

Sunday Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING Isaiah Ch 61:1-2.10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord God has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord, I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels. For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord God make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations. The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lk.1:46-50.53-54.R.Is.61:10

(R) My soul rejoices in my God.

1. My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour. He looks on his servant in her nothingness henceforth all ages will call me blessed. (R)
2. The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy is his name! His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. (R)
3. He fills the starving with good things,

sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy. (R)

SECOND READING 1 Thess. 5:16-24

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians.

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, God has called you and he will not fail you. The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk. 4-18

Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Jn. 1:6-8.19-28

Priest: The Lord be with you

People: And with your Spirit

Priest: **A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.**

People: Glory to you O Lord.

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. This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, "I am not the Christ." "Well then they asked "are you Elijah?" "I am not" he said. "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No" So they said to him, "Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?" So John said, "I am, as Isaiah prophesied; a voice that cries in the wilderness; make a straight way for the Lord." Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, "Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?" John replied, "I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap." This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising. The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

ST AGNES' PARISH CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS 2023

Confessions Times:

Will be available after the 9.00am Mass Wednesday 20th, Thursday 21st & Friday 22nd December and on Saturday 23rd December from 12.30pm – 2.00pm

Weekend of Saturday 23rd/Sunday 24th December 2023: Normal weekend Masses

Masses for Christmas:

Christmas Eve :

Christmas Day:

St. Stephen's Day to Saturday 30th Dec :

Vigil at 5.30pm, and Mass with blessing of Crib 7.00pm

9.30am, 11.00am & 12.30pm

9.00am only

Weekend Masses (30th/31st December):

Saturday 30th: Vigil Mass 5.30pm Sunday 31st: 9.30am, 11.00am & 12.30pm

Feast of the Epiphany

Saturday 6th January 2024: 9.00am & 10.00am

PARISH COFFEE DOCK: The Parish Coffee Dock is closed until the new year. Sincere thanks to the volunteers who have kept it going – Deirdre, Kay, Catherine, Eithne, May and Pat, and Margaret at reception, and all who help out in any way. Thanks to all who drop in for a cuppa and a chat. Hope to see you all back in 2024 and bring your friends.

Church & Parish Office closure - The Church and Parish Office will be closed on the afternoon of Monday 18th December and will reopen on Tuesday the 19th normal hours.

ORDER OF MALTA BAKE SALE will take place on this Sunday 17th December in St. Agnes Parish Centre from 9.00am to 1.30pm. All Proceeds going to Crumlin Unit. All are welcome.

St Agnes Parish Weekly Newsletter

Team Ministry of Clogher Rd, Crumlin, Mourne Rd & Walkinstown

Tel : 01 - 455 5368 | Child Protection Number 01 836 0314

Email : info@crumlinparish.ie or newsletter@crumlinparish.ie

Web : www.crumlinparish.ie or Visit us on Facebook

17th December 2023, 3rd Sunday of Advent Year B



Priest's Contact numbers

Fr Tony O'Shaughnessy 01 561 1500

Fr Tom Clowe SDB 01 455 5605

Fr John Deasy: 01 455 0955

Deacon

Rev Jimmy Fennell 01 455 5368

St Agnes Mass Times Weekday Masses

Mon - Sat: 9.00am

Sunday Masses

Vigil (Sat): 5.30pm

**Sunday: 9.30am, 11.00am;
12.30pm.**

**Masses can also be viewed online
by visiting www.crumlinparish.ie/
watch-live into your search or
churchmedia.tv (under find your
church key in Crumlin).**

**The Church will close at
5.00pm Monday to Friday,**

St Agnes Confessions

**Confessions on Saturdays after
9.00am Mass and 5.00-5.20pm
or anytime upon request**



Child Protection

Dublin Diocesan Office 01 836 0314
or Email cps@dublindiocese.ie
or contact St Agnes Parish Office at
01 455 5368

PARISH OFFICE

The office is open Monday to Thursday
9.30am to 12.45pm and 2.15pm to
4.45pm. Friday 9.30am to 12.45pm. The
Office will be closed on Friday afternoon.
Please call in to book Masses and to buy
Mass cards.

HOLY WATER

There is a Holy Water container in the
Repository Porch of the Church. If you
wish to collect Holy Water, please bring a
container with you.

NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter is also available
for download from the Parish
Website www.crumlinparish.ie



Thought for the Week

*"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of
goodness and thus to open doors of hope." - Pope Benedict XVI*

REFLECTION FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Fans of Star Wars movies will know that the underlying theme of the films is that of the eternal struggle of light and darkness as equal forces in conflict with each other. In the Bible these twin themes are to be found in the book of Genesis right through to the book of Revelation. At the beginning of creation God said – **"Let there be light."** But we know that human beings ever since have fallen into much darkness. Just look at our world today! Nonetheless, God has always inspired people to seek the light, from the words spoken through the prophets, the psalmists and then in a most wonderful way, he revealed the light of his love, presence, compassion and mercy in the person of Jesus, **"the light."** In the Christmas story we read how, even the wise men needed the light of a star to guide them to the Christ child. The star was their light. They found their way. In the Song of Zechariah, in the gospel of St. Luke, we are told that God's purpose in sending his Son into our world was to **"give light to those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, guiding us in the way of peace."**

We have arrived at Gaudete or Joy Sunday and there is a new hope in the Word of God. Reference is being made to "the light." The great prophet, John the Baptist, is telling people that he is not the light but only a witness to the light. John is very clear that he is not the fulfilment of the promises of old but that the one who comes after him – Jesus – is the true light of God, visiting his people with his loving-kindness. John's role will be fully valued when the true light appears among the people. He speaks for and points out the light of God among us. What a wonderful, noble calling!

Like the people of old whom John addressed, we too are called to make way for **"the light."** Our role is to let as much light shine through the solid chunks of darkness that litter our human landscape. That may appear a mountainous task. It needn't be. So, how can we allow the light of God shine more brightly through us as we approach Christmas? We look at the darkness that often lives within us – the selfishness, the un-forgiveness, the lack of mercy, the neglect of those in need, infidelity to God and one another. Holiness of life to which we are called is the constant effort of letting Christ be the light that guides all that we do. Brene Brown said, **"Only when we are brave enough to explore the darkness will we discover the infinite power of the light."** Let's keep our face turned towards the light of Jesus Christ and the shadows will fall behind us. The light we embrace will be evident in hearts that are more caring, merciful and compassionate, hearts that see tears, needs and hurt and respond as Jesus would. Maybe we can pray more fervently, rediscover a new respect for Christ in the Eucharist. Shakespeare wrote, **"How far that little lighted candle throws its beams. So shine good deeds in a dreary world."** Imagine if we truly followed the light of God as shown in Jesus, how better a world we would have.

Fr. Tony

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE - Christmas timetable cards and St. Agnes calendars 2024 are available in the porch ways of the Church if you wish to take one. We invite you to join with us for our celebrations.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 16th December

5.30pm

MONTHS MIND

Marie Johnston; John Curtis

ANNIVERSARIES

Philip Bissett 1st; Alice Langan 2nd
Margaret Peggie Clarke 2nd; Patrick Lynch 2nd
Eamonn Dillon 3rd; Ellen Jewell 4th
Helen Scott Jordan 5th; Gerard Dunne 5th
also Birthday Remembrance
Patrick Malone 17th; Brian Malone &
deceased family members
Jack & Agnes Butler & deceased family
members; Thomas Bissett;
Marie O'Shaughnessy
Michael & Lena Gavigan; Jimmy, Phyllis,
Eamonn, Maureen & Daire Gildea
Brendan Brady; Bernard Clinch
John & Bridget O'Grady; Ann & Larry Aguis
Deceased of Brady & O'Grady families
Alice & Joe Coffey & deceased of Coffey &
Collins families

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

Paul Smith 60th; Elizabeth Healy 100th also
husband Philip & deceased family members;
Lucy Stack & JJ Stack
Esther Bissett

Sunday 17th December

9.30am

ANNIVERSARIES

John Brady; Ann & John Hastings
Tom & Annie McKenna; Maureen Barry
Antoinette McKenna
Deceased of Kelly & Hyland families
Jim & Margaret Lawlor

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

Kathleen Kelly

*Remembering all those enrolled in our
Book of Remembrance*

11.00am

ANNIVERSARIES

Mary Williamson; Deceased members of the
Orr family; Ron & Carmel Forte
Vincent, Aileen & Vincent Jnr Gough
Michael & Margaret McArdle
Eileen & James Farren & deceased family
members; Agnes McGowan remembering
husband John; Ernie & Sheila Roe &
grandson Barry Kane Christmas Rem

12.30pm

MONTHS MIND

Brian Kearney

RECENTLY DECEASED

Jim Kelly

ANNIVERSARIES

Liam Buckley 1st; James Weafer 1st
Catherine Kinsella (nee Cully) 2nd
Lily Lamon 4th; Leo Russell 5th
Andrew Keeley 57th; Patrick Kavanagh
Maureen & James Stokes; Alan Weafer
John & Mary Cleary & deceased family
members; John & Elizabeth O'Neill &
deceased family members
John Devlin, wife Ann, son George, Delia
Devlin & grandson Mark Devlin
Joseph & Josephine Carberry
Ellen & John Seery & son James
James & Teresa Clancy
Ann & Julia O'Neill
Teresa O'Neill Christmas Rem
Michael McEvoy Christmas Rem

MASS INTENTIONS (Cont'd)

Monday 18th December

9.00am Imelda Cullen 6th

Tuesday 19th December

9.00am Bridget McManus

Wednesday 20th December

9.00am Celebrant's Intentions

Thursday 21st December

9.00am Thomas McGuirk 27th

Friday 22nd December

9.00am Tommy McLeane 5th

*May their Souls and the Souls of all the
Faithful departed Rest In Peace. Amen*

*All Mass Intentions should be booked in the
Parish Office no later than midday on the
Wednesday before the Sunday Masses.*

Our Recently Deceased

Margaret Rita Craine, Hardebeck Ave
Jimmy Murray, Derry Rd
John Fitzpatrick, Formerly Crumlin
Teresa Thornton, Firhouse
Sr. Ana Maria Mulqueeney, Columban Sister

*We express our deepest sympathies to their
families at this sad time.*

May they Rest in Peace. Amen.

