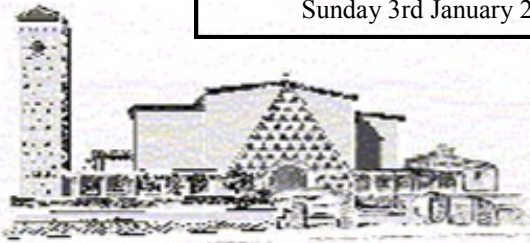


CHURCH OF OUR LADY MOTHER OF DIVINE GRACE, Raheny

Sunday 3rd January 2016 Second Sunday of Christmas Cycle C Week 2



Happy New Year

New roster for Eucharist Ministers is available for collection in the Sacristy.

Next Sunday's Readings : The Baptism of the Lord
Is 40:1-5, 9-11, Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-30, R/ V1
Ti 2:11-14, 3:4-7, Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

MUSINGS

Today's Entrance Antiphon recalls: 'when peaceful silence lay over all ... the all-powerful Word leaped down from heaven'. This image of the Word of God enthusiastically 'leaping' into the human condition was a favourite among early Christian writers. Ambrose of Milan once wrote: 'He came into this world in a kind of leap. He was with the Father, he came into a virgin, and from a virgin he bounded into a manger. He was in a manger ... he went down into the Jordan and up onto the cross, he went down to the tomb, rose up from the tomb, and sits at the right hand of the Father'.

Salvador Ryan
St Patrick's College, Maynooth

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THE DEEP END • IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD...

There is a very deep teaching in today's reading, taken from the opening of the Gospel of John. There is so much depth here and much to reflect on. God is described as the Word and as Light. The Word is that divine energy, Creator of the universe, Being, God, Father and Mother of all things. John tells us that no one has ever seen God, but through Jesus, God has been made known. There are wonderful lines in the passage, written for all of us, to convey the message that God lives among us yet even though God created the world, the world still does not know him. God is involved in humanity; God is not somewhere out in the universe watching; God is involved with us. Today can you spend some time reflecting on the deep words of this passage? Perhaps reflect on where have you seen God in the world around you? Where is God present for you? Invite God more deeply into your life.

'Lord, humanity today wants to live independently of you, and even Christians speak as if you created the world and then left it to its own devices. We thank you for the teaching of St John reminding us that all things come to be only because you speak a Word, and that every single thing that exists today has its being because that Word continues to be spoken in it, and the only way that anything which has come to be has life today is because your Word lives within it.'
Michel de Verteuil

Jane Mellett
Email melletti@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Vigil	6.00pm	Niall Whelan (Anniv.) Patrick & Winifred O'Connor (Anniv.)
Sun	8.30am	Pro Populo
	10.00am	Marian Fenton (Anniv.)
	11.30am	Bill O'Leary (Anniv.)
Mon.	10.00am	Special Intention
Tues.	10.00am	Special Intention
Wed.		The Epiphany of the Lord
Vigil	6.00pm	Eleanor Noonan and Deceased members of the Keogh Family
	10am	Seamus Byrne (Rec. Dec'd)
	1.00pm	Special Health Intention
Thurs.	10.00am	John Taylor (Rec. Dec'd)
Fri.	10.00am	Birthday Intention
Sat.	10.00am	May Russell (Rec. Dec'd)

Many thanks for your generous contributions to last week-end's collections.

Unwanted Christmas gifts can left at the crib in the Pro Cathedral until 6th January for distribution by CROSSCARE during the coming year. Thank you.

Let us thank God who is merciful and ever at our side (MV 6)
Pope Francis via Twitter, 31st December 2015