

The changes to restrictions, announced on Friday 3rd December 2021, do not affect church services.

Face Masks

As per government guidelines, please wear a face covering 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.

Contact Tracing

We are obliged to get the contact details of everyone who attends this service. These will only be used in the event of someone attending the service being diagnosed with Covid-19, in which event, they will be passed to the health authorities for Contact Tracing purposes. Please complete the form which is available at the church doors and drop into the box provided. 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'! The organist, is going to play the tune of the hymns chosen for this service and I invite you to reflect upon the words which have been included in this service sheet as you listen to the music.

The Greeting

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

*Sowing and reaping,
coming and going:
God is working in us.*

*Weeping and sighing,
hoping and praying:
God is working in us.*

*Travelling and resting,
learning and loving:
God is working in us.*

Lighting the Second Candle on the Advent Wreath



Two candles are lit on the Advent Wreath.

In this season of Advent, we are here to watch and wait and pray for the coming of the light into the world.

The candles on our Advent Wreath will remind us of the story of how, through the years, through different people, and finally in Jesus Christ, God's Kingdom comes on earth.

The first candle is to remind us of the patriarchs (the leaders God sent before Jesus). The second candle is to remind us of the prophets, those who brought God's message to the world in which they lived and who said what they thought about what was really going on in the world, even when they were afraid.

They believed in God during dark days, and looked forward to the coming of Christ.

There are people like that today too, who are confronting justice and restoring the dream of a world of freedom and peace.

God, as we wait for your promise, give light, give hope.

Living God, we thank you for faithful people of every age.

We pray that we, too, may have faith, in spite of the darkness of our times, and may look for the coming of Jesus into our world. Amen.

Hymn - Two Candle (Frère Jacques)

[Repeat each line]

Two candles,
burning slow.
Advent weeks of waiting,
two-and-a-bit to go.

Wise men watching

for a star.

Going on a journey,
in the dark.

The Jesse Tree - St Philip and St James' Church

The Jesse Tree shows Jesus' family tree. Today, we are putting a coloured coat for Joseph, a burning bush for Moses, a lamb for the Israelites, the Tables of the Torah for God, a ram's horn for Joshua, a clay water pitcher for Gideon and a crown for Samuel, on the tree.



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Hymn No. 119 (Halton Holgate) - N.B. Tune!

[Verses 3-4]

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Collect for Purity *(Please remain standing)*

***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.***

The Penitence

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:
You shall love the Lord your God with
all your heart and with all your soul
and with all your mind.

This is the first and great
commandment.

And the second is like it.

You shall love your neighbour as
yourself.

On these two commandments depend
all the law and the prophets.

***Lord, have mercy on us, and write
these laws in our hearts.***

God so loved the world that he gave
his only Son Jesus Christ, to save us
from our sins, to intercede for us in
heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us then confess our sins in
penitence and faith, firmly resolved
to keep God's commandments and to
live in love and peace.

(Please sit or kneel)

[Silence]

The Penitential Kyries for Advent

Turn to us again, O God our Saviour,
and let your anger cease from us.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

Christ, have mercy

Christ, have mercy.

Your salvation is near for those that
fear you,

that glory may dwell in our land.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

*The Gloria is omitted during the season of
Advent.*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Collect of the 2nd Sunday in Advent

Father in heaven,

who sent your Son to redeem the
world

and will send him again to be our
judge:

give us grace so to imitate him

in the humility and purity of his first
coming

that when he comes again,

we may be ready to greet him with

joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**Hymn No. 119 (Halton Holgate) -
N.B. Tune!** [Verses 3-4]

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone:
by thine all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

[Please stand, if you are able]

The Holy Gospel - Luke 3: 1-6

*Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ,
according to Luke, chapter 3, beginning at
verse 1.*

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

³In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet

Isaiah,
'The voice of one crying out in
the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be
made low,
and the crooked shall be made
straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation
of God." '

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

Hymn - No. 126 (Merton)

[Verses 1-2]

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding,
'Christ is nigh', it seems to say;
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!'

Wakened by the solemn warning,
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.

