



Parish of St. John the Baptist, Blackrock.

Parish Newsletter 5<sup>TH</sup> /6<sup>TH</sup> February, 2022.

Website: [www.sjb.ie](http://www.sjb.ie)

**Masses available on webcam**

**Priests:**

Fr Peter O'Connor. P.P. 01 2882104  
Fr. Eddie Conway 01 2882248

**Parish Office:**

Hours 10.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m. Monday to Friday.  
Tel: 28821 04

**Times of Mass:**

**Sunday Vigil (Saturday) 6.30 p.m.**  
**10.00 a.m.**  
**12 noon**

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

**Confessions**

On request.

**Baptisms:** On request

**Marriages:** By arrangement, 3 months' notice required to Parish in which you reside.

When entering the Church, please wear **face masks, social distance, and use the hand sanitizers.**

The Church is cleaned at regular intervals to make it a safer environment for all.  
Thank You.

**Prayer for peace over Ukraine situation.**

Pope Francis expressed his concerns over the increasing tensions that threaten to overturn chances for peace in Ukraine and security on the European continent in general, given the wider repercussions of any conflict.

Pope Francis said, *"I make a heartfelt appeal to all people of goodwill to raise prayers to Almighty God that all political actions and initiatives may be at the service of human brotherhood rather than partisan interests"*. The Pope has expressed his concern regarding the tensions over Ukraine frequent times in the past, encouraging everyone to pray for peace and that dialogue and negotiation may prevail in resolving the situation.

God of gentleness and compassion:

Remove the blindness that always sees the other as enemy,  
Fill us with the desire for those things that make for peace,  
Lead us to that inner place where peace is born and nurtured.

Let us ask the Lord to grant that the country may grow in the  
Spirit of brotherhood, and that all hurts,  
fears and divisions will be overcome.

We ask this, in the Spirit, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**LUMEN DOMINICAN CENTRE**

We are delighted to have our Spring 2022 programme ready and registration is now open. Places for our on-site modules are reduced for the safety of our students. For further information please contact Sion Hill Campus Blackrock at 2882075; mobile: 085 8727482 or email: [www.lumenop.ie](http://www.lumenop.ie)

**A Message from Fr. Peter O'Connor**

Dear Parishioners,

I wish to say thank you for your patience and your kind words of appreciation for the covering of the kneelers in the sections of the Church last month. During the month of January, we celebrated Christian Unity Week with prayers. We also welcomed the students from Carysfort National School who are preparing for First Penance, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation.

The month of February has begun with celebrating the Feast of St. Brigid. This month is a busy month. Carysfort our parish school will hold their Ceremony of Light on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, and celebrate Confirmation on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February. Willow Park School will hold their Ceremonies of Light and Confirmations at the end of the month and early March.

The season of Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March.**

The theme for Lent in our parish is the Synod. Pope Francis has called for a conversation on the future of the Church in every Parish and Diocese, in the Universal Church.

I wish to say thank you once again to our volunteers whom we rely on so much. As restrictions are easing, if you feel you can help in any way, please contact the Parish Office. We are making an appeal for Eucharistic Ministers, Readers and Flower arrangers.

At the moment we have no Sacristan. I am mostly running the Sacristy myself. This is not a situation that can continue indefinitely. We hope in the coming weeks to advertise for a permanent sacristan for the parish. If you know of anyone interested let them and us know.

The covering of the kneelers was financed by the monies collected from the **"Joy of the Gospel Appeal"**. We along with The Finance Committee are moving on to further projects. We hope to install a toilet facility which can be accessed from the main body of the Church. We also hope to paint the interior of the porches in the Church, and paint and tile some small sections of the Parish Centre.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to meeting you and praying with you during the coming weeks in February.

Fr. Peter.

**ACCORD**

The ANNUAL COLLECTION for ACCORD Dublin, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family, will be made at all Masses next weekend:

**12TH & 13TH February 2021.**

ACCORD Dublin throughout the Diocese offers:

- Marriage Preparation courses – online, small groups.
- Counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships, currently online or by phone.
- A Relationship and Sexuality Programme for schools.

ACCORD Dublin needs your support this year more than ever.