

Fr Andrew O'Sullivan, ADM.
Email parishoffice@rathgarparish.ie

Parish Chaplain Fr David Larkin
Priest in Residence Fr William King

Parish Office Manager : Caroline Nolan
Parish office opening hours:
Monday and Friday 9.30am to 12.00 noon
The office can be contacted Monday to Friday
on Telephone (01) 4972215
Email parishoffice@rathgarparish.ie
Website www.rathgarparish.ie
The parish Child Safeguarding and Protection
representatives may be contacted through the
parish office.

Mass times in Three Patrons Rathgar

Please note 7.30am mass will be suspended until further notice.

Sunday 10.00am, 12.15pm, 6.00pm

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 10.00am

Tuesday and Thursday 5.30pm

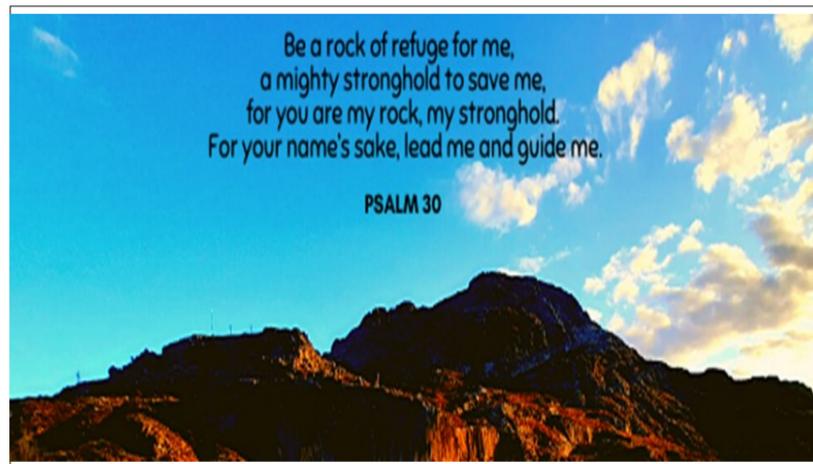
You may access our parish webcam at
<https://churchmedia.tv/camera/the-church-of-the-3-patrons>

There is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from
6pm to 7pm Monday to Saturday.

A Note from the Master of the Music: Frank C. O'Donnell MA BMus This Sunday marks the beginning of the new church year. At the 6pm mass on Sunday, The Dublin Six Consort will sing music by Byrd, Palestrina and some well known hymns. An information sheet with details of the music

COVID-19 SUPPORT LINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE

ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19. Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.



Dear Parishioner's,

Fr Andrew O'Sullivan has been appointed the new Administrator of Rathgar Parish as well as Rathmines Parish. Fr David Larkin has been appointed parish Chaplain by the Archbishop

Dermot Farrell effective immediately.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul continues to support those seeking assistance to the best of our availability. For the many families that are helped they are faced daily impossible choices, but at this time of year for many these impossible choices get harder, put oil in the tank or get the present on their child's list.

This year, more than ever, your help is needed to make sure that children and families have what they need to share in the magic of the season.

On Sunday 11th December, St Vincent de Paul will be holding a church collection in the hope of raising funds for people who are struggling this Christmas.

For more information, please contact your local SVP volun-

Divine Mercy Devotions will take place Friday the 3rd of December at 7pm to include Mass, Benediction, chaplet and Blessing with the Relic of St Faustina.



HOMILY

To be fair, it's not an easy thing to put together an authentically spiritual observance of the Advent Christmas Season in our culture. Over the next month there will be hundreds of people screaming at us through every imaginable medium, trying to convince us that a meaningful Christmas can be purchased, both with money and with frenetic effort, and that if the outlay of cash and energy is good enough, then the season will be well honoured.

Now, there is certainly nothing wrong about investing time and energy and even money in one's preparation for the Christmas. In fact, it can be very good.

But it also can be a stumbling block, a real obstacle to an experience of Advent that is meant to be a time of renewal, a time for the gathering of one's spiritual strengths, rather than their dissipation.

Advent is a time of waiting – waiting that is flavoured by a certain reserve, almost a kind of hush, an expectancy. For Christmas, Advent is meant to be a time when we peer more deeply than usual into our own makeup and, in doing so, see there a certain incompleteness, a kind of emptiness. And we sense that not only about ourselves but about all of the human condition, all of creation.

It is a time when Christians become more sensitive than usual to the fact that the Universe is what one writer has described as an unfinished symphony.

It is a symphony in which a great deal of the score has already been played out, and played with great beauty and great meaning, but one to which the last chord has not yet been struck. Until it is, the rest of the piece doesn't quite hang together, the rest of the movement doesn't quite fall into place.

Certainly, the figure of Mary, the expectant Mother of Christ is the perfect Advent Symbol. Even in this age, there is no greater mystery than an expectant mother.

She waits, and prepares, with some uncertainty, some anxiety certainly, but also with a kind of complacency, a confident awareness that beyond sight, beyond even understanding, there is a movement taking place within her that will eventually result in the birth of something sacred, something infinitely valuable.

Well, we must model ourselves this Advent along the lines of just that symbol. Advent is a time of dreaming, for generous planning, a time for wondering what God will do for us this time. What will he do through us?

And a year from now, or ten, or a hundred, whatever the answers to those questions are meant to be, if we have been faithful, if we have waited with hope, then the last chord shall be struck and we shall be made complete.

And our waiting will have been worthwhile.

Fr Andrew O'Sullivan ADM.

COVID 19

Regrettably, the rate of Covid transmission is once again reaching high levels. We would ask that you wear face masks when in the church, sanitise your hands and maintain social distance in order to protect the health of all who come into the church.

The obligation to attend Mass on Sundays remains suspended and you are welcome to attend Mass here on weekdays.

If you would prefer not to come into the church you are very welcome to join us on our webcam.

Thank you.