



Parish of Saint Columbanus, Loughlinstown



5th CANDLE – (white) “**CHRIST CANDLE**” – The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth!
The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29)

Christmas Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It gives me great pleasure to wish you a very happy, peaceful and healthy Christmas. Another strange year is almost over. Thank you for your participation in our various services and for your great support. Many people deserve to be thanked, that will be done, God willing, in early January 2022.

I'm sure, like me, you love our Crib. It sums up a lot of our beliefs and practices. The baby Jesus reminds us of the gift of life, every life is special. Jesus is God among us, we are not abandoned, but accompanied.

Mary said yes. We are asked to do the same.

Joseph stood by Mary, an example to us.

The Shepherds came with nothing, God is interested in us as persons, not our possessions.

The Magi bring gifts, there is room for everybody in God's house.

Our crib includes animals too, part of God's great creation. You will see water in our Crib, one of nature's gifts to us, not to be wasted or misused. The earth and its gifts is our common home. The Star reminds us of our smallness in the universe, yet our planet teems with life.

Thank God for everything!

Wonderful crib!

Peace be with you. We remember those who have gone before us, may they rest in God's peace. For our neighbours who are sick, or indisposed, or who cannot venture out we will remember at our Christmas Masses.

May God bless us all, every one.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Enda.

Mass Times Week After Christmas

All Masses At 11am

Monday 27th - St. Columbanus Church **Wednesday 29th** - Sts Alphonsus & Columba Church
Thursday 30th - Church Of The Apostles **Friday 31st** - Sts Alphonsus & Columba Church

The Holy Family Prayer

JESUS, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

MARY, Mother of Jesus and Our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

JOSEPH, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH, make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the centre of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you.

Amen.

Christmas Office Times

Parish Office Closed until Tuesday 11th January 2022

Church will remain open for private prayer Monday to Friday 11am to 4pm

