



Parish of St. John the Baptist, Blackrock.

Parish Newsletter 2<sup>nd</sup> /3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2023.

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

Masses available on webcam

Email: [office@sjb.ie](mailto:office@sjb.ie)

#### Priests

Fr. Peter O'Connor P.P. 01 288 21 04  
Fr. Eddie Conway P.C. 01 288 22 48

#### Parish Office

Hours: 10.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m. Monday to Friday.  
Tel: 288 21 04  
Email: [office@sjb.ie](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month. All enquires welcome through the Parish Office on 01 288 2104, or email [office@sjb.ie](mailto:office@sjb.ie)

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

#### Lifesize statue of St Brigid?

In the parish we have a life size statue of St. Patrick which is displayed on Saint Patrick's Day. It would wonderful if we had a life size statue of St Brigid to be displayed on St Brigid's day. If anybody knows the whereabouts of a life size statue of St Brigid, please contact the parish office!

#### Bequests

We thank those who have in the past made Bequests to the Parish in their Wills. These bequests have contributed significantly over the years to the upkeep of the Parish, especially to the preservation of our Church building as a fitting place for the celebration of Mass and the Sacraments for generations to come.

If you are considering including a Charitable Bequest in your own Will, our Registered Charity Number is 20016166.

Leaflets on **Leaving a Legacy of your Faith** are on the tables at the back of the Church. If you require any further information please contact the Parish Office on 2882104.

#### Back to School - A Child's Prayer

"Dear Lord, use my eyes to **see** new friends.  
Open my ears to **hear** my teacher.  
Open my mind to **learn** new things.  
Open my heart to **remember**  
YOU are near when I am afraid.  
Help me to **love** others like you do.  
I want to **shine** your light  
so bright in my school".  
Amen.



#### Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023



The Annual collection for the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will continue after all Masses until this coming Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. There will be a table in each porch with collectors after the Masses.

Thank you for your continued support.

#### DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

The Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will leave Dublin Airport next Thursday, September 7, for the annual pilgrimage to Our Lady's shrine. On Friday, September 8, Archbishop Farrell will celebrate Mass at the Grotto, which will be followed by a full programme of liturgies and events over five days. More than 1,200 people are travelling this year on five chartered aircraft. Please remember the pilgrims in prayer in your parish over the coming days. Fr Martin Noone, Pilgrimage Director, **thanked parishes that have sent in Associated Membership this year.**

#### A Message from Fr. Peter O'Connor Adm.

Dear Parishioners this is just a note to let you know some of the upcoming events taking place in the parish of St. John the Baptist, Blackrock.

Thank you for your prayers and support this summer. Our Mass attendance numbers have remained steadfast during the weekday Masses at 1.05 p.m. and on occasion have increased at the weekend celebration of Masses.

Many expressed their appreciation to the devotion to St. Joachim and St. Anne and the prayers for Grandparents, as well as commenting on the new prayer cards at the entrances to the Church. Thank you for your contributions to the Summer Dues and to the Lourdes Fund. Unfortunately, our prayers to the Child of Prague were not as well received during the wet weather!

As we enter the month of September, I wish to share with you the following that will take place in the coming weeks:

- **The First meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will take place.**
- **The Parish Finance Committee will reconvene.**
- **The 2024 Sacramental Programme for First Communion, First Confession and Confirmation in our parish school Carysfort National School will begin.**
- **Our parish choir under the leadership of Catherine Hughes and our organist Maria Geheran will continue.**
- **A meeting will take place to further our dialogue within the Dublin Diocese Building on Hope Programme with the parishes of Monkstown/Kill of the Grange/Foxrock and Guardian Angels.**

Our Parish is a place of welcome to all and celebrates special occasions. It is very important in making all feel at home, loved, and needed.

On the following dates I hope you will be able to join our celebrations which include:

- **Blessing of School Bags Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September.**
- **Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September.**
- **Pet Sunday Blessing of Pets Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October.**
- **Home and Away Weekend Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October.**
- **Mission Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October.**

I know that the Parish Pastoral Council will also have a few more ideas as well as some Diocesan events which are taking place.

May I take this opportunity to thank our parish staff, our secretaries Gina and Kay and our Sacristans Michael and Judith. I also wish to thank our Parish Chaplain Fr. Eddie Conway for his invaluable help and assistance.

Thank you for your help and prayers. I leave you with our Parish Mission Statement.

Fr. Peter O'Connor, Adm.

#### MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT BY THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

"Following in the footsteps of St. John the Baptist, the parish community in Blackrock welcomes all those who wish to develop or nurture their relationship with Jesus through Baptism, the Sacraments, and through participation in the life and liturgies of the Church. We aim to spread the word of God by showing love and compassion, accepting people as they are, and in this way, being a voice of hope for all".