

# Church of the Holy Spirit Ballyroan

08th January 2023

The Baptism of the Lord



Our Gospel reading this week is from St Matthew 3:13-17.

'Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptised by him.'

The baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist is one of the most historically certain events in the Gospels. It is referred to in all four Gospels. Mark tells the story straight-forwardly, while the other accounts vary to some degree.

Why did Jesus get baptised? Was he a follower initially of John the Baptist and coming to understand that he was the Messiah, the Son of God. While Matthew describes Jesus' experience of the Holy Spirit in a dramatic way, it was no doubt a turning point for Jesus. Jesus would then go on to begin his ministry that has changed all our lives. This is what Matthew is trying to convey to his readers- Jesus experienced the loving presence of God (Abba-Father) at his baptism. Why not open a copy of the New Testament when you go home, read all four Gospel accounts of the baptism of Jesus, slowly, a couple of times and pray that you can be open

This Sunday the 8th of January 2023 is The Baptism of the Lord. It is at this special time we remember all the wonderful boys and girls who were baptised in Ballyroan in 2022. We have a wonderful community in Ballyroan who have welcomed them into their faith family with open arms. May they continue to grow with the help of God's love. A big thank you to Brona silke who behind the scenes has helped make each baptism a very special occasion. We look forward to the year ahead as our faith family continues to grow.



## Meaning of symbols of Baptism

- ◆ Water is the Symbol of new life and cleansing from sin.
- ◆ The candle reminds us that Jesus is the light of the World.
- ◆ The holy oils are symbols of healing and strength which comes from the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ The white garment is a symbol of dignity, and Jesus' Resurrection which gives us new life.



**U3A stands for "University of the Third Age"** :University, in this sense, means a gathering of people. It is not a college building, but simply a group of people interested in following a common programme of activities. No educational or professional qualifications are required (and there are no exams!) The "Third Age" is the time in life when your career may be coming to an end, and/or parental and caring responsibilities have lessened. Third-agers have more time to explore new opportunities – both educational and social.U3A members organise their own activities and learn together. They draw on the skills, knowledge, and experience of one another - everyone teaches and everyone learns. **Our first U3A meeting of the new year is Monday next 9th January 10.30 am. All are welcome.**

**Mass Intentions 07th—13th December**

- Sat 7pm:** Tony Kelly (R.I.P.)
- Sun 10am:** Enda Mullen (M.M.) Tom Ryan (R.I.P.) Mary Kilbane (Special Intention) Maria Lakes (A)
- Sun 12pm:** Helen O’Keeffe (M.M.) Gerry Murray (A) Joe Ganly (A) Bridget& Christopher Doyle (A)
- Mon:** Phyllis Meehan (R.I.P.)
- Tue:** Mary Crow (R.I.P.) Joyce Davitt ( R.I.P.)
- Wed:** Phyllis Meehan (R.I.P.) Maura Keohane (A) Margaret Mullins (R.I.P.) Thomas Callaghan (A)
- Thu:** Enda Mullen (R.I.P.) Margaret Mullins (R.I.P.)
- Fri:** Ann O Donoghue (Special Intention Living) Des Cullen (R.I.P.)

**Bereavements**

We remember all who recently passed away in our parish. Our thoughts and our prayers are with their loved ones and their families.  
*"Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them".*



**PARISHIONERS**

**COFFEE MORNING**

YOU ARE INVITED TO ENJOY  
 COFFEE - TEA  
 AND A CHAT  
 IN THE RUAH CENTRE  
 AFTER MASS  
 (1030am - 1130am)

**TUESDAY**  
**10th January 2023**

**Finance Corner:**

24/25 Dec :	
1st Collection :	€4,000
2nd Collection (Share)	€3,049
31Dec/01Jan :	
1st Collection :	€1,330
2nd Collection (Share)	€935
Shrine for both weeks:	€1,795

**4 Oíche, 4 Amhrán!**  
*Ranganna Amhránaíochta le hIseult*

Dé Luain 8.30-9.15pm  
 16, 23, 30 Eanáir; 20 Feabhra



Clubheach, Ballyboden St. Endas, D16 A2F8  
 Le clárú, cuir email chuig gaeilge@ballyboden.ie  
 To register email gaeilge@ballyboden.ie



**Parish Information**

- Parish Priest:** Father Michael Murtagh
- Deacon:** Frank Browne
- Parish Secretary:** Mary McDade
- Email:** ballyroanparish@gmail.com
- Parish Office:** 01 4947303

**Parish Office Opening hours:**

Monday - Friday: 10.00am – 12.00 noon

**Mass Times**

Monday - Friday: 10am  
 Saturday: 7pm