

Our Lady of Dolours, Botanic Avenue, Glasnevin, D09K5R6
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Mass Intentions:

Sunday 27/12

11.00am Marie Byrne (4A)
Valerie O’Leary (S/I)
Margaret & Maureen Mulry

Monday 28/12

10.00am Grettie Spillane (S/I)
Steve Lynch (R/D)
Moira & Paddy O’Byrne (S/I)



Christmas Mass times.

Mass with a limited congregation will be celebrated on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day. Because of government restrictions, we may not be able to accommodate all those who turn up for a particular Mass either on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. People are asked to form a socially distanced queue along the wheelchair ramp and will be admitted on a first come first served basis. You will be allocated a particular seat by the stewards and are asked to accept that seat so that we can accommodate as many as we safely can. Once we have reached our quota, we cannot admit any more. You will be invited to follow the Mass at home on the webcam or to return early to attend another Mass. We are putting on an extra Mass at 12.30pm on Christmas Day, so that we may accommodate as many as possible.

As it is simply not possible to accommodate the numbers who would normally attend the Christmas Eve Family Mass, it will be celebrated online only at 4.30pm. No congregation will be admitted, but parishioners and visitors are invited to participate in the Mass via webcam accessible via the parish website: www.glasnevinparish.ie

Christmas Eve Mass Times:

4.30pm Christmas Family Mass (accessible by webcam only)

6.30pm

8.30pm

Christmas Day Mass times:

9.00am

11.00am

12.30pm

There is no evening Mass on Christmas Day, but the church will remain open during the day for private prayer.

Due to the latest government restrictions, from Saturday 26th December, parishioners and visitors can no longer attend Mass in person for at least the next three weeks. All Sunday and weekday Masses will be accessible via the webcam and are recorded for later viewing.



In order to welcome the New Year in a prayerful spirit, an online service of music, reflection and prayer will take place in our church on Thursday 31st December, **New Year’s Eve**. This year the service will be accessible via webcam only through our parish website at: www.glasnevinparish.ie It will begin at 11.30pm and conclude at 12.10am approx.

OFFERINGS

We are grateful for the generosity of parishioners, who have returned Christmas Offerings, which form a significant part of the annual remuneration of the priests of the parish and of the diocese. We also thank parishioners for your contributions to the **First and Second Collections** and to the **Family Offering**. Parishioners are welcome to avail of the new Tap-and-Go machines at the back of the church to contribute to the Mass collections. We also draw parishioners’ attention to the **‘Donate’** button on the parish website www.glasnevinparish.ie, on which some may prefer to make their regular contributions.

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Reflection:

We welcome all of you who are joining us for our celebration of Christmas in the church of Our Lady of Dolours, Glasnevin. We welcome in particular those who may not have been here in a while, and especially those who have come to be with their families in Glasnevin over the festive period. We also welcome those who are joining us online, either locally or from across the world.

‘Today a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.’ This is the essence of the Christmas message. In the person of Jesus Christ God has entered the world and transformed human history. It is the reason for our rejoicing. And we have never more needed a reason to rejoice. It has been a very hard year for most of us, and many people face an uncertain future as we enter 2021. But it has also been a year where we have come to realise who and what is important in our lives. We will be happy just to sit around the Christmas table with loved ones and thank God for our blessings. We will say a prayer for those who could not travel home to be with us this year, and remember with love, gratitude and hope those who have journeyed onward since this time last year. We will spare a thought for those who are spending Christmas in a hospital or nursing home and all the frontline workers who will be on duty at this time. We celebrate the birth of Jesus because he is Emmanuel, the living sign of a God who will journey with us into the coming year, helping us to bring light out of darkness, hope out of sorrow and life out of death.

SOME WORDS OF THANKS

Christmas is a time when we particularly want to acknowledge our gratitude to those who serve the mission of the parish in a voluntary capacity in so many discreet and dedicated ways. When the pandemic arrived in the early part of the year, acting on the advice of government and observing church guidelines, some parish volunteers stepped back from ministries they had faithfully been carrying out for several years, particularly those aged over 70 years. Some may wish to return to their service or ministry once vaccines have become widely available in the country and the pandemic is no longer a threat. In the meantime, however, we wish to thank all volunteers for their great service to the parish, whether as a collector/counter, minister of the Word or of the Eucharist or in any other capacity. When restrictions were lifted, and we were able to return to the public celebration of Mass during the year, we could not have done without the assistance of those who came forward to assist with stewarding at each celebration of the Eucharist. We would also like to thank all those who have assisted with decorating the church for Advent and Christmas and donated plants and flowers. Finally a huge thanks to our parish team: our sacristans, caretaker and parish secretary who work with such dedication throughout the year.



Fr. Richard and Fr. Paul wish everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year!

