



**FROM DEACON GERARD:** In our Gospel today, Jesus is preaching on home ground in his native town of Nazareth. This reading can be seen as the launching pad for his ministry back in the place where he grew up. It's a significant occasion by any standards. Many parishes and organisations have **Mission Statements** where they set out their key objectives in a straightforward way. In that sense, today's Gospel can be considered to be **Jesus's Mission Statement** where he sets out this priorities at the beginning of his ministry. Jesus quotes directly from the Prophet Isaiah: **"The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor."** This has been described as one of the most inspirational passages in the New Testament, underlining, as it does, the gift of the Spirit and the anointing of Jesus as prophet and Messiah.



St Vincent de Paul often quoted this passage "He sent me to bring good news to the poor" (Luke 4:18) as the basis of his ministry among the poor in

France. He later became the inspiration for many of his follower in the Vincentian family. St Vincent de Paul got his inspiration from prayer, reflection, his friends and the poor. Vincent sent his followers into the streets and among the poor, but he also encouraged them to withdraw and regenerate when necessary.

The people of Nazareth would have known Jesus more as someone who might fix chairs or mend tables rather than curing the sick and announcing the Kingdom of God. It may have been a big a jump for them to accept the gap between the Jesus they grew up with and the Messiah he had recently become. While none of us may have the opportunity to speak in the synagogue in Nazareth, God will give us other opportunities to share his Gospel with those who are willing and open to hearing it. Today's reading is from the beginning of the Gospel of St Luke and it starts with an introduction as Luke explains why he is writing is Gospel. Luke says that his is not the first Gospel to be written but scripture scholars tell us that he includes some unique stories. These include the Prodigal Son and the Good Samaritan. St Luke also wrote the Acts of the Apostles which chronicles the life of the early church. So, in the Gospel today, there is a sense of important new beginnings. Something important is about to happen and we should take notice of it. **We are at a time in the history of our church where we need to renew our mission.** To look forward to our future needs

and how they can be accomplished with fewer resources. Let us pray in the coming week that he will inspire us on our journey of faith and help us to share the good news with those in need.

### **THE JUBILEE PRAYER**

*Father in heaven, May the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen* *Pope Francis*

### **WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS**

Recently Deceased

Tom Comey, Martello Court  
Wilkie Savage, St. Anne's Square

**Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> January**  
**6.30p.m.**

Brian Higgins, [Month's Mind]  
Mary Sweeney,[RD]; Angela Beausand,[A];  
Josie Lawlor,[1<sup>st</sup> A]; Phyllis Barron,[15<sup>th</sup> A];

**Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> January 10.30a.m.**  
**10.30a.m.**

Pat Murphy,[1<sup>st</sup> A]; Connie Harvey,[A];  
Monica Mullins,[1<sup>st</sup>A]; Bernadette Waldron,[A];  
James West,[Get Well].

**12 noon**

Teresa Murphy,[RD]; Jackie Kelly, [1<sup>st</sup> A];  
Moran Family,[A]; Molloy Family,[A];  
Aidan Burns,[2<sup>nd</sup> A]; Nora Fulton,[A];  
Donncha Ó Muineacháin,[20<sup>th</sup> A]; Paul Plaistead,[A];  
Robert Heuston O'Farrell,[A]; Mary Graham,[21<sup>st</sup> A];  
Elizabeth Redmond,[A]; Mary Redmond Ryan,[A];  
Bernadette Waldron,[A]; Sarah Faulkner,[A].



### COLLECTIONS

Sunday, 19 January 2025

Common Fund €1243

Share €1020

Sincere thanks for your support.

**MISSIO IRELAND - Thank You**

To Portmarnock Parish for the donation of €2005 towards the Mission Sunday Collection.

### REQUIEM CHOIR

The Parish Requiem Choir invites new members. Choir meet every second Tuesday morning at the Church. Please contact Tony O'Dwyer, Organist, after Sunday Mass or enquire through the Parish Office.

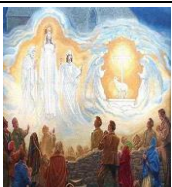
### LIVING AS JUBILEE PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Pope Francis is encouraging us to rediscover the ancient practice of pilgrimage during 2025. All are invited to join our **Diocesan pilgrimages to Knock in April, Lourdes in September, Jubilee of Youth in Rome, 'Rome @ Home' Youth weekend, make a pilgrimage to Glendalough, or visit a Jubilee church in Dublin City Centre** to visit *Pockets of Hope*. All resources for local pilgrimages can be found on the designated 'Jubilee 2025' on the diocesan website

### CELEBRATING ST LAURENCE O'TOOLE.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage for the 800th anniversary of the canonisation of St Laurence O'Toole, May 10 to May 12, 2025.** Three-day pilgrimage with Fr Ivan Tonge and Canon John Flaherty led by Archbishop Farrell. **Booking is open and closes at the end of January.** Contact Marian Pilgrimages, Dublin, at 01 8788159.

### DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK



**SATURDAY APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup>** The theme of the pilgrimage will focus on the **Jubilee Year**. The pilgrimage will provide us with an opportunity to gather as a Diocesan community of faith and to participate in

workshops, outdoor walks, the Sacrament of the Sick and our pilgrimage Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Farrell. **The Choir of Many Voices** will be under the able direction of Ciaran Coll. If you would like to join the Choir or have any queries about the pilgrimage, further information: [knockpilgrimage@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:knockpilgrimage@dublindiocese.ie)

### ST. MARNOCK'S JNS & ST. HELEN'S JNS

have opened up our **Admissions/ Enrolments for Junior Infants September 2025.** Parents can enrol from **8th January 2025 to 26th February 2025**



### Join Accord

Support couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage by training as a facilitator with Accord.



**APPLY TODAY**

FOR MORE CONTACT ACCORD ON: [marriagepreparation@accord.ie](mailto:marriagepreparation@accord.ie) 01-5053112

Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service providing relationship and family support for over 60 years.

### PORTMARNOCK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

is proud to present the premiere performance of **AN ORIGINAL CHORAL COMPOSITION** by composer and former PCS student, **Dermot Doyle**. Featuring the **PCS Senior Choir and soloists, directed by Ms Colette O' Driscoll**, will take place on **Wednesday, 22nd January, at 7:30 PM at Portmarnock Community School.** Tickets available through **Eventbrite**.

### SHRINES OF ITALY

**May, 6<sup>th</sup> –9 days**, Visiting Padua, San Damiano, Assisi & San Giovanni Rotondo Spiritual Director: Fr. Gary Darby Contact: Pat O'Connor 087 2610405

**MEDUGORJE PILGRIMAGE 4<sup>th</sup> to 11th June 2025** Contact Derek & Anne Farrell 0862573824 and 0879224077