

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE LIVING ABROAD
CHRISTMAS
REMEMBRANCE TREE**



We remember and pray for all our loved ones who are abroad this Christmas & are unable to travel home to be with us. Please leave the names and country where they are living into the Parish Office or Sacristy if you wish to include love ones in our prayers over Christmas.

The Remembrance tree will be on display at the top of the Church.

Christmas Eve.
Masses at 6.30p.m. & 9.00p.m.
And
Christmas Day
Masses
9.00a.m., 10.30a.m. & 12.00noon are offered for all the parishioners of **Our Lady Help of Christians Parish**

Our Lady Help of Christians, Navan Road Parish, Dublin 7



Our Parish

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 18TH DECEMBER 2022



"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." Matthew 1:24

What is it that made Saint Joseph so great? He wasn't immaculately conceived as our Blessed Mother was. He was not divine like Jesus. But he was the head of the Holy Family, its guardian and its provider. He

became the legal father of the Saviour of the World and the spouse of the Mother of God. But Joseph is not great only because he was given such incredible privileges. First and foremost, he was great because of the choices he made in life. Today's Gospel refers to him as a "righteous man" and as a man who "did as the angel of the Lord commanded him." Thus, his greatness is primarily on account of his moral righteousness and obedience to the will of God. Joseph's obedience is especially seen in the fact that he obeyed the voice of God given to him in the four dreams recorded in Scripture. In his first dream, Joseph is told "do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:20-21).

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 18th December

6.30p.m (Sat Vigil)

David Mills R.I.P. (A)

Liam Condon R.I.P (A)

Deceased Members of the Flynn & Scahill Families

9.00a.m.

For the People of our Parish

10.30a.m.

Martin Savage

R.I.P. (A)

12 noon

Con Houlihan R.I.P. (A)

Parish Contact Details

Fr. Liam Ó Cuív P.P. 211 Navan Rd. 8681436

Fr. Paddy O' Byrne C.C. 194 Navan Rd. 8386900

Fr. John Moran 192 Navan Rd. 8380265

Rev. Eamonn Murray 01 8380265

Parish Office: 01 8380265 Sacristy: 01 8684322

The Parish office will close for Christmas at 1p.m.

Thursday 22nd December & Reopen 9a.m. Tuesday 3rd

January

Emergency number: 087 1186474

Email: info@navanroadparish.com

www.navanroadparish.com & follow on Facebook:

Navan Road Parish-Our Lady Help of Christians

MASS COLLECTIONS

December 8th Holy Day

1st Collection: €320

2nd Collection: €105

Sunday 11th December

1st Collection: €955

St. Vincent de Paul:

update next week

Family Offering: €1,150

Thank You



THE FOLK GROUP WILL SING CHRISTMAS CAROLS AFTER THE 12 NOON MASS THIS SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER



PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS BY ATTENDING OUR PARISH ADVENT SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

on Monday 19th December at 7.30p.m.

ALL WELCOME



THE CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE
Suggestion for families/ children

The Christmas tree is now up in the church. Please make a decoration for the Christmas tree and hang it on the tree when you come to visit the church. Please feel welcome to stay to say a prayer, light a candle and visit the crib.

2023 Calendars, Christmas Cards & Christmas Mass Bouquets are available now from the Parish Office.
018380265

Reading References for Christmas Eve. (Vigil Masses) 24th December:
Is 62:1-5. Ps:88: 4-5, 16-17, 27, 29, R/ cf. v 2. Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25.. Mt 1:1-25. The Virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they shall call him Emmanuel.
Christmas Day 25th: *Is 52: 7-10. Ps 97: 1-6, R/ v 3. Heb 1:1-6. Jn 1:1-18. The word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory. St. Stephen's Day 26th:* *Acts 6:8-10, 7: 54-59. Ps 30:3-4, 6, 8, 16-17, R/ v 6. Mt 10:17-22. St. Stephen is patron of Deacons, Stonemasons and Bricklayers.*



CHRISTMAS GOAL CHARITY MILE

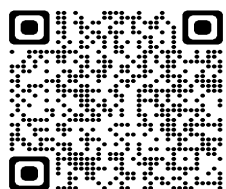
Join fellow-parishioners and friends for a run/walk/jog in aid of GOAL'S humanitarian and development work in developing countries on **Christmas Day at the Pope's Cross, Phoenix Park**, anytime from **10.30a.m. to 12 noon.**

THE TIMETABLE FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

Is printed on the Parish Christmas Card, available on the tables around the Church.

CHRISTMAS DUES ENVELOPES

Are also available on the tables around the Church (They can be returned to the Parish Office or the Sacristy) Thank you.



Digital Advent Calendar - scan QR Code

NATIVITY OF THE LORD BY SR. CHRISTINE

SCHENK, C.S.J. (*From the Synodal Times-available at the back of the Church*)

"While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger. Because there was no room for them at the inn." Luke 2:6-7

In reflecting on this much beloved Christmas story, what stands out is the reality that the pregnant Mary and her husband, Joseph, had very little power or control over their own circumstances. What expectant parents would ever travel to a distant village, away from family and friends when their first-born child was due at any moment?

Only a family that had no choice but to comply with the demands of an oppressive, occupying government, and a complicit religious leadership, both demanding exorbitant civil and temple taxes -- despite the subsistence level standard of living for most in Palestine. And then there is the matter of accommodation. No Holiday Inn here. No welcoming concierge. No room service -- only a shelter for animals, only socially unacceptable shepherds -- socially unacceptable because they smelled like the sheep they tended. The picture Luke paints is that of a low-income family, on the margins of society, desperately seeking shelter so that Mary could labour and give birth protected from the elements. How many refugee families from Syria, Iraq, Nigeria or Yeman find themselves in similarly desperate circumstances this very night.....Mary laboured long and well to birth a child who would be all about God's love everlasting. When he was old enough she would teach him the tenets of Judaism –summed up in her Magnificat hymn about a God who fills the hungry with good things and raises up the lowly. Her boy-child would become a man of peace who died a violent death even as he laboured mightily himself to bring forth her Magnificat-God's justice-reign in the face of hatred.

FROM : NAVAN ROAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL
EXTEND THE GREENWAY CANAL WALK - Sunday 1st January, 2023 - to promote the Royal Canal Greenway/footpath - **'WALK THE WAY ON NEW YEARS DAY** from **MAYNOOTH STATION** start 9.00 a.m.
Contact: royalgreenwayextension@gmail.com
www.royalgreenwayextension.ie



The Synodal Pathway of the Catholic Church in Ireland

Synodal Prayer for Unity this Advent Season

Heavenly Father, as the Magi journeyed towards Bethlehem led by the star, so by your heavenly light, guide the Catholic Church to walk together with all Christians during this time of synod. As the Magi were united in their worship of Christ, lead us closer to your Son and so to one another, so that we may become a sign of the unity that you desire for your Church and the whole of creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.