

THE PARISH OFFICE & PARISH CENTRE will reopen on Monday the 6th January, 2025 at 10.30am. Wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.



BETHANY BEREAVEMENT GROUP:

The Parish Bethany Bereavement Support Group will hold the January monthly meeting for the Bereaved at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre on Monday, 27th January, 2025. This is a strictly confidential service. Bethany members are also available to meet privately with anyone who has been bereaved either recently or in the past by appointment. Contact 086 2479216.



JIGSAW Our Mission Together, we will achieve better mental health outcomes for young people (aged 12-25) by delivering therapeutic services, promoting youth mental health and mobilising community and societal change, while ensuring our organisation evolves to support all aspects of our work. Phone 01 8905810 (Dublin 15 telephone number) or see www.jigsaw.ie

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL Donations can still be made to St. Mochta's Conference by going to SVP.ie/donate and enter our conference name OR calling 0818 176176 and letting the person who answers know the conference name. OR you can donate via Bank Transfer. BIC Code: IPBSIE2D; IBAN Code: IE81PBS99061180000992 or by the Blue envelope. St. Mochta's Conference appreciates your ongoing generosity and support.

THE IRISH CANCER SOCIETY is seeking compassionate volunteer drivers in our community. For information please contact Monica at volunteer@irishcancer.ie.

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 Lk 2:22-40 and Mt 2:1-12**

CARPARKS AROUND CHURCH—BE AWARE

St. Mochta's Parish LOTTO
Your support makes a real difference
Jackpot increases every week plus a weekly prize

PARISH LOTTO RESULT
Jackpot not won. €750 rolls over for the next draw
€20 Cash Prize
Winner's name on website
The prize winner has been notified.

Join Now
Scan the QR code or go to our website below

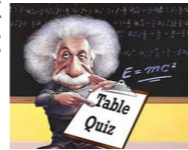
KIDS CORNER: Having listened to the readings, please answer the following:

1. Which Angel was sent by God?
2. Who was he sent to?
3. What did he say?
4. What is impossible to God?



TASK FOR THE WEEK: Yahooooooo. Its nearly Christmas, time for celebrating with all our loved ones. I would ask you over the Christmas to make a visit to the Church and to offer a prayer of thanks in front of the crib for all that you have received not only at Christmas but through the whole year.

STRAWBERRY BEDS COMMUNITY QUIZ IN THE WREN'S NEST on the first Wednesday of the month. **Our next quiz will take place on Wed. 8th January, 2025 at 8.30pm sharp** All very welcome.



PORTERSTOWN, LAUREL LODGE & CASTLEKNOCK PARISHES—PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES:

Departing Tuesday, 19th August for 4 nights staying in the 4* Hotel Padoue. Spiritual Director, Fr. Paul. If you are interested in travelling with us, please leave your name and contact no. in the Sacristy after any Mass, email secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie or see Fr. Paul A deposit of €200 will secure your place. More information in the Porterstown newsletter shortly.



CHRISTMAS GOAL Charity Mile: Christmas Day at the Pope's Cross, Phoenix Park, any time from 10.30am to 12 noon.

2025 ST. PAUL SUNDAY MISSALS available to readers in the Sacristy after any Mass.



MASS INTENTIONS: To arrange an anniversary Mass or Special Intention, etc. please see one of our Sacristans after any Mass. Early arrangement of the date required is recommended.

EXPOSITION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT takes place each Sunday evening from 7pm-9pm and offers us an opportunity to spend some quiet time with God.



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. Paul. We would also be grateful if you could fill out a **Registration Form** in order to register with the parish. They are available at the back of the Church.

Archdiocese of Dublin – Blanchardstown Deanery

ST. MOCHTA'S PARISH

Porterstown / Clonsilla
CHY7424 RCN 20016166

PARISH NEWSLETTER 22ND DECEMBER 2024 – 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“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.”

