

# BALLINTEER PARISH NEWSLETTER



CHRISTMAS 2017  
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www.ballinteer.dublindiocese.ie

## Preparing for Christmas

### Carol Concert:

**Ballinteer:** Sunday 10th December 3.00pm - 4.00pm

### Penitential Rite:

**Marley Grange:** Monday 18th December at 7.30pm

**Ballinteer:** Thursday 21st December at 7.30pm

**Dundrum:** Saturday 23rd December at 12 noon

### Confessions in Ballinteer:

Christmas Eve 24th December: After 11.00am Mass

## Christmas Timetable in Ballinteer

### Sunday 24th December (Christmas Eve):

9.30am - Aifreann / Irish Mass **and** 11.00am **only**.

**(There is no 12.30pm Mass)**

6.00pm - First Mass of Christmas (Organist and Singers)

9.00pm - Solemn Mass of Christmas (Gospel Choir)

### Monday 25th December (Christmas Day):

#### Masses:

9.30am - (As Gaeilge) – (Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann)

11.00am - (Ballinteer Male Voice Choir)

12.30pm - (Organist and Singers)

**(No evening Mass)**

**Tuesday 26th to Friday 29th December:** 9.30am.

### Saturday 30th December:

Mass (10.00am in Meadowbrook) 6.00pm Vigil

### Sunday 31st December:

Masses at 9.30am, 11.00am and 12.30pm

**(No evening Mass)**

## Methodist Church Services

### Sunday 24th December (Christmas Eve):

10.00am - Worship Service

11.30am - Worship Service

9.00pm - Holy Communion

### Monday 25th December (Christmas Day):

10.00am – Worship Service - Family Celebration

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## Taney (C of I.) Parish Christmas Services

### Christ Church:

#### Sunday 24th December (Christmas Eve):

10.15am – A special service telling the Christmas story

11.30pm - Midnight Holy Communion

#### Monday 25th December (Christmas Day):

10.30am - Family Service

11.00am - Holy Communion

### St. Nahi's on Christmas Day

9.00am - Holy Communion

## Christmas Greetings

This Christmas is my third one in the parish. So much happens in all of our lives each year: lots of good happenings as well as some very difficult ones. Illness in a family is perhaps the most traumatic event that occurs. When this happens, adjustments have to be made in family life. Joyous events also happen, a wedding, a new baby, examinations passed etc. Hopefully your family has experienced some nice happenings during 2017. In our parish, thank God, we have great attendances at our Masses and other Liturgies. The average Saturday/Sunday attendance is 1,470. During the year we baptised 89 babies and 53 funerals took place.

Preparation with parents for First Communion and Confirmation in 2018 is already taking place. We relaunched the Adoration in the Oratory; many new people have committed themselves to the various hours.

On 18th November we had a Parish Assembly. This took the form of presentations from some of the 33 groups in the parish. The aim was to share with each other where and how we will manage our parish into the near future.

Our church toilets are being revamped. Modernisation was long overdue.

Thanks to the very many parishioners who participate in the life of the parish.

In the great season of Christmas, as we celebrate God's coming to our world in the person of Jesus Christ, I extend a big welcome to all who will join us at our Christmas Masses. Welcome home to all who have travelled to be with their families. For those unable to join us please check in with us through the World Wide Web (go to Ballinteer Parish – live streaming).

A very happy Christmas to everyone.

**Fr. Liam Belton**

## Church Repository Shop

The Church Shop will be open after the 9.30am Mass every morning from now until Christmas, for Advent Calendars, Christmas cards, candles, cribs, religious diaries and Church Art calendars for 2018. Confirmation + First Holy Communion + Christmas + Birthday + Get Well + Thank You + Sympathy and Wedding Cards. Also Catholic newspapers, magazines, pamphlets, children's books and bibles.

## Society of Saint Vincent de Paul – Ballinteer Conference

The Parish Conference helps those in need in a non-judgmental way. The means to do this comes from the monthly collection after Masses and the tremendous response to the annual Christmas Appeal. Many thanks to all. If you are in need or know of others in need please contact the Conference at **086 358 5314**. Confidentiality is assured.



THE GOSPEL  
OF THE  
FAMILY  
*Joy for the World*



**The World Meeting Of Families (WMOF)** is an event that takes place every three years in the Catholic Church. Each meeting takes place in a different part of the world emphasizing that the Catholic Church is a global family. The last meeting was in Philadelphia in the U.S.A. At that event Pope Francis asked Archbishop Martin to host the next meeting in Ireland which will take place in Dublin from the **22nd to 26th August 2018**.

There are three main events, a three day congress addressing various aspects of family life in today's world, a festival of families celebrating through worship, music and prayer the joy of family life and on Sunday 26th a solemn Eucharistic celebration where thousands of people from Ireland and all round the world will attend joined hopefully with Pope Francis.

Much preparatory work has already taken place. We expect families from all round the world to visit Dublin next August. You will notice the banner displayed in our church with its message on how we can prepare ourselves. There will be some parish events taking place during 2018 to help us prepare together. At present the diocese is recruiting volunteers to help with all the organization required to host such an event.

You can find out more about the WMOF by visiting the website [www.worldmeeting2018.ie](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie). Please keep this major event for our diocese in your prayers.