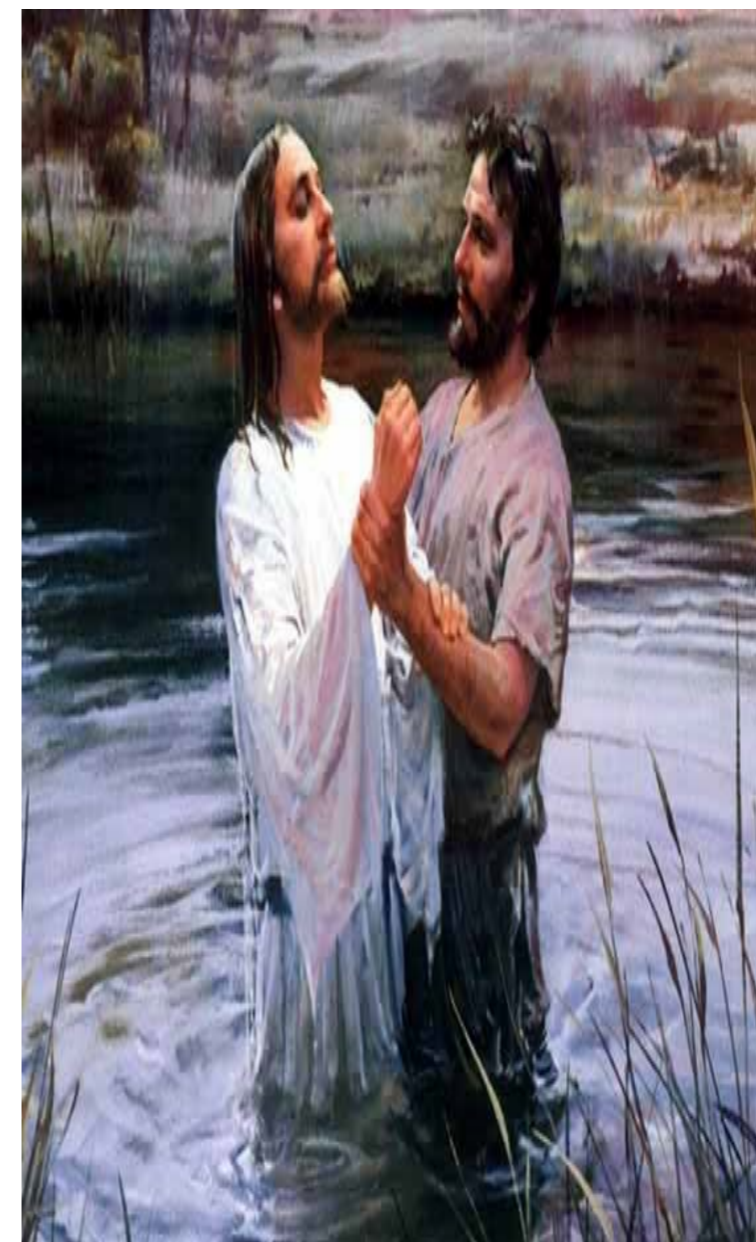
email: pastoralcentre@stmochtasparish.ie

email: pastoralcouncil@stmochtasparish.ie

email: secretary@stmochtasparish.ie

Parish Website Address: www.stmochtasparish.ie

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



BAPTISM OF THE LORD

We celebrate birthdays with a lot of fuss.

But never our baptism.

Yet this is our birthday as Christians.

In today's liturgy we celebrate the baptism of Jesus.

In celebrating his baptism we celebrate our own baptism too and renew its grace within us.

CELEBRATION OF MASS BACK ON LINE AGAIN

Due to COVID-19 Restrictions and HSE guidelines Mass is celebrated at 10am from Monday to Friday and at 6pm on Saturday evening and 10am Sunday morning via our webcam until further notice. Our access link is: <https://www.stmochtasparish.ie/home/mass-times-and-webcam> You can also access the link through our new look website www.stmochtasparish.ie.

Church Open for Private Prayer

- The church will be open Monday to Friday from 11am until 4pm and Sunday from 11am to 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 mask 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.
- **Please note** also that while in the church, the webcam is on live stream every day.

Thank you. Fr. Paul.

REFLECTION

I think it is a great blessing
when people find their work.

I often feel that I am as rich as Croesus,
not in money, but rich because

I have found my work.

In that work I have something
to which I can devote myself heart and soul,
and which gives meaning and inspiration to my life.

Even though I have lots of difficulties,
and there are many gloomy days in my life,

I count myself among the fortunate.

This is not the road on which one perishes.

This is a powerful stream
that will bear me safely to port.

MASS INTENTIONS: To arrange an anniversary Mass or Special Intention, please email sacristan@stmochtasparish.ie with all the details. Mary Stacey will get back to you as soon as she can. Early arrangement of the date required is recommended. 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 new look website 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.)

*Per Household Family Offering

€10 per month total annually €120

Church Restoration

€5 per month total annually €60

First Collection

€3 per month total annually €36

Second Collection

€2 per month total annually €24

Easter Dues

€15 once a year (€1.25 per month) total annually €15

Christmas Dues

€15 once a year (€1.25 per month) total annually €15

Total contribution per month

€22.50 Per Household

Total contribution Annually

€270 Per Household

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

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF JESUS:

This baptism was a very public one and was recorded for all generations to know about and understand, and it is important for several reasons. First, it pictures His death and resurrection. Second, it symbolizes the believer's identification with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection. Third, it marks His first public identification with those whose sins He would bear. Fourth, the event was a public affirmation of Jesus being the Messiah by the testimony that came directly from heaven. Water in baptism is used as a way to identify. In Jesus' day, when a Gentile would convert to Judaism, he would have to be publicly baptised to identify him as a convert. Obviously, Jesus was not converting to anything. Jesus' baptism was an identification of Jesus with the Father and the Holy Spirit. At His Baptism, God the Father identified Jesus as His Son. This took place at the beginning of His public Ministry which was led by the Holy Spirit. Jesus emptied Himself and relied upon the Holy Spirit's power. Jesus' baptism and reliance upon the Holy Spirit is an example that we are to follow in our own lives.



WE RETURN TO ORDINARY TIME AGAIN

next week as Christmastide finishes with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord today. Next Sunday will be the 2nd Sunday of the year, the dominant colour being green.



WEBCAM—Average weekly viewing figures **2,110** in Ireland UK, Portugal, North America, Africa, Taiwan, Singapore. Thailand and Australia.