

Today's readings

Baruch 5: 1-9
Philippians 1: 3-6, 8-11
Luke 3: 1-6



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C

8th DECEMBER, 2018.

Congratulations to the boys and girls from our Catholic schools who received the Sacrament of Confession for the first time on Monday last. These children are preparing for their First Holy Communion in 2019.

Special word of thanks to Fr. Ben Hodnett for helping our parish priest on this sacramental occasion.

**PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019**

The children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion and their families will be welcomed on Sunday next 16th December at 11.30.a.m. Holy Mass.

Altar Society Group 1 on duty this week



RECENT BAPTISM

*We welcome to our Christian Family
Kazara Jessie Dowling-Yates
Congratulations to her parents and godparents.
May they be the best of teachers in handing on the
practice of the Catholic faith to this child.*

RECENT DEATHS

*We offer our sincere and prayerful sympathy to
the families of:*

**Jim O'Hea, Ballinveltig.
Pat Murphy, Firgrove Drive.
May they rest in peace**

*"Liturgical and Sacred Music can be a powerful instrument
of evangelization, because it gives people a glimpse of the
beauty of heaven.
It makes one sense the beauty of paradise."
Pope Francis.*

CURRAHEEN ROAD CHURCH READING GROUP

The Reading Club have changed venue and day of meeting to the following: Curraheen Road Church Meeting room/library at 6.30.p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 12th December. We have room for new members, come try something new, you will be very welcome.
Enquiries to Betty on 0860716184

'HEART THROBS' CARDIAC SUPPORT GROUP

*Meeting on Monday, 10th December in the Bishopstown Library, from 11.a.m. to 1.p.m. Guest Speaker: Louise Creed, Community Pharmacist. New members especially Diabetics very welcome.
For further information ring: 087 2380658*

OLA SISTERS, ARDFOYLE

Mission yesterday and today exhibition - an exhibition of artefacts collected over 140 years' service in Africa by the OLA sisters will take place at their convent in Ardfoyle, Ballintemple on December 8th and 9th From 12 noon to 7pm each day.

**THE ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF IRELAND
CARER'S SUPPORT MEETING**

Wednesday, 12th December from 3. p.m. to 4.30.p.m.
*Bessboro Day Care Centre, Blackrock
All are welcome.*

MOBILE PHONES

Out of respect for one another, let us always remember to either put our mobile phones on silent or turn off before entering this sacred place.

As Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI said some years ago; "Let us always endeavour to create an atmosphere of reverential silence from the moment we enter the Church."

Let us always show courtesy towards those who wish to pray in this sacred place

Just in passing....

Following their winter general meeting in Maynooth on the 6th December, the Irish Catholic Bishops' have published the following statement:

"We are dismayed that, for the most part, the voices of those who voted against abortion in May's referendum have been ignored. Even what many people would have deemed to have been very reasonable legislative amendments seeking to provide women with information and to prohibit abortion on the grounds of sex, race or disability, have been rejected.

"As we stated after our Autumn Meeting, Irish society must have respect for the right of conscientious objection for all healthcare professionals and pharmacists. They cannot be forced either to participate in abortion or to refer patients to others for abortion.

"Every one of us has a right to life. It is not given to us by the Constitution of Ireland or by any law. We have it 'as of right', whether we are wealthy or poor, healthy or sick. All human beings have it. The direct and intentional taking of human life at any stage is gravely wrong and can never be justified.

"Women's lives, and the lives of their unborn children, are precious, valued and always deserving of protection. Any law which suggests otherwise would have no moral force. In good conscience it cannot be supported and would have to be resisted.

"We offer our prayerful solidarity with everyone dedicated to the sanctity and protection of human life at all stages. We ask everyone of goodwill – whether at home, in parish, in school or at work – to continue to choose and to celebrate the preciousness of life."

During their meeting a delegation of bishops met with individuals representing various pro-life groups from across Ireland, north and south. The aim of the gathering was to acknowledge their on-going commitment to upholding the dignity of unborn human life and to consult on the setting up of a new Council for Life under the aegis of the Bishops' Conference which will operate from March 2

SUNDAY NEXT IS GAUDETE SUNDAY