



Parish of St. John the Baptist, Blackrock. Parish Newsletter 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> January, 2025.

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: 01 288 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, three months' notice required to the Parish in which you reside.

**Feast Days**

The Feast of St. Brigid.  
 Saturday 1st February, 2025.

**Blessing of Candles.**  
 The Presentation of the Lord.  
 Sunday 2nd February, 2025.

The Feast of St. Blaise.  
 Monday 3rd February, 2025.

**A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR**

Lord, in this new year which we have begun,  
 may we have enough happiness to keep us agreeable,  
 enough trials to keep us strong,  
 enough sorrow to keep us human,  
 enough freedom to keep us happy,  
 enough failure to keep us humble,  
 enough success to keep us eager,  
 enough wealth to meet our needs,  
 enough faith to banish depression,  
 enough hope to look forward,  
 enough love to give us comfort,  
 and enough determination to keep going.  
 (Anon).

**Christmas Dues and Christmas Parish Offering**

The priests of the parish wish to thank you all most sincerely for returning your Christmas Dues and Christmas Parish Offering. Please know that you will be remembered in their prayers.

**Parish Activity Dates**

Saturday 1st February, 2025, at the 6.30 p.m. vigil Mass, we welcome the children from Carysfort National School who are preparing for First Holy Communion.

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2025, at the 6.30 p.m. vigil Mass, we welcome the children from Carysfort National School who are preparing for Confirmation.

**Catholic Schools Week 2025**



Catholic Schools Week 2025 will be celebrated from **Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> January, to Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> January**, with the theme of Catholic Schools: **Alive in Christ**. We pray for and support our local Catholic schools so that, together with us, the parish community, they will be alive with the joy and hope that is Christ.

Jesus Christ calls us together as a living faith community so that our schools, parish, and families may support and animate one another. Catholic schools are intrinsically connected with the local parish community, and each of these actively serves the other. It is important to acknowledge and celebrate the living connection that exists between school and parish during Catholic Schools Week. Catholic Schools Week provides an opportunity for both communities to pray for one another and with one another.

**Prayer for Catholic Schools Week**  
 Loving God, we thank you for the wonderful gift of our home.  
 As spring begins, help us see the beauty awakening all around us.  
 Help us to love and care for the earth, and share it with all who live here.  
 Help us to be guided by Pope Francis, our teachers and families in how we live and how we learn.  
 We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son, and our Lord.  
 Amen.

**St Brigid's Postcards**

To celebrate the Feast of St. Brigid we have some beautiful postcards available for you send to friends and family letting them know that you said a prayer and lit a candle for them.



**Knock Pilgrimage**

Escorted Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 10th February 2025. €699.00 pps. Price includes return train, 4 nights' in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre, Quiet Man Museum. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact 094 900 6426 or 087 1890 236 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com).