

Ballybrack-Killiney and Loughlinstown Parish Grouping

Newsletter 22nd / 23rd December 2018

Christmas Eve Masses:

5.30pm – Church of the Apostles
6pm – Loughlinstown
7pm – St. Stephen's, Killiney
8pm – Loughlinstown
9pm – Ballybrack village

Christmas Day Masses:

8.30am – St. Stephen's, Killiney
10am – Ballybrack village
11am – Loughlinstown
12pm – Church of Apostles

St. Stephen's Day Mass:

11am – St. Stephen's, Killiney

Confession will be available on **Christmas Eve** from 12pm-1pm and again from 4.30-5.15pm in Ballybrack village church.

Names of deceased loved ones to be prayed for at our **Christmas Masses** can be handed into the sacristy up until Monday morning, and we would ask you, please, to specify which Mass you want.

Our **Car Raffle draw** will be made on Christmas Day by Cllr Cormac Devlin in the Church of the Apostles after the 12pm Christmas Mass. **Tickets cost €50 each** and can be bought up until 12noon on Christmas Day. The Raffle is to offset the repairs to the Ballybrack village church (550000 Euro) and the car is a Blazing Red 2018 Reg demonstrator model MINI. Many thanks for your support and to the anonymous donor of the car.

Christmas Dues: Thank you for your generosity to the Christmas Dues, which do not stay in the parish but are transferred directly to the Dublin Diocese. There have been an awful lot of collections this year and your kindness has been astounding. If you would like to contribute to the parish, or to our **Fundraising Drive** to save the roof of Sts. Alphonsus and Columba church, we would ask you, please, to use a different envelope. The parish's IBAN and BIC are available on the parish website for those who would like to make an online contribution to our Fundraising campaign.

Mass on **New Year's Day** will be at 10am in the Church of the Apostles and will be offered for peace. The theme chosen by Pope Francis is: "Good Politics is at the Service of peace".

Brief summary report of the **Ballybrack-Killiney parish assembly** on November 10th 2018: There was a strong emphasis on building a parish-based faith community and the need for personal prayer, eucharistic adoration, praying and studying Scripture, witness from priests and people, as well as making use of helps such as Life in the Spirit seminars. At the structural level, suggestions ranged from better use of parish newsletters to reducing the number of churches in the parish and a redefinition of the role of the priest accompanied by better distribution of tasks for priests and parishioners. Some wanted one church to be sold; others wanted it to be used more. Some suggested married priests and women priests, and some were opposed to both, while others called for more space for lay voices and lay ministries. A number of contributions concerned the desire to involve teenagers in liturgy and sacramental preparation. There is a need for a liturgical development group and it was also suggested that our funeral ministry could be developed. There was a significant emphasis on the need for evangelisation, and there were also practical suggestions about community building and hospitality, communication between the Parish Pastoral Council and parishioners, fundraising, marriage preparation, and the inclusion of new parishioners. Regarding a greater involvement of youth in parish life, a number of voices called for a youth pastoral worker and for the inclusion of youth in our parish-based sacramental preparation programmes. There were also a good number of volunteers for ministries and committee work. So there is plenty for the PPC to work on in the coming year!

Fr Tom writes: *I wish you and your families and friends a happy and holy Christmas and a new year full of hope and promise. I am very grateful to you all for your support and kindness, especially during our family's recent bereavement. A large number of families in the parish have lost loved ones in the last year and we think too of our parishioners are ill at this time, in hospital, in nursing homes, the hospices, and at home. May our loving Saviour come to us all this Christmas with his healing love. As I write, the Ballybrack choir are practising downstairs. We are blessed to have so many volunteers, ministers, and staff in the parish, too many to mention by name. Please be assured that your service is much appreciated and could not be done without. With Fr Enda, I look forward to us all working together in 2019 to build up our faith community.*

Website: www.ballybrack-killiney-parish.org

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Moderator: Fr Tom Dalzell. **Co-Parish Priest:** Fr Enda Lloyd

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