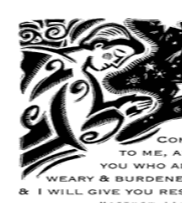
(Parish Mission Statement)

Parish Priest: Very Rev. Damian McNeice Tel: 8213218
Parish Team Assistant: Very Rev. Paul Ward Tel: 8213218
Parish Deacon: Rev. Deacon Timothy Murphy Tel: 8213218
Parish Pastoral Worker: Ciara Holmes Tel: 8213218
Parish Secretary: June Phelan Tel: 8213218
Parish Sacristan: Bernie Lanigan Tel: 8213218
Parish Pastoral Centre Enquiries to: Terry Duffy
Parish Pastoral Council: Chairperson Bernie Lanigan
Parish Finance Committee: Chairperson Jonathan McNulty

email: damian.mcneice@dublindiocese.ie
email: secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie
email: secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie
email: pastoralcare@stmochtasparrish.ie
email: secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie
email: sacristan@stmochtasparrish.ie
email: secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie
email: pastoralcouncil@stmochtasparrish.ie
email: secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie

Parish Website Address: www.stmochtasparrish.ie

PEACE & GOODWILL TO ALL THIS CHRISTMAS



Please pray for Fr. Paul, Lucy, Katie, Louise, Orla, Peter, Lily P., Geraldine, Sean, Sylvia, Majella, M, Trevor, Ann, Dave, A, Chrissie, DK, Fiona, Joan, Brigid, Sara, Liz, Brendan, John C., Pat, Suzanne, Michael, Patricia, Sinead, Phyllis, Eva, Sheila, Michelle, Joe T, Kay, Monica, Kevin, Sinead, Sadie, Eddie, Luke, David, Mary B, Maura, Frank, Daniel, Holly, Richard, Séamus, Geoff, Sean, Betty, Lisa, Brenda, Marie, Agnes, Stephen, AB, Marguerite, Irene and all those who are sick or housebound at this time.

PARISH FINANCES

On behalf of the Parish Finance Committee, we would like to better share with parishioners the financial details, income and expenditure, on a regular basis. With this in mind, below you will see details of our various income sources and our total outgoings for the first 9 months of the year (January 1st – 30th Sept.). As you can see, the number of individuals or families supporting the Parish through different routes is limited given the broader size of our Parish.

January to September 2024

Parish Offering		
Standing orders	€41,491	average number of monthly contributors 168
Online Donations	€ 6,964	average number of monthly contributors 23
Tap & Go in Church	€ 6,182	average number of monthly contributors 15
Envelopes Offerings	€ 3,250	average number of monthly contributors 4
Donations to Fundraising Appeals	€ 7,167	
Donation from choir re. balcony kneelers	€ 460	
	<u>€65,514</u>	210
Other income sources		
Parish Lotto	€ 7,884	average 86 players per week
Easter Draw	€ 1,605	
Wren's Nest Quiz	€ 1,630	
Parish Centre—rent & coffee dock	€ 4,347	
Weddings	€ 9,794	
Shrines & other income	€10,039	
Tax Refund on Donations	€14,466	
Total Parish income	<u>€115,279</u>	
Parish operating expenses	€(103,402)	
Restoration costs	€ (23,548)	
Excess of Parish expenses over income	€ (11,671)	

Over the past year, approximately €30,000 has been spent on repairs to the Church. This includes:

- Glazing repairs at €2,213
- Removal of line of trees to protect roof and masonry at €6,583
- Repairs to roof, bell tower, masonry, and maintenance of rainwater goods at €18,013
- Conservation architect costs at €3,321

Unfortunately, further significant preservation works will be required in 2025 with the following costs:

- Replacement and repair of all cast iron rainwater goods at €33,000
- Drainage works around Church building at €5,000
- Glazing works at €2,700
- Hedging along boundary to west of Church at €5,000
- Groundworks and surfacing to west of Church at €10,000
- Conservation architect costs at €3,000
- Internal plasterwork and painting (due to water ingress damage) at €8,000

