

# Parish Notices

## MASS ARRANGEMENTS - 27 DECEMBER TO 8 JANUARY

Monday 27 – Friday 31 OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS	Masses: 10.00 am, 1.00 pm
Saturday 1 January MARY, MOTHER OF GOD	Mass: 10.00 am
Sunday 2 January SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS	Masses: Vigil Mass at 7.30 pm (1 Jan) 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 12.00 Noon, 4.30 pm (Polish), 6.00 pm.
Monday 3 – Wednesday 5 January	Masses: 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 1.00 pm
Thursday 6 January THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	Masses: 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 12.00 Noon, 6.00 pm.
Friday 7 January	Masses: 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 1.00pm
Saturday 8 January	Masses: 8.00 am, 10.00 am

### THE WORLD DAY OF PEACE 2022

Archbishop Dermot Farrell will celebrate the Annual Mass for Peace on **Saturday January 1st 2022** Online at 11.00am.

The Mass will take place in Our Lady of Victories Ballymun Road and the link for the webcam is <https://olv.ie/webcam/>

Unfortunately, given the spread of the Omicron variant of the Coronavirus, we have not been able to issue invitations for this Mass but we hope that you will be able to join us online.

### COLLECTIONS:

Offertory: €1380  
Share: €437  
Envelope: €80

### READ OUR WEBPAGE

[www.stmarys-tallaght.ie](http://www.stmarys-tallaght.ie)  
[facebook.com/stmarystallaght](https://www.facebook.com/stmarystallaght)  
[twitter.com/stmarystallaght](https://twitter.com/stmarystallaght)

*The Greenhills Road Gate  
will be closed on Monday  
27 December.*

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# PRIORY NEWSLETTER

St. Mary's Dominican Priory - Tallaght, Holy Family Sunday (C), 26<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## 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](http://www.stmarys-tallaght.ie)