

Face Masks

As per government guidelines, please wear a face mask, covering your nose and your mouth, in church. Those who are leading/reading at the service may remove their face covering whilst they are leading/reading but must observe social-distancing whilst doing so. People may also remove their face mask whilst receiving Holy Communion but must replace it immediately afterwards.

Contact Tracing

As everyone has had to book in for this service, we have contact details for each pod, therefore we do not require you to fill in the Contact Details Forms for this service. Your contact details will only be given to the HSE Contact Tracing Service in the event that they are requested should anyone test positive for COVID-19. If they are not required for Contact Tracing purposes, they will be destroyed after 28 days.

Singing

We have been instructed that while choirs can sing as long as they are socially distanced from each other and that children's choirs operate in pods, that the members of the congregation are not to sing, shout, chant or raise their voices to each other!

Over the past few weeks, there has been some 'musical muttering into masks'! Every pod is socially-distanced.

**Greeting**

Behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people; for unto you is born in the city of David, a Saviour who is Christ the Lord.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Christmas Responses

A child is born;
a child to save us.

We share the news with great joy.

A child is born;
a child to challenge us.

We share the news with great joy.

A child is born;
a child for the world.

We share the news with great joy.

**Opening Hymn No. 159 - (In dulci jubilo)**

Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart, and soul, and voice;
give ye heed to what we say;

Jesus Christ is born today,
 ox and ass before him bow,
 and he is in the stable now,
 Christ is born today!

Good Christians all, rejoice
 with heart, and soul, and voice;
 now ye hear of endless bliss:
 Jesus Christ was born for this;
 he has opened heaven's door,
 and all are blessed for evermore.
 Christ was born for this!

Collect for Purity

***Almighty God,
 to whom all hearts are open,
 all desires known,
 and from whom no secrets are
 hidden;
 cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
 by the inspiration of your Holy
 Spirit,
 that we may perfectly love you,
 and worthily magnify your holy
 name; through Jesus Christ our
 Lord. Amen.***

(Please kneel or sit)

The Penitence

In our celebrations of Christmas,
 we realise that sometimes in the
 middle of all the excitement that we
 forgot about you and what you are
 really trying to give us and tell us

when you came to live on earth as the
 Baby Jesus.

We have thought that once we get, we
 don't have to give...

Sorry, Lord.

We have forgotten that when you
 came to show us that you loved us, you
 wanted us to love others too...

Sorry, Lord.

We have forgotten that you came to
 change people's lives and make them
 better...

Sorry, Lord.

We have forgotten that we can help to
 make others' lives better...

Sorry, Lord.

We have forgotten that you are the
 best present...

Sorry, Lord.

Absolution

God, we thank you that you keep on
 giving to us and helping us to get
 things right, and that you keep on
 understanding us and forgiving us. May
 we get it right more than we get it
 wrong, in Jesus' name. ***Amen.***

*As we are obliged to shorten the service due
 to COVID-19, we are omitting the Gloria.*

The Collects

The Collect for The Nativity of our Lord - Christmas

Almighty God,
 you have given us your only begotten
 Son
 to take our nature upon him
 and as at this time to be born of a
 pure virgin:
 grant that we, who have been born
 again
 and made your children by adoption
 and grace,
 may daily be renewed by your Holy
 Spirit;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



The Collect of the First Sunday of Christmas

Almighty God,
 who wonderfully created us in your
 own image
 and yet more wonderfully restored us
 through your Son Jesus Christ:
 grant that, as he came to share in our

humanity,
 so we may share the life of his
 divinity;
 who is alive and reigns with you and
 the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Collect for St. Stephen's Day

Gracious Father,
 who gave the first martyr Stephen
 grace to pray for those who stoned
 him:
 grant that in all our sufferings for the
 truth
 we may learn to love even our enemies
 and to seek forgiveness for those who
 desire our hurt,
 looking up to heaven to him who was
 crucified for us,
 Jesus Christ, our Mediator and
 Advocate,
 who is alive and reigns with you and
 the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Ministry of the Word

The Old Testament Reading - Isaiah 52: 7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are
 the feet of the messenger who
 announces peace,
 who brings good news, who announces
 salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God
 reigns.'

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Gradual Hymn - No. 184 (Puer nobis nascitur (2))

[Verses 1, 2, 5]

Unto us is born a Son,
King of quires supernal:
see on earth his life begun,
of lords the Lord eternal,
of lords the Lord eternal.

Christ, from heav'n descending low,
comes on earth a stranger;
ox and ass their owner know,
becradled in a manger,
becradled in a manger.

We adore him A and O
cum cantibus in choro;
let our merry organ go,
benedicamus Domino,
benedicamus Domino.

