

# First Sunday of Advent

29th/30th November 2025

## Services during the Week

**Saggart:** **Mass:** Sunday 9am. Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 11am. **Adoration:** Sat/Sun 2 - 5pm

**Rathcoole:** **Mass:** Sat 6pm, Sun 12pm. Tuesday & Thursday 10am.

**Adoration:** Sun 4 – 6pm, Tue 10.30 – 1 & 3 – 5pm; Fri 9 – 12 & 3 – 7pm

**Newcastle:** **Mass:** Sun 10am. Mon & Fri 10am. **Adoration:** Sat 3 – 6pm;

**Confession:** Available by request, generally after any Mass.

**Baptisms/Marriages:** Contact Parish Office for details. (0860108420 Tue – Thur 10 – 12.30approx)

## Advent

This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent and the start of a new church year. Following the three year cycle we will be listening to Matthew's Gospel throughout the coming year.

## St. Vincent de Paul Annual Collection

The diocesan collection for the Dublin Council of the Society of St Vincent de Paul will take place next weekend, **Saturday/Sunday, December 6/7**. There will be no monthly collection this month.

## Newcastle Christmas Lights 2025

30th of November @ 5pm in SuperValu Newcastle Carpark. Looking forward to seeing everyone there .

## Newcastle Folk Group Christmas invite

St. Finian's Folk Group invites you to join us singing at Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Mass. If you would like to sing with us please come to our practices on Tuesday evenings, at 8pm – 9pm starting on Tuesday, November 25th. We hold our practices in St. Finian's school. For more information contact Emer on 0872733846.

## Cancer and Dementia Study

### A call to people with cancer and dementia and their caregivers and/or family members

We need people living with dementia and a diagnosis of cancer and their caregivers and /or family members to take part in our study. This also includes people living with dementia that have had a concurrent diagnosis of cancer. If you have both cancer and dementia or care for someone who does, we would like to speak to you and conduct a confidential 1-hour interview (online or in person) at a time that suits you.

This is the first Irish study to explore the supportive care needs of people living with both cancer and dementia, as well as their caregivers. It is part of a PhD project at Dublin City University (DCU) Society and is funded by the Irish Cancer Society in partnership with St. Vincent's Hospital and Our Lady's Hospice and aims is to understand the challenges faced by people with these conditions and their caregivers, and to identify ways healthcare services can provide better support. For more details contact Jane Gaffey on 0892163991 or email [jane.gaffey4@mail.dcu.ie](mailto:jane.gaffey4@mail.dcu.ie)

## Christmas Carol Service

Advance notice of Saggart Church Carol Service takes place on Sunday 14th December at 7.30pm. Music and scripture readings to get you into the spirit of Christmas.

## St. Mary's Cathedral - Advent Procession – Darkness into Light

Ceremony takes place in St. Mary's Cathedral this Sunday 30th November at 7.30pm. Advent Carols & Readings with a torchlight procession. Music performed by the "St. Mary's Cathedral Girl's choir" and 'gentlemen of the Palestrina Choir'. All are welcome.

## Advent Calendar – Online Resource

This Sunday, 30 November, heralds the beginning of Advent 2025 – the beginning of the Christian new calendar. Now in its twelfth year, an interactive digital Advent calendar will be published by the Catholic Communications Office to offer a distinctive and spiritually enriching way to journey through this holy season. For each day of Advent, all are invited to click open the calendar's doors on the homepage of [www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie) during this holy season.

The four weeks of this year's online Advent calendar will draw on the themes of *love, joy, peace and hope*. The video content, and short daily prayers, will be provided by the staff and friends of the Irish Bishops' Conference's secretariat in Maynooth, the Church's safeguarding office, and the overseas development agency, Trócaire. The online calendar is designed to prepare individuals, families and faith communities to reflect on the hope that Christ brings to the world.

The period of Advent hosts big personalities such as John the Baptist, the Magi and, of course, Mary Our Blessed Mother, who embraced God's will completely and made a special place for God in her life. All are encouraged to include the online Advent calendar as part of their prayer space for God in their lives.

### **Primary School Survey (open until 16 Dec 2025) Department of Education**

The current Department of Education survey on the future of patronage in the primary sector is important in that it will shape the discussion on primary school divesting for the years to come throughout the Republic of Ireland. The survey is school specific and **needs to be responded to by all parents and prospective parents locally.**

It is important that those who wish for a change in patronage would have their voice heard. It is equally important that those who wish for a Catholic education for their children, and the support for sacramental preparation available in Catholic schools, would have their voice heard also. For those reasons and to ensure that an accurate picture emerges, **please participate in this survey if you are a parent or a prospective parent of a primary school student.**

The survey can be accessed at [www.gov.ie/primaryschoolsurvey/](http://www.gov.ie/primaryschoolsurvey/). It closes on Tuesday, December 16.

