Parish of Blatis

Sunday 5th January 2025 The Second Sunday of Christmas

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH Masses Monday – Friday 10.00am Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm Sunday: 10.00am & 12 noon

LIVE WEBSTREAMING OF ALL MASSES

Please note many parishes in the Diocese have webcams installed which provide live coverage of various Masses taking place daily throughout the Diocese. These can be accessed by visiting www.downandconnor.org Links to Parish Webcams. Live Church webcam links: CHURCH SERVICES. TV & MCN MEDIA CHURCH WEBCAMS 'All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.'

John 1:4-5



Fr. Dermot McCaughan, PP: 028 9266 2341 Fr. Eamon Magorrian, CC: 028 9266 2348

Parish Office Opening Hours: Monday-Friday 10.30am-4.00pm. Closed 1.00pm-2.00pm.

Parish Office: 028 9266 0206 Fax: 028 9266 5690 Email: lisburn@downandconnor.org Pastoral Centre: 028 9260 7110 www.parishoflisburn.org

Congreg	ation stands			
Entran Entran	Entrance Hymn or Entrance Antiphon Wis 18:14-15			
All:	When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, bounded from heaven's royal throne.			
GRI	EETING			
Priest: All:	In the name of the Fathe of the Holy Spirit. Amen	r, and of the Son, and		
All:		from God our Father and		
PEN	ITENTIAL ACT			
Priest:	Brothers and sisters, let u and so prepare ourselves mysteries.			
Priest:	Lord Jesus, you are migh Lord, have mercy.	ty God and Prince of peace: Lord, have mercy.		
Priest:	Lord Jesus, you are Son c Christ, have mercy.	of God and Son of Mary: Christ, have mercy.		
Priest:	Lord Jesus, you are Word splendour of the Father: Lord, have mercy.	l made flesh and Lord, have mercy.		
Priest: All:	May almighty God have r forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlastin Amen			
GLO	RIA			
All:	Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.			
	We praise you, we bless we adore you, we glorify we give you thanks for y Lord God, heavenly King O God, almighty Father.	you, our great glory,		
	Lord Jesus Christ, Only B Lord God, Lamb of God, J	Son of the Father,		

you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT

Priest: Let us pray.

Pause for silent prayer

Priest: Almighty ever-living God, splendour of faithful souls, graciously be pleased to fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all peoples by the radiance of your light. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Congregation Sits

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

24:1-2.8-12

Wisdom speaks her own praises, in the midst of her people she glories in herself. She opens her mouth in the assembly of the Most High, she glories in herself in the presence of the Mighty One;

> 'Then the creator of all things instructed me, and he who created me fixed a place for my tent. He said, "Pitch your tent in Jacob, make Israel your inheritance." From eternity, in the beginning, he created me, and for eternity I shall remain. I ministered before him in the holy tabernacle, and thus was I established on Zion. In the beloved city he has given me rest, and in Jerusalem I wield my authority. I have taken root in a privileged people in the Lord's property, in his inheritance.'

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 147:12-15. 19-20. R Jn 1:14

(R) The Word was made flesh, and he lived among us.

- O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! Zion, praise your God! He has strengthened the bars of your gates, he has blessed the children within you. (R)
- 2. He established peace on your borders, he feeds you with finest wheat. He sends out his word to the earth and swiftly runs his command. (R)
- He makes his word known to Jacob, to Israel his laws and decrees. He has not dealt thus with other nations; He has not taught them his decrees. (R)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

1:3-6. 15-18

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ, for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved.

