



Parish of St. John the Baptist, Blackrock. Parish Newsletter 10th /11th January 2026.

Website: www.sjb.ie

Masses available on webcam Email: 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

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@sjb.ie

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

Christmas Dues and Parish Maintenance

There are two envelopes if you wish to contribute. One envelope is for Christmas Dues which go towards the salaries of all the clergy of the Archdiocese. The second envelope is for the Christmas Parish Offering, which goes towards the maintenance of Saint John the Baptist Church here in Blackrock. Envelopes may be left in the Parish Office, the safe at the back of the Church or in the collection baskets.



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 us going.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Happy New Year to you all from the team at St. John the Baptist Blackrock.
Firstly, thank you to all our volunteers and Church supporters for your help during a busy but enjoyable Christmas. We express our gratitude to our choir and singers particularly Catherine Hughes our choir director, and Maria Gerahan our organist, and the members and cantors of our choir.

We express appreciation to our great support teams of Eucharistic Ministers, readers, collectors, the Baptismal team, the flower arranging group, those who keep our Church clean by polishing, sweeping, hoovering, and polishing the floors and those who participated in constructing the crib and our Christmas Prayer Tree.

We would also like to acknowledge the support of the Parish Pastoral Council and the chairperson Catherine O'Carroll, and the chairperson of the Finance committee Liam Butler and the members of both committees.

In 2025 we maintained the grounds of the Church by placing additional car ramps, painting the gates on two sides of the 'chucks' on Newtown Avenue and lane. The roof of the Church needs continuous maintenance due to storms, and some of the stained-glass windows also were repaired with more repairs due for 2026. New Bose speakers were also installed in the Church, replacing speakers that had been there for over 30 years.

Thank you for your support – the Finance Committee will be letting you know about the finances for the parish in the first quarter of this current year.

During the last two Sunday's Fr. Peter read the following reflections – many in the congregation asked for a copy of the reflections.

Wishing you all a happy and blessed 2026.

A BLESSING FOR 2026

I welcome this new year with an open heart and quiet trust. I choose faith even when the path is unclear and patience when answers take time. I allow peace to replace worry and hope to rise gently within me.

I release what no longer serves me and make space for growth. I trust that each step I take is guided, even when I cannot yet see the destination. I believe that healing is unfolding, strength is returning, and clarity will come. As the days move forward, I remain grounded, grateful, and open. I walk into this year with faith - steady, resilient, and ready for what lies ahead.