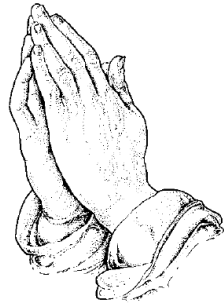
The Sermon

(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.*



Intercessions *(Please kneel or sit)*

*Come, O come Emmanuel
come and live in us.*

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

*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!*



(Please stand)

**The Introduction to the Peace
for Advent**

*In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall
break upon us,*

*to give light to those who dwell in
darkness
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of
peace. Luke 1: 78-79*

*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. 126

(Merton)

[Verses 3-5]

*Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heaven:
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all to be forgiven;*

*that when next he comes in glory,
and the world is wrapped in fear,
with his mercy he may shield us,
and with words of love draw near.*

*Honour, glory, might and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit,
while eternal ages run.*

THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Taking of the Bread and Wine

Christ, our passover has been
sacrificed for us,
**therefore let us celebrate the
feast.**

The Great Thanksgiving - Prayer 1

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:
salvation is your gift through the
coming of your Son our Saviour Jesus
Christ,
and by him you will make all things new
when he returns in glory to judge the
world:
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!

(Please feel free to stand, sit or kneel)

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

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.

The Invitation

The Communion

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 Great Silence

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

The Post Communion Prayer

***Lord,
here you have nourished us with the food of life.***

Through our sharing in this holy sacrament

teach us to judge wisely earthly things

and to yearn for things heavenly.

*We ask this through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.*

The Blessing for Advent

God have mercy on your people,
baptise us in wisdom
and clothe us in integrity;
wrap us in the beauty of your love.

And may the God of mercy bless us,
Deliverer, Lover and Breath of life.
Amen.

Hymn No. 134 (Make way)

Make way, make way, for Christ the
King
in splendour arrives.
Fling wide the gates and welcome him
into your lives.

*Make way, make way
for the King of kings;
make way, make way,
and let his kingdom in.*

He comes the broken hearts to heal,
the prisoners to free.
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall
dance,
the blind shall see.

And those who mourn with heavy
hearts,
who weep and sigh;
with laughter, joy and royal crown
he'll beautify.

We call you now to worship him

as Lord of all,
to have no gods before him -
their thrones must fall!

The Dismissal

In our watching,
in our waiting,
God is alive in us,
and we are glad.

In our questioning,
in our hoping,
God is alive in us,
and we are glad.

In our dreaming,
in our dancing,
God is alive in us,
and we are glad.

In our travelling,
in our homecoming,
God is alive in us,
and we are glad.

*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.



Plans for Christmas 2021

These are the plans, currently for Christmas 2021. There will be further information and clarification provided in the coming days, should government restrictions change.

The services next Sunday are:

Sunday 12th December 2021

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

10.30 'A Quiet Christmas' in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)

18.30 The Sausage(less!) Service in St Philip and St James' Church

Sunday 19th December 2021

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

10.30 Christingle Service in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)

19.00 Carols by Candlelight in St Philip and St James' Church with RTÉ Cór na nÓg.

Friday 24th December 2021 – Christmas Eve

21.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

23.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)

Saturday 25th December 2021 – Christmas Day

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

10.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)

Sunday 26th December 2021

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

10.30 Service of the Word in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)

Sunday 2nd January 2022

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

10.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed)

DECORATING THE CHURCHES FOR CHRISTMAS

Both churches would be thrilled to receive donations of poinsettias, flowers, holly (preferably with berries!), etc. Help with decorating would also be very welcome in both churches. See details below:

St Thomas' Church

St Thomas' Church will be decorated on **Saturday 18th December 2021**, 10.00-12.00.

Items for decorating may be dropped off at the church 9.30-10.30.

Please contact Sheila Chamberlain 086-3320072. If you bring your own mug, Sheila will provide coffee!!!

St Philip and St James' Church

St Philip and St James' Church will be decorated on **Saturday 18th December 2021**, 10.30-12.30. Items may also be dropped off at this time.

