



Parish of Saint Columbanus, Loughlinstown



3rd CANDLE – (pink) **THE SHEPHERD CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF JOY**

The angels sang a message of JOY! "...and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:7-15)

Penitential Service

Monday 18th December St. Anne's Shankill at 7.30pm

Wednesday 20th Our Lady of Good Counsel Johnstown at 7pm

Children's Christmas Play Tuesday 19th December at 7pm. All welcome.

A very big **"THANK YOU"** to Stefnie and Sing For Fun also the members of The Men's Shed

For a wonderful evening of songs and fun last Thursday.

A special word of thanks to Jo and Grace for their wonderful story telling

A great night was had by all.



Christmas Masses



Christmas Eve

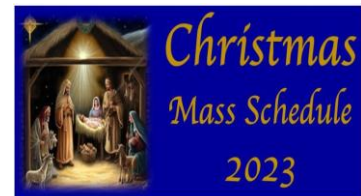
Family Mass at 6pm

Christmas Day

Mass at 11am

St. Stephen's Day

Mass in St. Stephen's Church Killiney at 11am



Christmas Schedule and Christmas Dues Envelopes will be available next week

If you would like a loved one remembered at either of our Christmas Masses

Please contact Teresa in the parish office

3 truths from Christus Vivit (Christ is alive), Apostolic Exhortation from Pope Francis To Young People and the Entire People of God.

2. **'God loves you.'** It makes no difference whether you have already heard it or not. I want to remind you of it. God loves you. Never doubt this, whatever may happen to you in life. At every moment, you are infinitely loved.
3. **'Christ saves you.'** The second great truth is that Christ, out of love, sacrificed himself completely in order to save you. His outstretched arms on the cross are the most telling sign that he is a friend who is willing to stop at nothing: 'Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.' (John 13:1)
4. **'He is alive!'** Finally, there is a third truth, inseparable from the second: Christ is alive! We need to keep reminding ourselves of this, because we can risk seeing Jesus Christ simply as a fine model from the distant past, as a memory, as someone who saved us two thousand years ago. But that would be of no use to us: it would leave us unchanged, it would not set us free. **The one who fills us with his grace, the one who liberates us, transforms us, heals and consoles us is someone fully alive.**

Crosscare Christmas Food Appeal

Crosscare, the Archdiocese's social care agency, is seeking support for its Christmas Food Poverty Appeal at this challenging time for many families and individuals. **Anyone wishing to contribute can donate online at www.crosscare.ie, call 01 8360011, or send a cheque or postal order to Crosscare Christmas Appeal, 2 St Mary's Place North, D07 Y768, Dublin. Thank you for your ongoing support for those most in need.**

Divine Word Christmas Cards and Mass Bouquets for sale in the parish office.

Assorted design Christmas cards - Pack of 6 for €4.50

