

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday:

**6.00 pm** Evelyn Linehan (Anniv)  
Also Des Brennan (Rem), Jean Treleaven (Anniv)

### Sunday:

10.00 am Michael McKenna (Anniv)  
Also Maureen White (Anniv), Kevin Lynch (Anniv)  
12.00 pm Sinead Harahan (Anniv)  
Also Margaret Hogan (Anniv), Fintan Lawlor (Anniv)

### Monday:

Patricia Walsh (RIP)  
Also Harry Caffrey (Anniv)

### Tuesday:

Peter Fanagan (Rec Dec)

### Wednesday:

Special Intention

### Thursday

Special Intention

Also Seosamh MacGearailt (Anniv)

### Friday:

Catriona Foley, Liam Ward, Gerry Lawlor (RIP)

Also May O'Connor (Months Mind)

### Saturday:

Special Intention



## Belgrove Junior Infant Girls' School

Belgrove Junior Infant girls will now be accepting applications for Junior Infants for September 2023 between 9th and 27th January 2023. Application forms and information are available on the school website [www.belgrove.ie](http://www.belgrove.ie) or from the school office.

### Advent reflection

What a grace it is to be clear about one's mission. Saint Paul's clarity about his being chosen "to bring about the obedience of faith" and to know the people to whom he was sent to achieve his work is truly a blessing. Many of us never achieve that certitude and, because of the lack of clarity, precious energy is lost.

It wasn't always that obvious to Paul what his mission in life was. His initial mistake in persecuting the early Christian community would find him cast to the ground and experiencing blindness. We know the story: we know how Jesus broke into Paul's life and graced him with an apostleship that helped shape the Christian world. It was about faith in Christ; it was all about being obedient to the Spirit of the risen Christ. Like Paul, Joseph was a man of faith and obedience. Though Joseph did not comprehend all that had happened to Mary, he did believe the message of the angel and them, in supreme obedience, did what was asked of him. The obedience of faith is at the heart of discipleship as is witnessed in Mary, Joseph, and Paul, as is manifest in the lives of all saints.

There is no room for romanticism when it comes to faith or obedience. The Southern Catholic writer Flannery O'Connor, detesting sentimentality, asserts that faith is about the cross and is not one big electric blanket. Though Bethlehem is close at hand, there is always the shadow of the cross that we have to deal with. Faith is costly and Joseph, Mary and Paul paid the price, the giving of their wills over to God's design.

A word about Ahaz. He is one of us. We all look for assurance and a sign would be very helpful to firm up our belief. Blind faith, like blind obedience, demands extreme trust in God's providential care. May we be granted that confidence in this Advent season and throughout our lives.



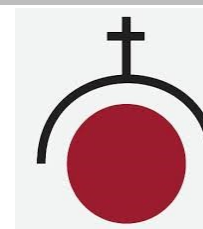
### Sacrament of Reconciliation.

During the Advent Season, Confessions will be heard on Saturdays after the 10am mass and from 5.15pm till 5.45pm before the vigil mass. Also, on Sundays after the 10am and 12 midday masses. (Weekends of 26th-27th Nov., 3rd-4th Dec., 9th-10th Dec and 7th-18th Dec.) Saturday, 24th December, 10.30am - 11.30am and from 2.30pm - 3.30pm.



### First and Second Sunday Mass Collection, 10/11 December 2022

The first collection for the priests of the Diocese last weekend was €590 and the second collection for St Vincent de Paul will follow. Many thanks for your continued contribution to both collections in these financially demanding times. You can avail of the Donate button on



## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH PARISH NEWSLETTER 18th December 2022

### MASSES

#### St John the Baptist

Mon - Sat : 10.00 am, 6.00 pm (V),  
Sundays: 10.00 am., 12.00 pm  
**St Gabriel's:** Sat (Vigil) 5.00pm  
Sunday 10.30 am and 6.00 pm  
**St Anthony's:** Sat 5.30 pm (Vigil)  
Sunday 10.00 am, 11.30 am

### CONFESSIONS

After the 10 a.m. Mass on Sat and after the 10 a.m. Mass on the Thurs before the First Friday

### BAPTISMS

On the 2nd and 3rd Saturday of each month at 12 noon.

### CONTACTS

Parish Office 833 4606  
Fr John O'Brien 083 0062411  
Fr. John Callanan S.J. 087 2296894  
Parish Centre: 805 3033  
Bethany Bereavement Support  
Bernadette 087 6445309

**Website** [www.stjohnsclontarf.ie](http://www.stjohnsclontarf.ie)

**Email** [clontarfstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:clontarfstjohns@gmail.com)

**Parish Office Opening Hours**