

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS 2021
St Mary's, Tallaght

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 18 December	10.30 am – 11.30 am 7.00 pm – 7.30 pm; 8.15 pm – 8.45 pm
Wednesday 22 December	10.30 am – 11.30 am; 1.30 pm – 2.30 pm
Thursday 23 December	10.30 am – 11.30 am; 1.30 pm – 2.30 pm
Friday 24 December	10.30 am – 11.30 am; 1.30 pm – 2.30 pm
Polish Confessions Saturday 18 December Wednesday 22 December	8.15 pm – 8.45 pm 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm

MASSES

Friday 24 December	Masses: 8.00 am, 10.00 am.
Friday 24 December CHRISTMAS EVE	Vigil Mass: 6.00 pm, 8.00 pm Night Mass: 10.00 pm Polish Mass: 12.00 Midnight
Saturday 25 December CHRISTMAS DAY	Dawn Mass: 7.00 am Day Mass: 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 12.00 Noon Polish Mass: 4.30 pm
Sunday 26 December FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY	Masses: 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 12.00 Noon 6.00 pm
Monday 27 – Friday 31 OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS	Masses: 10.00 am, 1.00 pm
Saturday 1 January MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH	Mass: 10.00 am
Sunday 2 January SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS	Masses: Vigil Mass at 7.30 pm (Sat 1 Jan) 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 12.00 Noon, 4.30 pm (Polish), 6.00 pm

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR : Fr Donal Roche OP; PARISH SISTER: Sr Noelle Jennings OP
 DEACON: Br Eamonn Moran OP, CURATE: Fr Robert Regula OP
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PRIORY NEWSLETTER

St. Mary's Dominican Priory - Tallaght, 4th Sunday of Advent (C), 19th December 2021

How to wait?

The dramatis personae don't lead us to expect anything revolutionary. They are an old woman and a young girl. Both are to give birth, true, and the birth of a child is always a potential revolution. There is an indication that something is going to be different here: the old woman is really beyond the age of child-bearing (Lk 1:7) and the young girl wasn't expected to be there yet (Mt 1:18).

But the revolutionary language of Mary's Magnificat takes us by surprise. "He scatters the proud-hearted... he casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly... he fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty...." If we really heard these words (which means hearing them addressed to oneself) we would be part of the revolution. But when we imagine them addressed only to others, we turn them into an ideology and we turn ourselves into observers.

Addressed to oneself... Who is 'oneself' in the Church? Our deepest identity is not our personal ego but our identity within the Body of Christ. "We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members of one another" (Romans 12:5). The Magnificat is not only a call to the individual to turn his or her life around; it is a call to the Church to live by the Gospel.

In all three Liturgical cycles Mary makes her appearance today, the fourth Sunday of Advent. It is as if the picture is becoming clearer: in the previous Sundays we heard



from Isaiah and John the Baptist, now we hear from Mary herself in whom the waiting is localised precisely. It is important to know how to wait. There are many ways of waiting: look at a bus-queue and you will see them all. There is the restless impatient waiting of the person who regards waiting as a pure waste of time. There is the stoical waiting of the person who endures it by escaping inwards to another world. Perhaps what Mary teaches us is that the only fruitful kind of waiting is the waiting that an expectant mother does. You know from looking that she has her centre of meaning already within her. She is waiting, but for something that is already here: she is waiting for the full flowering, and there is no impatience and no desire to escape. This is how we might learn to wait for everything. This is the kind of waiting that is Advent.

Fr Donagh O'Shea OP
www.goodnews.ie

COLLECTIONS

Offertory: €989
 Share: St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal
 Envelope: €110