



NEW YEAR'S EVE
VOLUME 2 • No. 18

HAPPY NEW YEAR



St. Joseph the Artisan Church
Bonnybrook Parish



New Year's Eve

"When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned ... to their own town of Nazareth." Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews who followed the norms of their religion. Today's Gospel describes the event we call "The Presentation." Jesus' parents, like every Jewish family, presented their infant son to the Lord in a formal ceremony at the temple in Jerusalem. Having done what their religious rites required (and having heard the prophetic words of Simeon and Anna), Mary and Joseph returned home. It was back in their native region of Galilee, amidst the daily routine of domestic life, that Jesus "grew and became strong, filled with wisdom."

As Christians, we too consecrate our children to the Lord when we have them baptized in the Church. Seeing our children receive this sacrament of initiation is always a moment of great joy and hope as we anticipate the life that lies ahead for them, both on earth and in eternity. But the baptism of a baby is only the beginning of this journey towards heaven. In truth, the little daily details, the simple living of family life in our own home paves the way for our children to reach their eternal home.

And so it was with the Holy Family. Jesus' childhood, his formation and development took place not primarily amidst the public drama of the temple, but in the quiet privacy of his home. How important this home was, where his parents raised him in their faith and helped him live in such a way that "the favour of God was upon him." May we too, in our homes and our families, remember that although our mission may be lived out in very small moments, taken together they have an eternal significance.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Sat Evening: 7pm	St. Imelda (A), Gerard Rooney and his mother Ellen
Sun: 9.30am	David Carolan (RIP)
Sun: 11.30am	Carmel & Paddy Fox and daughter Marie (A), Ellen Sweeney (A)
Mon: 10am	(New Year's Day)
Tues: 9.30am	David Carolan (B.R.)
Wed: 9.30am	(Liturgy of the Word)
Thurs: 9.30am	Thomas Coates (A) Margaret Mary Maughan (R.I.P.) John & Ann Maughan also John (Jim) & Patrick Maughan. (R.I.P.)
Fri: 9.30am	Private Intention
Sat: 10am	Feast of the Epiphany

Please note that there will no longer be a morning Mass on Wednesdays until the Season of Lent. In the meantime, the Wednesday morning Mass will be replaced by a Liturgy of the Word.

Contact Details

Fr. Joe Jones (Moderator) ☎ 01 848 5262
✉ joe@bonnybrookparish.ie

Parish Sisters:

Sr. Irene Dunne ☎ irene@bonnybrookparish.ie
Sr. Margo Delaney ☎ margo@bonnybrookparish.ie

PARISH OFFICE

☎ 01 848 5262

(The above number is transferred to a mobile phone outside of office hours.)

✉ office@bonnybrookparish.ie

Opening Hours

The Parish Office will be closed for the Christmas Period and will re-open on Monday, 8th January 2018. If you require anything in the office during this time please call the number above and we will be happy to assist.

Website: www.bonnybrookparish.ie

Facebook: Bonnybrook Parish.

Parish Pastoral Council: chairperson@bonnybrookparish.ie

Mass Times

Sunday Vigil: (Saturday Evening) 7.00pm
Sunday: 9.30am & 11.30am
Monday - Friday: 9.30am
Saturday morning: No Mass

BAPTISMS

Second Saturday of each month at 12.00pm
Fourth Sunday of each month at 12.30pm



Dear Parishioners,

By now you will have heard the good news that our Parish has been awarded in the region of €180,000 towards the renovations of our Church. This award has come to us through our Diocese from a Charity Foundation. We are delighted that we can now begin extensive work on our Church to bring it up to date and to prepare for our Golden Jubilee Celebrations which will take place at the end of September 2019. So it gives us about 20 months to complete the work we would like to do. The Architect has been chose by our Diocese and he has already begun mapping out a plan of action for the work we need to do. We will begin with the Roof of the building as it needs to be recovered and drains need to be replaced. Then we are looking to replace all the windows in the building and also putting in a new Ceiling and new LED lighting throughout. The Altar and Sanctuary area will be re-designed to bring it all up to date. The building will also be insulated and a new heating system will be installed. The insulation of the building should provide for better energy efficiency in the building and over the years should be more cost effective for us. We also hope to do something with the front of the Church to change the 'warehouse' look of the building and give it the elegance of a church we will all be proud of. It is our hope to also include some work on the Family Centre, again changing the windows and maybe putting in a false ceiling that many have been asking us to do for several years now, again improving the heat in the building. This and much more is in the planning stages.

So you can see it will make us very busy for the next few months. We hope to begin this work around May of 2018 and once we begin we plan to get as much done as quickly as possible. The fund above will not cover the full cost of the renovations and we hope to receive some help from the Share Fund. However, it is clear we will have to do some fundraising ourselves to assist with the work. I am particularly delighted to be in a position to begin this needed work in our parish. A special word of thanks to the Parish Finance Committee who have been very committed to our community and who will have a lot of work to do over the coming months. I hope that many of you will get behind the ideas and support us in this very important venture as we continue to plan for our Golden Jubilee in 2019. We will keep you posted as we progress our plans and let you know exactly what is happening as we move along. Thank you to all who support our Church and parish and a special thanks to those who support the Weekly Family Envelope Collection. It is because of the support that we receive through this collection that we can provide the services we do. With renewed thanks to all who support us. Watch this space for more details along the way.

Joe Jones

WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

What can I do to help our family practice our faith each day?

ANSWER:

Some families practice their religion together as just another event on their schedule: go to church, observe Lent, help at the parish picnic, go to a meeting, volunteer time, make your confession, use your envelope... But the focus needs to be on who we are--God's people, in relationship with him, loved, forgiven, and redeemed, and called to live and proclaim the Gospel. Our awareness of God's presence and our sense of mission are supported by the daily rituals, celebrations, and traditions that help us stay focused. Sharing our faith strengthens us and clarifies the beliefs and values of Christian living.

Daily family practices include time for prayer--before meals, before bed, before important meetings and activities. Attend Sunday Mass together and discuss the homily afterward. Create family celebrations for holy days and holidays. Make religion a regular part of your discussions. Include others, especially the elderly and the less fortunate, in your activities and charitable efforts. By applying the virtues of faith, hope, and love to each day, faith becomes part of who your family is. It influences how you act towards others, what you value, and how mindful of God you are. Faith is the leaven of life that helps all of us rise to our calling and dignity as God's people.

INSPIRATION

Families face many challenges. All of the demands of work, school, and society can easily put a strain on even the best intentioned of families. Hurt, anger, and bitterness can grow in our families especially when conflicts are not properly resolved or relationships nurtured. Human beings require time, patience, love, and nurturing. We need to take time to celebrate the gift of family and not allow other demands to rob us of the time we need to spend together. Life is short. The Holy Family stands before us today showing us that love, commitment, and perseverance can see us through any difficulty or challenge life can bring. May we learn from their example!

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Channel Road, Rush, Co. Dublin

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Email: fitzgeraldfuneraldirectors@gmail.com