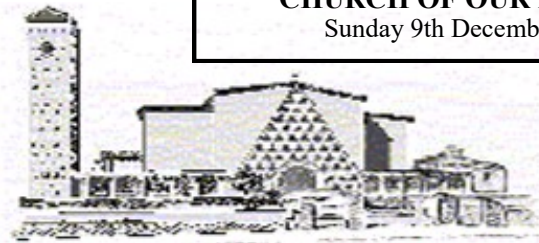


CHURCH OF OUR LADY MOTHER OF DIVINE GRACE, Raheny

Sunday 9th December 2018 Second Sunday of Advent Cycle B Week 2



Parish : 01 831 3232 / Email : info@rahenyparish.ie
www.rahenyparish.ie / Issue No. 1066

THE DEEP END: Make his paths straight

Preparing for the arrival of someone important takes care and attention. Think of a family preparing to welcome a loved one home from abroad, perhaps a son or daughter who lives in Australia or someone who has been off traveling the world. They get their bedroom ready, buy their favourite foods, perhaps put up banners or even organise a 'welcome home' party. It is all done with great excitement and love, and is a way of easing the path home for the traveller. Or imagine new parents preparing for the arrival of a baby. There are practical considerations such as buying nappies and clothing and getting a cot ready, and of course the nerves and excitement as they prepare to welcome the new arrival. On a larger scale, when an important dignitary visits a venue or a country there is also a flurry of activity in preparation. We saw it in the painstaking arrangements made for the visit of Pope Francis to Ireland earlier this year. Such high profile visits often involve a literal preparation of the way – organising a welcome reception, planning the best route from the airport, clearing the streets of traffic, as well as much chatter and anticipation.

Today's Gospel brings these two types of welcome to mind. During Advent, we prepare for the coming of Jesus by our actions, when we are generous with our time, patient with our families, and help those in need. And we do all these things with excitement and love, so that Christ will find the warmest of welcomes and a clear route into our hearts.

*Triona Doherty
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Confessions: After 10:00 a.m. Mass on Friday (Except during Funerals) and on request.

Eucharistic adoration after 10am mass on Thursday only. Free Parking

Mass Cards and Christmas Mass Bouquets are available in the Parish Office.

Our parish toy appeal continues this week - the toys will go to support the children's Christmas party in the Dochas Centre - Mountjoy Prison.

A Magical Musical Christmas Concert with the Dolce Choir takes place on Wednesday 12th December in our church at 7.30pm. Tickets €10.

The Raheny Folk Group's Christmas Concert takes place on Tuesday 18th December at 7pm.

Advent Prayer evenings continue in Manresa from 7.30pm to 9pm on Tuesday 11th and Tuesday 18th December. There is no need to book. Just come along yourself or bring a friend for an evening of prayer and meditation on the events of Advent and Christmas.

The **St. Francis Hospice Tree of Life Ceremony** takes place on Wednesday 13th December at 7.30pm. If you wish to sponsor a light on the tree please call into the hospice or call 832 7535 or go online sfh.ie.

Next Sunday's readings : Zeph 3:14-18. Ps Is 12:2-6, R/ v 6. Phil 4:4-7. Lk 3:10-18

Feastdays this week

Thursday 13th - St. Lucy

Friday 14th - St John of the Cross

The St. Vincent de Paul Christmas collection takes place this weekend 8th/9th December.

MASS INTENTIONS

Vigil	6.00pm	Mary Meade (Month's Mind) Christine Delaney (Month's Mind) Pearl McDonald (Rec. Dec'd) Mervyn Reid (Rec. Dec'd) Robert Coyle (Anniv.)
Sun	8.30am	John Sullivan (Anniv.) Noel Brady (Rec. Dec'd)
	10.00am	Mary Keating (Anniv.) Gerard McCarthy (Anniv.) Mary Meade (Rec. Dec'd) John Mahoney (Rec. Dec'd)
	11.30am	Lauri Henderson (Rec. Dec'd) Liam O'Higgins (1st Anniv.) Edward Leahy (Anniv.) Sean Breslin (Anniv.) Tom Ryan (Anniv.) Patrick Fitzpatrick (Anniv.)
Mon.	10.00am	Parishioners Intentions Gemma Robinson (Rec. Dec'd) Christopher Mulcahy (Birthday Remembrance)
Tues.	10.00am	Health Intentions
Wed.	10.00am	Patrick and Della Cooney (Rem.)
Thurs.	10.00am	Joe Whyte (Rec. Dec'd)
Fri.	10.00am	Lauri Henderson (Rec. Dec'd)

Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of those who died this week, **Dominic Dixon, Maeve O'Connor, Thomas Whelan, Marie Ryan and Eileen Lynch.** We also remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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