The Gospel - Luke 2: 1-7

Hear the gospel according to Luke, chapter two, beginning at verse 1.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

²In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



The Sermon

(Please stand, if you are able)

The Nicene Creed *(shortened version)*

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord,
Jesus Christ, the only Son of God.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
Amen.**

(Please kneel or sit)

Intercessions

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

**Merciful Father, accept these
prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

(Please stand, if you are able)

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions we are not permitted to share a sign of peace in the way that we usually would... maybe a smile or a wave would be good!

The Peace

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9: 6*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.



Due to the Covid-19 restrictions we will be having a retiring collection; there are baskets at the doors of the church in which you may place your collection or envelope. You may wish to donate to the church online or electronically and the treasurers would be happy to give you the required details.

Offertory Hymn No. 179 (Humility)

[Verses 1, 5, 6]

1. See amid the winter's snow,
born for us on earth below,
see the tender Lamb appears,
promised from eternal years.

*Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!
hail, redemption's happy dawn!
sing through all Jerusalem:
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'*

5. Sacred Infant, all divine,
what a tender love was thine,
thus to come from highest bliss
down to such a world as this!

6. Teach O teach us, holy Child,
by thy face so meek and mild,
teach us to resemble thee,
in thy sweet humility.

(Please feel free to sit, kneel or stand)

The Ministry of the Sacrament

Christ, our passover is sacrificed for us,
therefore let us celebrate the feast.

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Father, almighty and everliving God, at all times and in all places it is right to give you thanks and praise: you have given Jesus Christ your only Son to be born of the Virgin Mary, and through him you have given us power to become the children of God: and so with all your people, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
 God of power and might.
 Heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest!
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed are you, Father, the creator and sustainer of all things; you made us in your own image; male and female you created us; even when we turned away from you, you never ceased to care for us, but in your love and mercy you freed us from the slavery of sin, giving your only begotten Son to become man and suffer death on the cross to redeem us; he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world: he instituted, and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again:

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks to you, he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we do as Christ your Son commanded:

we remember his passion and death,

we celebrate his resurrection and ascension, and we look for the coming of his kingdom.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; and as we eat and drink these holy gifts, grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit that we may be made one in your holy Church and partakers of the body and blood of your Son, that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, *all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power
and the glory for ever and ever.
Amen.*

Breaking of the Bread

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

We being many are one body for we all share in the one bread.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and in the interests of having as little movement of the congregation as possible, please remain in your seat to receive Holy Communion.

The Communion



The Great Silence

You are invited to take some time to reflect, having received Holy Communion.

The Post-Communion Prayer

*God our Father,
whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our
hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the Lord.
Amen*

The Blessing

May the song of the angels,
 the joy and excitement of the
 shepherds,
 the wonder and perseverance of the
 wisemen,
 and the peace of the Christ-child
 fill our hearts and home
 this Christmas time and always;
 and the Blessing of God almighty,
 Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with
 you this day and for ever more.
Amen.

Hymn No. 172 (Adeste fideles)

[Verses 1, 7b]

1. O come all ye faithful,
 joyful and triumphant;
 O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
 come and behold him
 born the King of Angels:

*O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 Christ the Lord.*

7b. Yea, Lord, we bless thee,
 born for our salvation,
 Jesu, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father,
 now in flesh appearing:

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

***In the interests of trying to keep all
 who come to our churches safe,
 please take away this service sheet
 and any other items that you may
 have brought with you or used in
 church this morning. Thank you.***

Stay well and stay safe.

*May the hope, the joy, the love
 and the peace of Jesus Christ be
 with you and all your family this
 Christmas-time and always.*





Sunday 2nd January 2022

**8.30 Holy Communion - St Thomas' Church
10.30 Holy Communion - St Philip and St James'
Church (live-streamed)**

**THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO
DECORATED OUR CHURCHES SO
BEAUTIFULLY FOR CHRISTMAS.
THEY LOOK AMAZING!**

Thank you for your extraordinary generosity

The Capuchin Day Centre and The Alice Leahy Trust were blown away by the toys, food, scarves, hats, gloves, underwear, etc. that you gave this Christmas.





Confirmation Class

**The next Confirmation Classes will be on Saturday 15th
January 2022 in St Philip and St James' Church
18.00-18.30 hours and 18.30-19.15 hours**

REGISTER OF VESTRYPERSONS

The Register of Vestrypersons is the electoral roll of the Parish, and is updated at the January Select Vestry meetings of our respective parishes. If you are not on the Register, you are not entitled to vote on parish matters and are not able to hold any office in the parish, or serve on the Select Vestry.

Please contact the Churchwardens to be placed on the Register of Vestrypersons.

It is very simple to do, the churchwardens have forms available, and all you have to do is fill in the short, simple form and give it to a churchwarden.

BOOTERSTOWN AND CARYSFORT

SELECT VESTRY

THURSDAY 27TH JANUARY 2022

20.00 HOURS *VIA ZOOM*

MOUNT MERRION

SELECT VESTRY

MONDAY 31ST JANUARY 2022

20.00 HOURS *VIA ZOOM*