

Week of: 14th December — 20th December 2024

Saturday: 14th December

11.00am: No Intention

Vigil Mass for Sunday

6.45pm: Joan Fitzsimons (2nd A)
Hilary Brennan (5th A)

Sunday

8.30am: No Intention

9.30am: John & Annie Boylan (A)

11.30am: Elizabeth Holloway (1st A)

Breda Fitzsimons (1st A)

James Whelan (B. Rem)

Tom Graham (A)

Niall O'Brien (3rd A)

William & Lily Carey (A)

James & Bridget Murphy (A)

Monday 10am: No Intention

Tuesday 10am: No Intention

Wednesday 10am: No Intention

Thursday 10am: Funeral

Friday 10am: Tony Hooper (1st A)

(1st A) First Anniversary

(M/M) Months Mind

(R.D.) Recently Deceased

(B. Rem) Birthday Remembrance

(I) Illness

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Christmas Blue Mass:

In an effort to minister to those who are not filled with the joy of the Christmas Season as many are, we will have a special Mass on **Sunday December 22nd at 11.30am** which is nationally known as "Christmas Blue Mass." It is referred to in this manner because it captures the emotional mood that some individuals feel. They are "blue" due to the loss of a loved one, loss of job or other circumstances that can cause feelings of depression or other anxious moments in their lives.

It will be a celebration to acknowledge the Nativity of the Lord in this trying time for them and it is our hope that this Mass celebration will enable those who feel blue the opportunity to prayerfully celebrate the Nativity of the Lord and be able to discover their own sense of peace this Christmas Season as they watch, wait and hope for the healing, comforting presence of our Lord.

Lectio Divina in Advent

As a preparation for Christmas you are invited to attend our Lectio Divina meetings held in the Parish Centre, Willbrook Road at 7.30 on Thursday. At Lectio we look at life through the lens of the Gospel and how God speaks to each individual through the message of the Gospel. We listen, share, meditate and pray on the Gospel of each Sunday to enable us live more fully the Gospel message. Let this be a special time and way of preparing for the Coming of Christ into our heart and lives. All are welcome.

Church of the Annunciation Reconciliation Service

Our Christmas Reconciliation Service will take place this **Tuesday December 17th at 7.30pm**. Several priests will be available on the night. All are welcome.

Reconciliation dates for other Parishes in our Partnership Group

Ballyroan Parish Wednesday 18th December at 7.30pm

Ballyboden Parish Thursday 19th December at 7.30pm

Knocklyon Parish Thursday 19th December at 8pm

TONIGHT!

JOIN US FOR A
Christmas Carol Service

SUNDAY 15 DEC 7PM

CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION
RATHFARNHAM

RATHFARNHAM CONCERT BAND, THE CHOIRS OF LORETO GNS
AND ST MARY'S BNS, PARISH CHOIR, FOLK GROUP AND
RATHFARNHAM GOSPEL CHOIR

REFRESHMENTS AFTERWARDS IN THE PARISH CENTRE

A Gospel Christmas by Candlelight supporting Laura Lynn

After the success of our gatherings in past years, Rathfarnham Gospel Choir and special guests warmly invite you and your family to join us for a special evening in the Church on **Sunday December 22nd at 7.30 pm**. The choir, who will be joined by violinist Isabella Riordan and oboist Tegan Sutherland, will perform a selection of festive favourites. Surrounded by candlelight, this promises to be an intimate and unforgettable evening.

Entry is free, but we kindly ask for a donation at the door to support our chosen charity: LauraLynn.

We hope to see you there for this heartfelt celebration.



SVP Annual Christmas Collection

The Society of St Vincent de Paul is delighted to tell you that our annual collection came to **€13,820**.

We are most grateful to you all for your amazing generosity. We can assure you that all of your contribution is greatly appreciated by those who need it.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas. Many thanks.
Rathfarnham St. Vincent de Paul Society.



The Annunciation Times

Church of the Annunciation, Rathfarnham

www.rathfarnhamparish.ie

Third Sunday of Advent Cycle C Sunday December 15th 2024

Contact details:

Rathfarnham is one of six parishes in partnership together; the parishes are Ballyroan, Churchtown, Ballyboden, Knocklyon and Marley Grange.

Parish team:

Moderator: V. Rev. Martin Canon Cosgrove
St. Mary's Presbytery, Willbrook Rd.

Phone: 01- 495 4554. **Email:** mfc7534@gmail.com

Co P.P. V. Rev. Michael Coady,
St. Mary's Presbytery, Willbrook Rd.
Phone: 01- 4932390 **Email:** clovis78@eircom.net

Deacon: Rev. Frank Browne c/o Parish Office
Sacramental Coordinator: Carol McCabe c/o Parish Office

Email: sacraments@rathfarnhamparish.com

Sacristan: Paul Moreland

Sacristy: Phone 01- 493 8385

Parish Secretary: Jason Monahan

Parish Office:
Parish Pastoral Centre,
Willbrook Road, Rathfarnham (The Old Court House)
Monday – Friday 10 a.m. to 2pm
Phone: 01- 495 8695

Parish Website: www.rathfarnhamparish.ie

Email: parishoffice@rathfarnhamparish.com

Twitter: @RathfarnhamP

Chairperson Parish Pastoral Council:

Mary Cunneen, c/o Parish Office

Registered Charity Number: 20016166

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 6:45pm

Sunday Morning: 8.30am (Irish Mass), 9.30am & 11.30am

Working Holy Days: Morning: 10:00am

Evening: 7:30pm Vigil: 7:30pm.

Weekdays: Monday to Friday 10:00am

Saturdays & Bank Holidays: 11:00am

Sacrament of Reconciliation: On Saturdays after 11am Mass & before the 6.45pm Mass

Baptisms: 1st and 3rd Saturday of the Month.

**NOW TAKING BAPTISM BOOKINGS FOR
FEBRUARY 2025 ONWARDS**

Third Sunday of Advent



Gospel Reflection:

This Sunday's Gospel continues last week's focus on John the Baptist and his role in preparing the way for Christ. Recall that last week's reading described John's appearance in the desert and established his connection with the prophetic tradition of Israel. If we were to read Luke's Gospel continuously, we would learn about John the Baptist challenging the crowds who came to him and calling upon them to show evidence of their repentance. John tells his listeners that they cannot rely on their lineage as Israelites because children of Abraham can be raised up from stones. Repentance, rather, must be observable in one's actions. Here, Luke is continuing to set up two important themes of his Gospel message: the Christian faith is expressed in one's actions, and the call to salvation is extended to everyone, Jews and Gentiles.

In today's Gospel reading, the crowds ask John the Baptist for specifics. What evidence of repentance is required? John replies by naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly. The concern for justice is a hallmark of Luke's Gospel.

When the crowd begins to wonder if John the Baptist might be the Messiah, John interprets his baptism and makes it clear that his ministry is in preparation for the Messiah. John the Baptist knows his place and role in God's plan of salvation. By encouraging the crowd to act similarly in accordance with their stations in life, John's teaching suggests that each person has a role to play in God's salvation. It is the great mystery of our salvation that God permits and even asks for human cooperation in his divine plans.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word that means "rejoice." This name is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass, which is also echoed in today's second reading from the Paul's letter to the Philippians. Some people mark this Sunday by lighting a pink candle instead of a purple one on their Advent wreath. It is a reminder that the Advent season is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

Taken from the Loyola Press website: <https://www.loyolapress.com/>