



Welcome/Fáilte/Bienvenue/
Bienvenido
SAINT JAMES'S PARISH, Dublin 8

Ph:4531143 or Urgent calls: 087-2525196



St Vincent de Paul ANNUAL COLLECTION: A sincere thank you to all of our wonderful parishioners for their generous contribution to the Annual Saint Vincent DePaul Collection last Weekend, which amounted to **€1593**.

WE REMEMBER AT CHRISTMAS: A reminder that our Christmas Book of Prayer intentions is still at the front of the Altar. You are welcome to write the Names of those who, for one reason or another, cannot be here with you for Christmas in this book. We will include them at Mass at Christmas time.

PARISH OFFICE: The Parish office will be closed for the Christmas from Wednesday the 22nd of December and will reopen Monday the 6th of January 2022.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: Our Annual Christmas Raffle will take place this weekend after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday the 19th. A thank you to **Everyone** involved in organising the raffle especially Maureen and to everyone who bought or sold tickets as well as those who contributed prizes..

CHRISTMAS BREAK: To all the Students & Staff from our Parish Schools we hope you have a wonderful Christmas and enjoy the break! Stay safe.

CHRISTMAS DUES: For parishioners who wish to contribute Christmas Dues, envelopes are available at the church doors or can be collected from the office we really appreciate your support .

SEASON OF ADVENT

This Sunday is the 4th Sunday in our Season of Advent, a time when we all come together as we wait and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

This Weekend we will light the **Angel's** candle. This candle symbolises **PEACE** and reminds us of the message of the Angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will To All"

Mass intentions 18th/19th December

Sat. 6.30 pm : Anthony O'Connell, Patricia Southwell, Philip Mcloughlin and Ann, John & Peter Hackett

Sun. 10.30 am: Seán Brunkard, Margaret O'Byrne, Michael & Thomas Hannon and Mary, Gerry, Marie &



Ann Keogh



HYMNS

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Be Not Afraid

***Be not afraid; I go before you always:
Come, follow me
and I will give you rest.***

You shall cross the barren desert,
But you shall not die of thirst,
You shall wander far in safety,
Though you do not know the way.

You shall speak your words
in foreign lands
And they will understand.

You shall see the face of God and live.

Be not afraid;.....



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18th

Confession 5pm—6pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19th

Confession 9am—10am

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24th (Christmas Eve)

Vigil Mass at 6.30pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25th (Christmas Day)

Mass at 10.30am

(NO Evening Mass)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26th (St. Stephens Day)

Mass at 10.30am

MONDAY DECEMBER, 27th

Mass at 10am



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Over the past few years, there has been a welcomed interest in revitalising the South Inner City through building and regeneration projects.

For the faith communities of the Liberties, too, this is also a time of change. There is a rich tradition of Christianity in this area stretching back over 1000 years. The Churches in Francis Street, Meath Street and James's Street have long been places of faith, hope and love. Generations of people have come to our Churches to gather together, to celebrate happy occasions and to mourn the dead. It is important that we remember and honour those who have passed to us the gift of faith.

At the same time, we must be realistic in facing the future. There has been a decline in population of the area along with a more general decline in the numbers attending Mass. Churches that were once full to the brim on a weekly, if not daily, basis are now struggling. We must act with the firm intention of preserving our Christian faith for those who will follow.

With this in mind, Archbishop Dermot Farrell has tasked the Parishes of Meath Street, Francis Street and James's Street to build a viable future for the Church in the Liberties. This will mean working closely with our neighbours in a spirit of faith and co-operation. It will take time and patience. The unique history and tradition of each Parish must be maintained while at the same time, we build a new future.

As a first step, Archbishop Farrell has appointed Fr. Eugene Taaffe, PP of James's Street as Moderator of all three parishes. In doing this, the hope is that the parish clergy can begin to facilitate discussions between themselves and between the parishes as to how best to move forward.

For Meath Street Parish, April 25th 2022 will see the end of the Augustinian Order looking after the Parish. With a decline in the number of priests, the Order have informed Archbishop Farrell that they are no longer able to care for the Parish, however the Order will continue to have presence in John's Lane. It is hoped that the occasion will be marked in a suitable way and that we can formally thank the Augustinian Order for their dedication and commitment to the people of Meath Street over the past 50 years.

With all this change, it is a time of hope and of opportunity. This is the beginning of a slow and gradual process. Pope Francis has asked that over the next few years, communities engage in deeply listening and responding to the needs of the people. It is this vision of 'synodality' we will use in the months and years ahead.

All of us, people and clergy, are standing on holy ground that has been gifted to us. We have a firm foundation of 1000 years of Christian living. It is up to us to ensure that future generations of this area will know the name of Jesus, the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the love of God the Father.

Fr. Niall Coghlan OSA P.P – Meath Street Parish

Fr. Richie Goode OSA C.C – Meath Street Parish

Fr. Martin Dolan Adm – Francis Street Parish

Fr. Eugene Taaffe P.P – James' Street Parish

