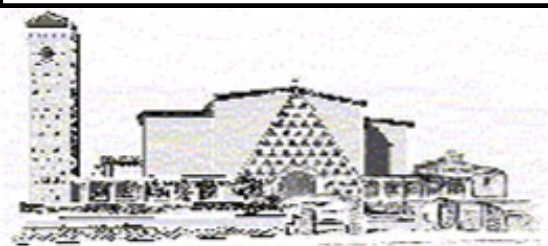


CHURCH OF OUR LADY MOTHER OF DIVINE GRACE, Raheny

16th December 2007 — 3rd Sunday of Advent — Cycle A, Week 3



Parish : 8313232 Website—www.rahenyparish.org
email— contact@rahenyparish.org
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The local Conference of **St. Vincent De Paul** would like to thank everyone who contributed to our annual Christmas Collection. The amount collected was €21,158.00. We wish everyone a Happy Christmas and Happy New Year.

Penance Service with Confession

Capuchin Friary, Raheny Road, Friday 21st December at 7.30pm.

KARE Social Services delivers meals to hundreds of people in their homes each week. We are making an urgent appeal for more volunteer drivers. If you can spare just one hour (approx.) a week between 12 and 1pm, either Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday please phone Sheila or Mary at KARE, 2, Sybil Hill Road, Raheny on 8058574 or 8058433.

Feastdays:

Tuesday 18th - St. Flannon, bishop
Thursday 20th - St. Fachanan, bishop
Friday 21st - St. Peter Canisius

Today's psalm—Fr. Silvester O'Flynn OFMCap

There is a time to condemn and a time to affirm; a time to denounce and a time to announce. John prepared people by condemnation of wrongdoing but Jesus preferred to proclaim that God was already present in the deeds of goodness. Each verse of the Responsorial Psalm begins in the recognition of God's presence ... *It is the Lord* ... as the beloved disciple recognised the Risen Christ at the miraculous catch of fish. *It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to the oppressed, who gives bread to the hungry, who sets prisoners free.* The psalm gives a list of situations where God's presence can be seen. And it is through people that these works of God are done. The spirituality of Advent encourages us to be more attentive to the presence of God in our everyday life. Today's psalm inspires us in two ways;

- to be more attentive to the goodness of people and to recognise how God is working through them;
- to offer ourselves to God each day as co-workers for justice, peace, compassion and liberation.

It is the Lord And the Lord is counting on you.

As a very important part of our preparations for the celebration of The Lord's Nativity, the parish **Christmas Penitential Service** will be celebrated this Wednesday 19th December at 7.30pm. There will be a number of visiting priests to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Parish choir will also join in the celebrations.

On Thursday Manor House invite you to join in their annual **Carol Service** at 12 noon. This is always a very beautiful event here in the parish church and we extend an invitation to all to join in singing some favourite Christmas Hymns and Carols and listening to a few new ones as well.

On Thursday 20th December from 8-9pm we invite you to join the last **Advent Taize prayer** in the side chapel. This is a very gentle and reflective time of prayer amidst all the business of preparing for Christmas.

MASS INTENTIONS

Vigil	6.00pm	Maureen Keaney (1st Anniv.) and Andy Keaney
Sun.	8.30am	Pro Populo
	10.00am	Jack Matthews (Anniv.)
	11.30am	Maria O'Keeffe and Michael Guinee (Anniv.)
	5.00pm	Lily Gallagher (9th Anniv)
Mon.	7.30am	Jean and Aeden Robinson (R.I.P.)
	10.00am	Brian & Anne and Mary & Jim Bolger (Anniv.)
Tues.	7.30am	John O'Reilly (Anniv.)
	10.00am	Deceased members of the Drumgoole family
Wed.	7.30am	Health Intention - Kieran Howley
	10.00am	Mildred Burke (Anniv.)
Thurs.	7.30am	Con & Bridgie Casey, Robert Kerr and Mick & Mabel Morrissey (Anniv.)
	10.00am	Thomas & Mary & Sean Hearne, Eileen McEvoy & Maura Harrison (R.I.P.)
Fri.	7.30am	Mary & Michael Cahalan (Anniv.)
	10.00am	Kathleen, Michael & Mary Breen (Anniv.)
Sat.	9.40am	Morning Prayer of the Church
	10.00am	Jack Dwyer and Margaret & Thomas Dwyer (R.I.P.)

Next Sunday's Readings
Is 7:10-14. Ps 23. Rom 1:1-7. Mt 1:18-24