Please contact Viola Brady 086-1780653 or Denise Richards 086-2065166

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

in the Canon Osborne Barr Room

Tuesday afternoon—3.30pm—4.10pm

Contact Irene on 087-2755423

irene.reid1052@gmail.com

Wednesday 8th December 2021
St Thomas' Church at 10.30

Midweek Holy Communion Service



Bring your own mug for a cuppa afterwards!

BOOTERSTOWN AND

CARYSFORT

SELECT VESTRY

TUESDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2021

19.30 HOURS VIA ZOOM

MOUNT MERRION

SELECT VESTRY

WEDNESDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2021

20.00 HOURS VIA ZOOM



Confirmation Class

**Saturday in St Philip and St
James' Church**

18.00-18.30 hours

and

18.30-19.15 hours

**Joint Hall Manager Required for
the Monk Gibbon Hall (St
Thomas' Church Hall)**

As you will be aware, the Monk Gibbon Hall has been looked after by volunteers since the Parish Office had to close and the role of Parish Secretary was made redundant.

We are looking for someone to work with Hilary Turner in the administration and management of the Monk Gibbon Hall. There is a Monk Gibbon Hall mobile phone and a Monk Gibbon Hall email address through which enquiries are made and business is conducted. The phone bill is paid for by the parish.

If you think that you could help with looking after the Monk Gibbon Hall, please contact me, or if you would like to find out what is involved in this role as Joint Hall Manager, or to get further information, then please get in touch.

**Person to Tweak the Timer
Clocks in the Monk Gibbon Hall
(St Thomas' Church Hall)**

We are also looking for someone to liaise with the Hall Managers of the Monk Gibbon Hall and who will set the timer clocks - there are two! - for the heating and the hot water. These are currently set up for the current schedule of activities, but will need changing from time to time, and at the end of a term, and at the beginning of a new term. It is not an onerous task but you would be greatly assisting the Hall Managers if you could take on this responsibility.

Please contact me if you have any questions, and/or if you think you could help with this.

Help for Santa!

Life can be very cruel and we could make a difference to some children this Christmas. This is why I am asking you if we could help Santa. Due to COVID-19, the Capuchin Day Centre can only accept new toys, so I am asking if you could buy one or two small toys - they cannot be big toys as those families living in hotels or hostels, or in cars, do not have the room for anything big - and could you bring them to either of our churches on the following Sundays... if you are not able to attend the service, please aim to arrive at the end of the service to drop off the items:

Sunday 12th December 2021 to St Thomas' Church which has a service at 8.30 (finishes at 9.00), or to St Philip and St James' Church which has a service at 10.30, (finishes at 11.15), and a Sausage(less!) Service at 18.30 hours (finishes at 19.00).

I will also be in St Philip and St James' on Sunday 12th December 2021 to receive your items 17.00-18.00, before the Sausage(less!) Service, and on Tuesday 14th December 2021, 19.00-20.00.

I have to deliver the items into the Capuchin Day Centre on Wednesday 15th December 2021, so we have to have them before that day.

Santa needs long-johns, socks etc too!

Thank you too to those who have donated brand new pairs of long-johns (underwear) which have been hugely appreciated by The Alice Leahy Trust

for their service users. As you can imagine, it is bitterly cold living on the streets at this time of the year. People have been very generous with donating long-johns and ski underwear, and we would be delighted to pass on more, new long-johns, new warm socks, new gloves and new hats. Warm jackets in good condition would also be great.

Lions Club Food Appeal

In addition to the above, the Dublin Lions Club is doing an appeal through Booterstown National School. The details are:

For one week in December (6th – 10th December 2021), the Lions Club is asking people to donate 1 item of non-perishable food for the homeless.

The specific items requested are:
Christmas Cakes, Christmas Pudding,
Soft Drinks, Selection Boxes,
Celebration boxes
Mince Pies, Christmas Crackers,
Decorations, Table Settings

There will be a collection box for the above items in [Booterstown National School from Monday 6th – Friday 10th December 2021.](#)

We can give a little love this Christmas, and that is exactly what Christmas is... God coming to earth in human form because he loves us, and to show us through Jesus Christ how to love and to care.