That will explain why I, having heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus, and the love that you show towards all the saints, have never failed to remember you in my prayers and to thank God for you. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

All:

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ACCLAMATION

All: Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans; Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Priest:	The Lord be with you.
All:	And with your spirit.
Priest:	A reading from the holy
	Gospel according to John
All:	Glory to you, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. Bur to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not our of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was make flesh, he lived among us. and we say his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John appears as his witness. He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received yes, grace in return for grace, since though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Congregation sits HOMILY Cf. 1 Tim 3:16 Congregation stands THE CREED I believe in one God, All: the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, $1 \cdot 1 - 18$ true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (bow your head up to the words 'and became man') and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen. **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL Congregation sits** THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST **Offertory Procession** The gifts of bread and wine which will become the Lord's body and blood are brought to the altar. The celebrant raises the host on the paten saying: Priest: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life. All: Blessed be God for ever. The celebrant pours wine and a little water into the chalice, saying quietly:

Priest: By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

All:

The celebrant then raises the chalice above the altar and says:

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

Bowing, the celebrant says quietly:

Priest: With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, Lord God.

Then the celebrant washes his hands, saying quietly:

Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

- Priest:Sanctify, O Lord, the offerings we make
on the Nativity of your Only Begotten Son,
for by it you show us the way of truth
and promise the life of the heavenly Kingdom.
Through Christ our Lord.All:Amen
- / / linen

Congregation stands

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II

Priest:The Lord be with you.All:And with your spirit.

Priest:Lift up your hearts.All:We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest:Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.All:It is right and just.

PREFACE (Nativity I)

Priest: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For in the mystery of the Word made flesh a new light of your glory has shone upon the eyes of our mind, so that, as we recognize in him God made visible, we may be caught up through him in love of things invisible.

And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

ACCLAMATION

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. 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.

Congregation kneels

Priest: You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness.

Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body and + Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT, FOR THIS IS MY BODY WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, once more giving thanks, he gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT, FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD, THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT, WHICH WILL BE POURED OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.

DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

Priest: The mystery of faith.

All: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

Priest: Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you.

> Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with Francis our Pope and N our Bishop and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face. Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her spouse, with the blessed Apostles, and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever. Amen.

Conareaation stands

All:

THE COMMUNION RITE

- At the Saviour's command Priest: and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:
- All: 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.
- Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

- Lord Jesus Christ, Priest: who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins. but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.
- All: Amen.
- Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always. And with your spirit. All:
- Priest: May this mingling of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.
- All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Congregation kneels

The celebrant says quietly: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, who, by the will of the Father and the work of the Holy Spirit, through your Death gave life to the world, free me by this, your most holy Body and Blood, from all my sins and from every evil; keep me always faithful to your commandments, and never let me be parted from you.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes Priest: away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

- All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.
- Priest: May the Body of Christ keep me safe for eternal life.
- May the Blood of Christ Priest: keep me safe for eternal life.
 - **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**
- To all who would accept him, All: he gave the power to become children of God.

Cf. Jn 1:12

Purifying the chalice the celebrant says quietly:

What has passed our lips as food, O Lord, may we possess in purity of heart, that what has been given to us in time may be our healing for eternity.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Congregation kneels

Priest:	Let us pray.
	Lord our God, we humbly ask you,
	that, through the working of this mystery,
	our offences may be cleansed
	and our just desires fulfilled.
	Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Priest: The Lord be with you.

- And with your spirit. All:
- Priest: May the God of infinite goodness, who by the Incarnation of his Son has driven darkness from the world and by that glorious Birth has illumined this most holy day, drive far from you the darkness of vice and illumine your hearts with the light of virtue.

Amen All

- May God, who willed that the great joy Priest: of his Son's saving Birth be announced to shepherds by the Angel, fill your minds with the gladness he gives and make you heralds of his Gospel.
- All: Amen
- Priest: And may God, who by the Incarnation brought together the earthly and heavenly realm, fill you with the gift of his peace and favour and make you sharers with the Church in heaven. and give you peace.

All: Amen

And may the blessing of almighty God, Priest: the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. ΔII Amen

Then the celebrant, with hands joined and facing the people, says:

Priest: Go in peace. All: Thanks be to God.

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TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD IN RIVER JORDAN

Jesus is anointed with the Spirit and his power. He is proclaimed Messiah. He now goes about working the signs that make him known as the Servant of God. He is the one who brings good news to the poor and tells of salvation. Through our Baptism each one is ordered to the life of Christ – Priest, Prophet and King – and the Father looks on us with favour.

