

Parish Notices



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

CRAFT 'N' CHIT-CHAT GROUP

The Craft Group will resume in the Priory on Tuesday, 8th January 2019. Bring along your own crafts and enjoy the 'chit-chat' with the Group. Donation €2.00

THE FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH (4th JANUARY)

Holy Communion will be brought to the sick and housebound of the Parish

READ OUR WEBPAGE

www.stmarys-tallaght.ie
facebook.com/stmarystallaght
twitter.com/stmarystallaght



MASSES 30th Dec 2018 - 1st Jan 2019

Sunday 30th December

Sunday Vigil (Saturday 29th Dec, 7.30pm)
8.00am, 9.00am (Irish), 10.00am,
11.15am, 12.30pm and 6.00pm

Mon 31 Dec 2018 - Tue 1st Jan 2019

10.00am and 1.00pm, *No Evening Mass*

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Donal Roche OP

PARISH SISTER: Sr Noelle Jennings OP

DEACON: Br Eamonn Moran OP, CHAPLAIN: Fr Robert Reguła OP

Phone: 4048100; email: parish@stmarys-tallaght.ie

www.stmarys-tallaght.ie

PRIORY NEWSLETTER

St. Mary's Dominican Priory - Tallaght, Holy Family Sunday (C), 30th December 2018

GOD IS MY FATHER

This is an extraordinary episode. It would seem that Jesus, aged 12 years of age, is claiming his official Jewish state of legal maturity and (without their knowledge) separating from his parents. When they find him, he appears to be very rude in his answers. Apart from that impression there are some points that can have us take a closer look at the passage.

Mary and Joseph are not mentioned by name but twice as "parents". His "mother" is mentioned twice and his "father" once. These terms tell us that this passage is about family life and the relationship of Jesus to his "mother" Mary and "father" Joseph.

Jesus refers to God as his "Father" with whom he must live, as "I must be in my Father's house" implies. His parents did not understand what he meant by this. For us this is a caution: we too may not understand everything presented and need clarification. Luke presents Mary as the perfect disciple and we are told that "his mother kept all these things in her heart". That is a model for us on getting to know God's word.

The first words of Jesus recorded in Luke's Gospel are, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" He calls God his "Father". Mary had just pointed out that Joseph was "your father". Jesus is now 12 years old and does not need Joseph as his legal father as be-



fore. This episode clarifies why Joseph no longer appears in the Gospel.

It also reveals that Jesus knows that he is God the Father's son with a special personal relationship between them. Obedience to the Father comes before any other relationships and obligations. It is because of his obedience to his Father's will that he will obey his earthly parents by going home with them and staying there until his Father calls him to his public ministry. There is a lesson here for us too: obedience to our Father's will is an essential virtue for our lives too.

+Fr. Paschal Tiernan OP

Read full commentary at www.stmarys-tallaght.ie