With this in mind, we would like to remind you that the Parish receives **NO** income from the two Sunday Collections or the Christmas and Easter Dues. Of the **6,500 homes** in the parish, just **168 homes** contribute to the Parish Funds on a regular basis through the standing order system; unfortunately this does not even cover the day-to-day expenses needed to pay the bills. **We are thus appealing to all parishioners, to those who no longer live in the Parish but continue to engage with us from afar, to please consider how you might support St. Mochta's Parish and the urgent work we need to do on our Church**, by:

- signing up to our Parish Lotto for a few Euros each week and our jackpot stands at €750. The €3,000 jackpot was won last Thursday week. Congratulations to Betty.
- requesting a Blue envelope from the Parish Office or picking up a Standing Order from the back of the Church/Office
- giving a cash or cheque donation
- using the Donate Button on our Parish website www.stmochtasparish.ie
- donating using the Tap & Go machine (on the right-hand side of the front door as you leave the Church)
- Considering a legacy gift to the Parish, leaving something in your will.

Thank you for your continued support. Parish Finance Committee (*Jonathan McNulty Finance Comm. Chair*)

TAX RELIEF ON DONATIONS TO PARISH 2023: We would really appreciate it if you could sign the form that you have received in the post and return it to the Parish as soon as possible in the enclosed stamped addressed envelope. **Only 63% of the forms sent out have been returned to the Parish.** Thank you to all who have returned their signed form. Fr. Paul and Fr. Damian



CRIB AND CHRISTMAS TREE BLESSINGS are available from the back of the Church. These are little prayer services to be done at home with your family or friends. They offer us simple and practical ways of keeping Christ at the heart of our preparations.

CHRISTMAS LEAFLET VOLUNTEERS:

A big thank you to all our volunteers who gave their time and energy to drop the Christmas cards around the parish. Your continued support is much appreciated.



CHRISTMAS DUES ENVELOPES Are available at the back of the church. The Christmas dues goes to help support the priests in the Diocese and the Parish. Thank you for your prayers, especially at this time.



REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES: This year we are inviting you to bring along a **red Poinsettia Plant** to remember a loved one as we approach Christmas. **The plants will be placed around the crib** Please put the name of the person you want to remember on the pot.



CHRISTMAS MASSES: Our congregations are usually very large for Christmas. So I would encourage you to arrive in plenty of time for Mass.



A WORD OF THANKS: Most of us come to church each Sunday unaware of all the people working behind the scenes who help make our parish and celebrations work. So we would ask you to offer a prayer and word of thanks to Tim, our Parish Deacon, Ciara our parish pastoral worker, June our secretary, our sacristans; Bernie & Joe, our ministers, our choir, musicians, children's liturgy and our many, many groups who work in the parish and finally a special thanks to our Pastoral Centre Committee for their hard work throughout the year. These are the unsung heroes who give of their time, talent and energy week in and week out in the parish. A big thank you to them all. We are always looking for new faces to get actively involved in the running of the parish. Maybe this new year is your time to get actively involved. You will receive a warm welcome.



Fr. Damian and Fr. Paul.



WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent

6.00pm: Louis Ruane (Anniv.)
Kathleen & Bernard Byrne (Anniv.)

11.00am: Pro Populo

7pm - 8pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday: St. John of Kanty

10.00am: Joanna Dorman (Anniv.)

Wednesday: Christmas Day



All our Masses for Christmas Day are offered for the Intentions of Parishioners
CHRISTMAS EVE

6.00 pm: Christmas Vigil Mass

8.00 pm: Mass of Christmas

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.00 am

11.00 am

Thursday: St. Stephen's Day

10.00am Thomas Travers (Anniv.)

Friday: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

10am:

Sunday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

6.00pm: Maureen & Johnny O'Rourke (Anniv.)

11.00am: Pro Populo

7pm - 8pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday:

10.00am: Special Intention

Wednesday: Mary The Holy Mother of God

Holy Year of Jubilee World Day of Peace

10.00am: Blessing of Hands

Friday: 1st Friday of the Month

10.00: Altar List of the Dead

Sunday: 2nd Sunday after Christmas

6.00pm: James O'Connell (Anniv.)

11.00am: Denis Farnan (Anniv.)

Donal O'Sullivan (Anniv.)

7pm - 8pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday: The Epiphany of the Lord