

Parish of St. John the Baptist, Blackrock. Parish Newsletter 13th /14th December 2025.

Website: www.sjb.ie

Masses available on webcam Email: office@sjb.ie

Priests

Fr. Peter O'Connor P.P. Fr. Eddie Conway P.C.

01 288 21 04 01 288 22 48

Parish Office

Hours: 10.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Tel: 01 288 21 04 Email: office@sjb.ie

Times of Mass

Sunday: Vigil (Saturday) 6.30 p.m.

> 10.00 a.m. 12.00 noon

Weekdays: 1.05 p.m. Saturday: 6.30 p.m. Vigil

Confessions: Available on request.

Baptisms: Held on the 1st Sunday and the 3rd Saturday of the month. All enquires welcome through the Parish Office on 01 288 2104, or email, office@sib.ie

Marriages: By arrangement, three months' notice required to the Parish in which you reside.

Outdoor Collection

We thank our parishioners who supported the Outdoor Collection for the Parish Maintenance fund, on the weekend of the 22nd/23rd November which raised €1,640.00. A big thank you for your ongoing support.

Sunday Collections

St. John the Baptist Church Blackrock



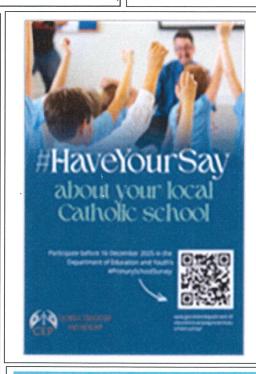
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- 4. Tap the notification to open the link associated with the OR code.
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have your say before 16th December 2025. See https://www.gov.i e/en/departmentof education/campai gns/primaryschool-survey/

Catholic Schools -

St. Vincent de Paul Annual Collection 2025.

The Annual Collection for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will take place during all Masses this weekend the 13th /14th December.

The funds raised will be spent in the local community helping those who need it most with food, heating, and education costs throughout the winter and beyond.

It will replace the second collection

GAUDETE SUNDAY



Gaudete Sunday is the **third Sunday of Advent**, a day of joyous anticipation and a break from the penitential tone of the rest of the season. The name comes from the Latin word Gaudete ("Rejoice"), the first word of the Mass's antiphon, which is "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice".

Significance and Symbolism.

- A Shift in Focus: Advent is a season of preparation for both the first coming of Christ at Christmas and his second coming. For the first two weeks, the focus is on preparation and reflection. Gaudete Sunday shifts the emphasis to a more immediate, joyful anticipation as Christmas is near.
- Liturgical Colour: Rose: The most notable tradition is the use of the colour rose (pink) instead of the usual violet (purple) for clerical vestments and the third candle on the Advent wreath. This brighter color symbolizes the joy that the faithful are over halfway through their Advent preparation.

Parish Christmas Cards

The Parish Christmas Cards will be available from the Parish Office and after Masses on Sunday. The intentions of those to whom the cards are sent will be remembered in a Triduum of Masses to be celebrated in preparation for the feast of Christmas. The second and third card is a regular card with no Mass intentions with a beautiful picture of the Bell Tower and Christmas Altar scene. The prices are listed below.



€3 for 5 cards €5 for 5 cards Triduum €4 each

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING - SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER, 2025.

We will hold our Christmas coffee morning after the 10.00 a.m. Mass this Sunday 14th

December. We would love you to join us. It is held in the Parish Centre. It is an occasion for us to come together as a Parish Community to get to know others and to enjoy a cup of coffee and some Christmas treats.