

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 5TH December

The message of repentance during this season of Advent is a call to each one of us to look deeply into our lives, to renew and deepen our relationship with God and our fellow sisters and brothers

MASSES

Vigil Saturdays 6p.m. Sundays: 9a.m. & 11a.m.
Weekdays: Monday to Saturday 10 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 10.30am and 5.30pm

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Feast days of the week

Monday 6th St. Nicholas, was a fourth-century Bishop of Myra in modern day Turkey of whom little is known. He is patron of Russia, of sailors, pawnbrokers and of children.

Tuesday 7th St. Ambrose, 340-397, became governor of the Roman province whose seat was in Milan. In 374, the laity insisted on his becoming bishop though he was still not baptised. He defended orthodoxy in brilliant preaching and through his writing. Patron of Milan, bee-keepers, and domestic animals.

Wednesday 8th

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

We celebrate Mary who, from the first instant of her existence in the womb of her mother Anne, was 'by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God, and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the human race, preserved free from all stain of original sin'.

Friday 10th

Our Lady of Loreto. This celebration helps all people, especially families, youth and religious to imitate the virtues of that perfect disciple of the Gospel, the Virgin Mother, who, in conceiving the Head of the Church also accepted us as her own.

Saturday 11th

St. Damasus I, born around 304 and died on this day in 384, elected pope in 366.

Second Sunday of Advent

Two purple candles are now lit for the First and Second Sundays in Advent.

The Candle of Peace is lit this Sunday.

PRAYER FOR THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

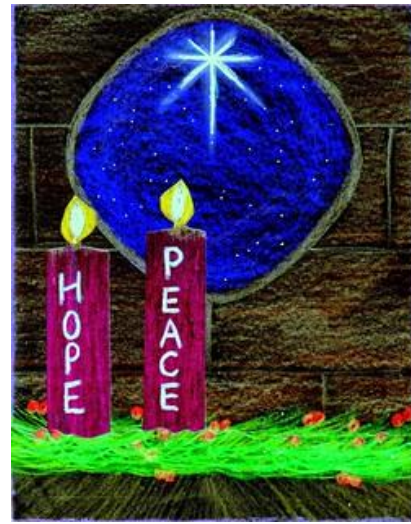
Loving God, on this Advent day we turn to you in prayer. As we wait the coming of your Son, we ask your blessing on each of us.

Bring your healing upon us, and help us to welcome your light into our lives,

A light that gives us the gift of peace.

May your peace guard our heart, our mind and our home. We ask this through our Lord. Amen.

'Come Lord Jesus'



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Would like to thank you sincerely for your continued generous support. November collection: €1,030. The money collected by SVP at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Ballinlough, amount published monthly in the Parish Newsletter, is used to support people with food hampers, food vouchers, fuel and direct financial assistance where necessary.



SVP also assists people in need throughout the city with the provision of educational support for both adults and children. Support for the homeless is provided by SVP's hostels at Anglesea Terrace and Friar's Walk. To get more details about the various SVP activities contact the Regional Office, Ozanam House, 2, Tuckey Street, Cork 021/4270444 or visit SVP Web page: www.svp.ie

SVP Christmas Collection next week-end 11th & 12th December.



Prayer to Saint Joseph

God, heavenly Father, grant us the fortitude of Christ your Son to face the Covid-19 crisis with thrust, patience and compassion.

Give us the grace of the Holy Spirit to free us from fear and look forward together to the future with healing and hope.

Through the intercession of Saint Joseph, the guardian of Jesus, and Mary his mother and mother of the Church,

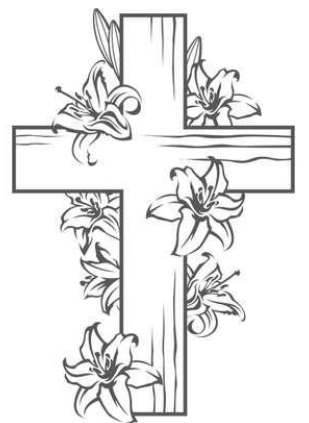
May we be guided through this time of peril?

Preserve us in peace; heal the sick; protect the vulnerable;

Keep safe our health care workers and all who serve society,

At home and abroad.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.....*Amen*



The Elephant Rope (Belief)

A man was walking through an elephant camp, and he spotted that the elephants weren't being kept in cages or held by the use of chains.

All that was restraining them from escaping the camp, was a small piece of rope tied to one of their legs.

As the man gazed upon the elephants, he was completely confused as to why the elephants didn't just use their strength to break the rope and escape the camp. They could easily have done so, but instead, they didn't try to at all. Curious and wanting to know the answer, he asked a trainer nearby why the elephants were just standing there and never tried to escape.

The trainer replied; "when they are very young and much smaller we use the same size rope to tie them and, at that age, it's enough to hold them. As they grow up, they are conditioned to believe they cannot break away. They believe the rope can still hold them, so they never try to break free."

The only reason that the elephants weren't breaking free and escaping from the camp was that over time they adopted the belief that it just wasn't possible.

Moral of the story:

No matter how much the world tries to hold you back, always continue with the belief that what you want to achieve is possible.

Believing you can become successful is the most important step in actually achieving it.

A burglar breaks into a house. He starts shining his light around looking for valuables. Some nice things catch his eye, and as he reaches for them, he hears, "Jesus is watching you." Startled, the burglar looks for the speaker. Seeing no one, he keeps putting things in his bag, again, he hears, "Jesus is watching you." This time, he sees a parrot. "Who are you?" the burglar asks. "Moses," the bird replied. "Who the heck would name a bird Moses?" the man laughed. "I dunno," Moses answered, "I guess the same kind of people that would name a Rottweiler Jesus."