Last Weekends Collections

1st Collection	€ 2,028
St Vincent DePaul:	€ 11,800
Family Offering:	€ 2,035

*Many thanks for your continued support and generosity. We
wish to thank all who have given donations on line and thank
you for your continued support of the Parish and the Diocese.
Donations can also be made through the "DONATE" button
on our website www.crumlinparish.ie*

St Agnes Parish Reader's Roster

*If you cannot make your scheduled Reading
please contact John Green*

Saturday, 23rd December 2023

5.30pm Andrew Fanthom

Sunday, 24th December 2023

9:30am Valerie Collins

11:00am John Green

12:30pm Nuala Talbot

**Please remember to switch your mobile
phone off or to Silent when in the Church**



Kimmage Manor Carol Service will take place in Kimmage
Manor Church on Sunday 17th December @ 7.30pm,
followed by Mulled Wine, Mince Pies, & other
refreshments. All are welcome.

PARISH OFFICE AND PARISH CENTRE CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

- ⇒ **The Parish Office** will close on Friday 22nd
December at 12.45pm and will reopen on
Tuesday 2nd January at 9.30am. **For any
urgent enquiries please contact Fr. Tony.**
- ⇒ **The Parish Centre** will close on Friday 15th
December and will reopen on Monday 8th Jan
- ⇒ **The Coffee Dock** will reopen on Tuesday 16th
January at 10.00am

A Christmas Prayer

O God, Bless our Family and all its members and friends; Bind us together by your love, give us kindness and
patience to support each other, and wisdom in all we do. Let the gift of your peace come into our hearts and
remain with us. May we rejoice in your blessings for all our days. Amen



POINSETTIAS FOR OUR CHURCH AT CHRISTMAS

Last year the response to parishioners donating poinsettias for our Christmas flower
decorations was wonderful. These flowers add to the beauty, warmth and welcoming spirit in
our Church at Christmas time. We invite parishioners to do likewise again this year. We ask
you to bring a poinsettia - red or white and any height - to our Church any day between the
10th and 17th of December. The poinsettias can be left at the oratory door or the sacristy door.
They will be stored in a cool space and placed in our sanctuary on Christmas week.



Christmas Mass Bouquets

Christmas Mass Bouquets are available in
the Parish Office and Repository.

Church Art Calendars 2024 are available in
the Repository and Parish Office, price €1.50



St. Agnes's Church Mass Cards,

The Intention of Donor will be
remembered in all Masses on Christmas
Day. Available in the Parish Office &
Church Repository for €5 per pack of 10 cards.



CHRISTMAS DUES

Envelopes are available at all the Church exits. Christmas
dues help to support the Priests of the parish, and the
Diocese including sick and retired priests. They are an
important source of income for the Clergy. For those who
have the box of family offering envelopes, your Christmas
dues envelope is in the box. We thank you most sincerely
for your generosity in previous years

LORCAN O'TOOLE CHRISTMAS CARDS

Are on sale in the Repository and Parish
Office, €5 per pack of 12, all proceeds
go to the Lorcan O'Toole Day Centre



THANK YOU

On behalf of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, we express our sincere thanks for the wonderful response to the annual
indoor collection last weekend. So far this totals **€11,800** which is a very generous response. It will certainly be of immense
assistance to the Society in helping so many in our community this Christmas.

POOR BOX – CHARITY BOX

Since the beginning of January this year until this week a total of almost **€10,000** has been given to various causes and
charities out of donations given to the charity/poor box. Thank you for this generosity. The donations have been given to
ALONE, Alice Leahy TRUST, Capuchin Day Care Centre, Friends of the Elderly, Lorcan O' Toole Day Care Centre, Fr. Kitt
Court Residence Association and to other local needs. All the above have written letters of acknowledgements which are
placed on the notice board at the front of the Church. Thank you again for your kind thoughtfulness and charity. **Fr. Tony**

HALLELUJAH CONCERT

This was a great success in our Church on Friday, 8th December and enjoyed by all. Well done to Barbara and Ken for
organising this concert and to Karen, our Sacristan and all volunteers who helped ensure the concert went well and who
supervised the raffle. The proceeds of the raffle which brought in **€2,412** is being divided between the two nominated
charities – **ALONE** and **REACHING OUT TO HOMELESS** These two groups are delighted to be receiving this money which,
as you can imagine, will help many homeless and lonely people this Christmas. **Fr. Tony**