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, Heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from Heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you'

MONDAY 6TH JANUARY, WE CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY MASS AT 11.00AM



The Feast of the **Epiphany** is celebrated 12 days after Christmas. It is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Saviour of the world. The great Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East who visited Jesus.

> "When the song of Angels is stilled, When the star in the sky has gone, When the King and Princes are home, When the Shepherds are back with the flocks, Then the work of Christmas begins:

> To find the lost, to heal the broken in spirit, To feed the hungry, to release the oppressed, To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among all peoples, To make a little music with the heart… And to radiate the Light of Christ, Every day, in every way, In all that we do and in all that we say.

Then the work of Christmas begins. The message of the Feast of the Epiphany Announce to all peoples, everywhere: Let the work of Christmas begin, And let it begin with you." (Howard Thurman)

CHRISTMAS MISSIONARY PROJECTS

Thank you for your generous response to our Christmas Missionary Appeal. Donations are still welcome. Appeal will close Sunday 26th January 2025.



We remember our dead:

ANNIVERSARIES: Thomas Stafford: Cornelius McCaugherty: Bishop Patrick Walsh: Joseph McClure (Sen): Rodger Hannon: Jim & Elizabeth Catney: Patrick McCaughan: Annie McDonnell: Fr Desmond Davey: Thomas McGauran (Snr). May they rest in peace.

BLESSINGS FOR THE NEW YEAR Lord, as now we face the next New Year, Let it be a time of grace: A year of blessings that increase; A year of favour and your peace For all the human race.

For a new start I pray; Let it begin this very day; A time of healing for our woes, A time of mercies when pardon flows For those who go astray.

A time of goodness for those held dear, A time of pardon for those we fear. Lord, let this be a blessed year. Amen.



ST DOMINIC'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL OPEN DAY SATURDAY 11 JANUARY 2025

9am – 1pm. Principal's address 9.30am and 11.30am. Primary 6 and 7 pupils are welcome.

ST LOUISE'S COMPREHENSIVE COLLEGE

The Board of Governors, Principal, Staff & Students invite all P6 & P7 boys & girls to join us on our Open Night on **THURSDAY 9 JANUARY 2025.** Principal's address at 4.00 pm & 6.30pm.

ST ALOYSIUS PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY UNIT 7 BALLINDERRY ROAD, LISBURN, BT28 1TB

The application portal opens on FRIDAY 10 January at 12noon and closes on FRIDAY 24 January at 12noon. If you would like to arrange a visit and meet with the Principal Mrs Catherine Milne, please phone 9266 2293 or e-mail cmilne244@c2kni.net. www.eani.org.uk/admissions



NI CANCER PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES Sat 10 - Thurs 15 May 25, £859 (with price reduction for Cancer Patients) includes: Return flights from Belfast International Airport. Full board, Hotel Agena, Lourdes, 5 nights based on twin/double/triple rooms. The party will consist of patients, ex-patients, relatives & friends accompanied by medical, nursing & other staff. For more information or to book contact, Mrs Jean Clarke, NI Cancer Pilgrimage, 67 Ballynahinch Road, Carryduff, BT8 8DL,Tel. 078746 88388, or mail@nicancerpilgrimage.org.uk

MODIFIED PILATES CLASSES COMMENCING IN THE PASTORAL CENTRE TUESDAY 7TH JANUARY 8-9PM

Taught by Chartered Physiotherapist and Certified Modified Pilates instructor with The Australian Physiotherapy and Pilates Institute APPI For all levels and abilities. Six week block of, 1 hour classes £52 For more information, and to book your place contact: Phone/Text 07905542490 email: pilates_class@yahoo.com

INDIAN SYRO-MALABAR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Mass will be celebrated in Syro Malabar Rite at 3pm this afternoon in St. Patrick's Church.