### **Priory Institute**

We are delighted to offer a Free of Charge Online Advent Retreat featuring a series of online reflections given by Fr John Harris OP with reference to the four Advent Sunday gospel readings, it consists of a weekly reflection (approximately 15 minutes). The course consists of four 15-minute recorded presentations that will become available from the first Sunday of Advent and each subsequent Sunday. So on Sunday, November 30, there will be access to one recording and on the following Sunday access to two recordings and so on. Participants can watch the films whenever suits them, and revisit films they have already viewed. It's free of charge and people can register to participate at any time during Advent. You can view Fr John Harris's welcome at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=awPULbxRS2g/>. Visit <https://prioryinstitute.com/>.

### **Consecrated Life**

For Young Women (18-40yrs) who are discerning a Vocation to Religious/Consecrated Life, monthly meetings are held in Charleville Retreat Centre, Cork. The day includes prayer, talks, Holy Mass, Adoration and a chance to meet and chat with religious sisters of different communities. If you are interested in attending please email [womendiscern@corkandross.org](mailto:womendiscern@corkandross.org).

### **Youth 2000**

Youth 2000 Ireland is having its annual Christmas retreat in Dominican College, Newbridge, Co Kildare, on the 12th-14th of December for ages 16-35. This promises to be a special retreat. Excellent speakers, inspiring talks & workshops, fantastic music, group activities, good food, Adoration with Reconciliation & Healing service and prayer. There is plenty of time to chill out, meet new people and find out what it means to be young and Catholic today. This retreat is donation only and there will be free buses arriving from all over the country. To find out more information and to register please visit our website at [youth2000.ie](http://youth2000.ie) or contact us at [office@youth2000.ie](mailto:office@youth2000.ie).

### **Young Adult Ministry**

You, or someone you know, may be interested in supporting the youth of the diocese and in our own area and wondering how to support them in their faith journey. Dublin diocese is providing some formation through the **Diocesan Certificate in Young Adult Ministry**. Running over six Saturdays, the aim of this Diocesan Certificate is to build up the capacity of Youth Ministry and Youth Ministry Leadership throughout the Archdiocese of Dublin. It is a highly practical course where participants are given new experiences and key resources, including gaining vital skills to put into practice in their local context, while also being grounded in key church documents such as Christus Vivit. For more information and to send on any queries, please contact [natalie.doherty@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:natalie.doherty@dublindiocese.ie). An information session will be announced for November. Registration is open and can be accessed here: <https://forms.office.com/e/Et8sXCxNtC>

### **Aware – Support & Self Carer Groups**

If you or those with whom you work wish to connect with people in relation to your mental wellbeing, consider using Aware's phone-in and Zoom support and self-care groups, support line or support mail. For more information, visit [www.aware.ie](http://www.aware.ie).

### **Support for Birth Mothers**

Information and Support for Birth Mothers whose babies were placed for adoption may be found at [www.birthinfo.ie](http://www.birthinfo.ie) or by calling the relevant section of Tusla at 0818 445500.

## **Bethany Bereavement Support**

Bethany Bereavement Support Group is a voluntary community and parish-based service. Our objective is to support the bereaved through the grieving process and our services are totally free of charge and confidential within the law. The name Bethany is derived from the story of Jesus' friends Martha & Mary who lived in a village called Bethany and grieved over the death of their brother Lazarus. Visit <https://bethany.ie/>.

## **Weekly Ezine**

*Sharing Good News* is the newsletter of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference. If you would like to receive this weekly ezine, you can do so at <https://catholicnews.ie/newsletter/>. You are encouraged to invite others to do so too. Send articles and photographs for use in *Sharing Good News* to [info@catholicbishops.ie](mailto:info@catholicbishops.ie).

## **Ukrainian Catholic Chaplaincy**

Fr Vasył Kornitsky is Chaplain to the Ukrainian community and curate in Donnycarney Parish. He can be contacted at 086 2359561 or [ugccie@gmail.com](mailto:ugccie@gmail.com). Ukrainian Mass (Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom, Byzantine rite) is held every Sunday at 1pm in Our Lady of Consolation Church, Donnycarney.

## **French Language Mass**

Mass for the French-speaking Catholic community in Dublin resumed on Sunday, September 14, at 12.30pm in St Mary's Church, Haddington Road and continues on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 12.30pm from September to June.

## **Italian Community**

Italian Catholic Community Dublin. Masses in Aughrim Street Church every Saturday at 5.30pm (fourth Sunday of the month followed by community gathering). Other activities: Biblical Catechesis (online); Pre-marriage Catechesis: Rosary (online); Book Club (online).

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/italiani.cattolici.a.dublino/>. Contact: Fr Coriolan Muresan. [cattolici.dublin@gmail.com](mailto:cattolici.dublin@gmail.com) / [coryolan26@yahoo.it](mailto:coryolan26@yahoo.it) / 012447995.

## **Towards Peace**

Towards Peace is a service offering spiritual support for anybody who has been abused, physically emotionally, sexually, spiritually, in a religious/church environment. Towards Peace was established in October 2014 by the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference and the Association of Leaders of Missionary & Religious Leaders of Ireland. (AMRI). The Towards Peace office hours are Monday and Tuesday 9am to 4pm and Wednesday 9am to 12noon. For further information phone 01 5053028 or 086 7710533 or visit [www.towardspeace.ie](http://www.towardspeace.ie) or <https://www.facebook.com/TowardsPeaceSpiritualSupportService/>