



### Feast of the Epiphany (6th January)

We have just passed the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year. We will now enjoy a little more light each day. Christmas itself is a feast of lights. Trees are brought into homes and made radiant with brilliant lights; yards are also illumined. In other ways too, our lives are aglow with light. Often families are reunited; bonds of love and friendship are strengthened, and memories are brought to birth. These events of grace truly light up our lives.

In the Gospel, the magi are led to the child by the light of a star. Whether this was an actual celestial phenomenon, as the narrative suggests, or a metaphor for some other kind of enlightenment, it was by divine guidance that they found the child.

The children's version of the Gospel story is well known to most, but the adult version contains the real challenge. It maintains that God, not the social or political structures of the day, is the source of our light. It teaches that openness and humility are necessary if we wish to read correctly the "signs of the times." It insists that when we discover the "promised one," we must be willing to offer him all that we have. The light has come, and we are invited to live in it. How have we responded to the invitation?

*You are the mystery at the heart all that exists: draw us to yourself, O Lord, that knowing you we find our true selves, and finding our true selves, we may come to know you.*

**Happy Nollaig na mBan** (Little Christmas—6th January)

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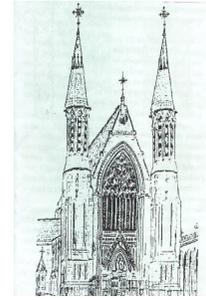
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**Oblate Province website:** [www.oblates.ie](http://www.oblates.ie)

**Parish Team:** Fr Brian de Búrca, Fr Willie Fitzpatrick,  
Br Frank Flanagan, Joanne Lanigan

**Child Safeguarding Reps:** Mary Flood/Kitty Looney



## Oblate Parish of Mary Immaculate Newsletter

### The Baptism of the Lord

7th January 2018

*'You are my Son the beloved,  
my favour rests on you.'*

Right from the start of his public mission Jesus received recognition from his Father.

One of the deepest needs of the human heart is the need to be recognised and appreciated. Every human being needs to be valued. We all need someone who will help us unfold. We need someone to believe in us, who will help us to be ourselves.

We need someone who understands us, someone who can see the hidden self in us that is perhaps afraid to come out into the open. Only such a person will help us to share all we are, making us believe in our own goodness, and awakening in us a desire to share it with others.

At Baptism we too celebrate being children of the Father, and we too receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit will help us to unfold and grow, bringing his love to our brothers and sisters. You are my beloved Son, beloved Daughter, with you I am well pleased.



ath bhliain faoi mhaise; blwyddyn newydd dda; bliadhna mhath ur; happy new year;

maligayang bagong taon; feliz ano novo; feliz año nuevo; bonne année;

szczęśliwego nowego roku; frohes neues Jahr; gelukkig nieuwjaar.



## The World Meeting of Families has Four Key Moments

21 August 2018 **Opening of World Meeting of Families 2018**  
Simultaneous National Opening of WMOF2018 in all dioceses in Ireland

22 to 24 August 2018 **World Meeting of the Families 3 day Congress.**

Keynote speakers, workshops and discussions; exhibitions, art and cultural activities, daily celebration of the Eucharist, liturgical and prayerful activities. Each day will reflect on the theme "The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World" chosen by Pope Francis. The venue has been confirmed as the RDS, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4

Evening of 25 August **Festival of Families.** A festive time, where we gather to celebrate the gift of family from the perspective of the specific theme of the World Meeting. This will be a cultural celebration of music, dance, song, within a prayerful and joyful setting, and with the aid of stories given by families from different parts of the world

26 August 2018 **Solemn Eucharistic Celebration.** The World Meeting of the Families 2018 will conclude with a Solemn Mass in thanksgiving to God, for the gift of family.

The Meeting will also include a wider programme of events around the city and will foster gestures of solidarity for families in difficulties.

For tickets and registration please visit:  
<http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/Tickets>  
or telephone the WMOF2018 Office  
Tel.: +353 1 567 6800

### Host a Family/Pilgrim

Thousands of people will be travelling from very distant places to participate in World Meeting of Families 2018 (Dublin, 21-26 August 2018). Many would be unable to come if they also had to cover the cost of accommodation. Do you have a spare room? Would you be willing to host a person, a couple or a family next August? Help us welcome visiting families to Ireland and have a home-from-home experience.

If you are interested in learning more, please call us on 01 567 6800 or email us at [hostingteam@worldmeeting2018.ie](mailto:hostingteam@worldmeeting2018.ie)

### Mass & Confession Times

**Saturday:** Vigil 7pm  
**Sunday:** 8am, 11am, 7pm

**Holy Days:** Vigil 7pm,  
7am, 10am, 7pm  
When Holy Day falls on a  
Saturday, Mass times are  
Vigil, 11am and 7pm

**Weekdays (Mon-Fri)**  
7am, 10am, 7pm

**Saturdays:** 11am  
**Bank Holidays:** 11am

**Confessions:** Saturday  
10.30 am-11.00am  
6.30 pm.7.00 pm



**Baptisms** take place  
on the third Sunday of  
every month at 3pm.  
Contact the Parish Office  
Tel. 4534408 ext. 203

**Lotto Results: 7,8,13**  
Next Draw  
Monday 8th January  
**Jackpot €2,550**

**Family Offering**  
24/12/2017 €645.00  
31/12/2017 €313.00

*Thank you for your  
support*

**THANK YOU** to all who helped, prepared, collected, delivered, sang, read, attended, joined in and contributed in any way to make the Christmas celebration in our parish a special time

**DJ Dance Fitness**  
for children aged 5-15 in the Áras Mhuire  
Hall at 1pm to 3pm every Saturday. Limited  
spaces available.

Inchicore College **Open Day** 23rd of  
January 2018

Week of Prayer for **Christian Unity** 2018  
18-25 January

The **Christmas Eve collection** for homeless  
charities amounted to €1,100.00. **THANK YOU**

### Epiphany Gifts

Please bring your unwanted presents to Mass  
on 6th January and they will be passed on to  
*Crosscare*, the social care agency of the  
Archdiocese, who will redistribute them to  
homeless people in the city.

### KIDZ KORNER for COLOURING

