



Sunday 13TH December 2020

Parish Newsletter

Reflection

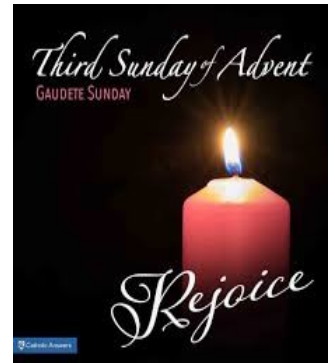
In today's Gospel John announces that the Saviour they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognized. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our Saviour. During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfil the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete*, a Latin word which means "rejoice," is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass. This theme is echoed in today's second reading from the first Letter to the Thessalonians. It is a reminder that Advent is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

Parish Notices:

Boxes of Weekly Envelopes for 2021

Weekly boxes of Envelopes are available for collection from Kieran at the Sacristy or Parish Office Monday—Thursday from 10am to 1pm for those that are registered. Should you wish to register for weekly envelopes please call to the Parish office or telephone 061 414624. We are most grateful for your continued support.



With all that was going on you responded to the Mission appeal with great generosity. Thank you for your missionary spirit, your contributions and prayers. You are making a difference to the lives of so many and giving witness to God's generosity.

The Cathedral Shop is open Monday — Saturday 11am to 1pm

Welcome back to your Church

A very warm welcome back to the Church as we resume public liturgies'. Sincere thanks for your patience and co-operation during this difficult time.

With the recent easing of COVID-19 restrictions the public are permitted to attend Mass (numbers are limited). We must continue to abide by Public Health guidelines and use hand sanitizer as we enter and exit the church, social distancing still applies and face masks must be worn.

Mass times are as follows: Monday - Friday 10am, 5.45pm. Saturday 10am, 6pm (vigil)
Sunday 8am, 10.30am, 12 noon & 7pm.

Confessions: Confessions take place after 10am Mass on Saturday's.

Christmas Mass Times & Confessions

Monday 21st & Tuesday 22nd December Mass times as Normal
Confessions after all Masses

Wednesday 23rd December Mass 8am, 10am, 12.30pm & 6pm

Thursday 24th December (Christmas Eve) Mass 8am, 10am, 12.30pm, 6pm & 9pm

Friday 25th December (Christmas Day) Mass 8am, 10.30am & 12noon No Evening Mass

Saturday 26th December Mass 10am. Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 27th December Mass 8am, 10.30am, 12 noon & 7pm

Monday 28th December - Friday 1st January Mass 10am. No Evening Mass

Saturday 2nd January Mass times resume as normal

Please phone parish office 061 414624 to book a place at any of the above Masses on 23rd, 24th & 25th December

Baptisms

Baptisms take place on Saturday's at 3.30pm and 4.30pm. Should you wish to book your baby's baptism please contact the parish office at 061 414624 between 9.30am and 4pm Monday to Friday.



Split the Pot

Congratulations to Bernadette Kiely winner of last weekend's draw (Sun 6th Dec). Draw envelopes can be dropped off during Church opening times.



The Giving Tree - Be a Secret Santa with the Society of St Vincent de Paul.



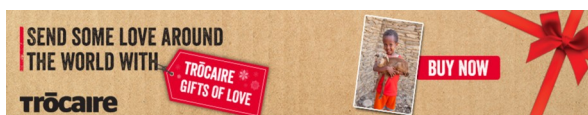
SVP provides help to thousands of families at Christmas, which includes gift vouchers, toys for small children, gifts for young people as well as gifts for older adults. This will be our third year here at St. John's Cathedral supporting SVP with their Giving Tree Christmas Appeal and despite the current restrictions we would like to continue to support those in most need in our community, as best as we can.

This year's Giving Tree can't be placed in the Cathedral and gift tags cannot be taken, however we can still find a way to give. The gifts can be given for:
Girl or Boy – Ages: 0-6yrs or 6-12yrs, Teenager Boy or Girl, Adult

Unwrapped gifts can be dropped into Kieran in St John's Cathedral Sacristy and these gifts will be delivered to SVP for distribution by a network of local SVP volunteers. All public health restrictions will be adhered to at every stage of the process.

Trócaire's Gift of Love Christmas Appeal

When you buy a Trócaire Gift of Love, your money goes to gifts for people who really need them as well as funding critical work in Trócaire's justice, resource rights, women's empowerment programmes and more recently, support during the current Covid 19 pandemic.



money goes to gifts for people

Last year was our first year supporting Trócaire's Gifts of Love and over one weekend last December we managed to raise an incredible €2,500.

This year, due to current restrictions, gifts cannot be sold at the back of Cathedral; however there will be a limited number of gifts of love cards available in the Cathedral shop. There are also many other ways to purchase these life changing gifts or just donate to Trócaire's Christmas Appeal, either online at <https://trocaire.org/gifts> or by calling **1850 408408**.

There are many Trócaire gifts to choose from, such as chicks, water and solar lamps, ranging in price from €5.

Also Trócaire envelopes will be available at the back of the Cathedral to take home with you and can be brought back and collected at any mass in the lead up to Christmas..

Buy a Trócaire Gift of Love and send some love around the world this Christmas.