

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High. Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

Almighty and merciful God,
graciously keep from us all adversity,
so that, unhindered in mind and body alike,
we may pursue in freedom of heart
the things that are yours.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Wis 6:12-16

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.
By those who love her she is readily seen,
and found by those who look for her.
Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she
makes herself known to them.
Watch for her early and you will have no
trouble;
you will find her sitting at your gates.
Even to think about her is understanding fully
grown;
be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly
leave you.
She herself walks about looking for those
who are worthy of her
and graciously shows herself to them as they
go,
in every thought of theirs coming to meet
them.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 62

Response:

For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. (R.)

3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)
4. On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. (R.)

SECOND READING

1 Th 4:13-18

(For shorter form read between >< 1 Th 4:13-14>)

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians

>We want you to be quite certain, brothers,
about those who have died, to make sure that
you do not grieve about them, like the other
people who have no hope. We believe that
Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be
the same for those who have died in Jesus:
God will bring them with him. <We can tell
you this from the Lord's own teaching, that
any of us who are left alive until the Lord's
coming will not have any advantage over
those who have died. At the trumpet of God,
the voice of the archangel will call out the
command and the Lord himself will come
down from heaven; those who have died in
Christ will be the first to rise, and then those
of us who are still alive will be taken up in the
clouds, together with them; to meet the Lord
in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for
ever. With such thoughts as these you should
comfort one another.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Stay awake and stand
ready,
because you do not know the hour when the
Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 25:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The
kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten
bridesmaids took their lamps and went to
meet the bridegroom. Five of them were
foolish and five were sensible: the foolish
ones did take their lamps, but they brought
no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks
of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom
was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell
asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The
bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him."
At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and
trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones
said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of
your oil: our lamps are going out." But they
replied, "There may not be enough for us
and for you; you had better go to those who
sell it and buy some for yourselves." They
had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom
arrived. Those who were ready went in with
him to the wedding hall and the door was
closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later.
"Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for
us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do
not know you." So stay awake, because you
do not know either the day or the hour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

(all bow during the next three lines)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the
dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look with favour, we pray, O Lord,
upon the sacrificial gifts offered here,
that, celebrating in mystery the Passion of
your Son,
we may honour it with loving devotion.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I
shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures where he
gives me repose,
near restful waters he leads me.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished by this sacred gift, O Lord,
we give you thanks and beseech your mercy,
that, by the pouring forth of your Spirit,
the grace of integrity may endure
in those your heavenly power has entered.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sunday Message

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year A • 12 November 2023 • Colour: Green • Psalter Week 4



Jewish wedding ceremonies in the time of Jesus began in the evening. The families and guests formed a procession to accompany the couple from the bride's family home to her new home with her husband's family. As they drew near, the women members of the groom's family formed a torch lit procession of welcome.

In the parable in today's Gospel, ten girls were to form this procession but only five had thought of bringing oil, so the procession was unlikely to be a resounding success. The wedding suffers another setback: there is a delay in getting proceedings under way, and the girls get tired and fall asleep. Suddenly, towards midnight, word comes that the procession is finally on its way. There is a frantic flurry of activity as the girls form their procession, only to discover that half of the lamps won't light. If they try to stretch out the oil supply enough for five lamps to provide for twice that number, there is every danger the procession will be plunged into darkness after a few minutes. If that happened, the couple and their families would be the laughing stock of the neighbourhood. Instead, the five are sent off to find an oil shop, an unlikely prospect so late at night.

Despite these rather chaotic beginnings, the wedding gets underway. When the five girls return from their frantic shopping expedition, the groom refuses to open the door to them, saying he does not know them.

For Matthew wedding banquets are an image of the kingdom of heaven. What he is saying is that we do not know when the Messiah will return, any more than the girls knew when the bridegroom would come. The girls represent the Christian community waiting for the Messiah's return. Matthew divides them into 'wise and foolish.' He is using them to make one of his favourite points. The time between the resurrection and the return of the Son of Man is not 'empty time.' It is an opportunity for the followers of Jesus to prove they are his genuine disciples by devoting themselves to good works. That time is now. Like the wise bridesmaids, we must stand ready, with our lamps lit. We must not be caught unprepared. ■

REFLECT

In November 1962, Pope John XXIII received some very bad news. His doctors informed him that he had cancer and that it was inoperable. He had only a few months left to live.

It must have come as a tremendous disappointment to Pope John because there was still so much he wanted to do. Only a few weeks before, he had opened the first session of the Second Vatican Council, the great meeting of the world's bishops that he had summoned to examine church teaching and practice and consider the church's place in the world. Now, he knew he wouldn't be around to guide the Council or to witness its conclusions. He

would be gone before its vital work would be finished. But Pope John's response displayed none of that disappointment or any anxiety about the prospect of death. "A tumour," he replied. "Very well, let God's will be done. But don't worry about me because my bags are packed. I'm ready to go." And there's no doubt that his bags were packed and he was ready to go.

In the Gospel story, the five foolish bridesmaids allowed the oil in their lamps to run out. The wedding was delayed and they hadn't brought enough oil to keep their lamps lit, unlike the five wise bridesmaids who had brought sufficient oil. When the ceremony eventually got

SAY

"Lord, help me to be ever
prepared for your coming.
Amen."

PRAY

Today's first reading speaks of the importance of wisdom. Pray for the gift of wisdom, so that you will know what is truly important and what is not.

LEARN

The Christian must be ready for the Messiah when he comes in judgement at the end of time. If he does not find us ready, all he can say to us is "I do not know you." Like the wise bridesmaids, we must be faithful witnesses to our vocation, people who live by Christian values of justice, peace and love.

DO

Make an examination of conscience. Are you living in such a way that you are ready to meet the Lord whenever he calls you?

under way, the foolish ones were not allowed to participate in the celebration, they were left outside the door.

The ten bridesmaids represent us - the Christian community - waiting for the Messiah's return. Some are wise and some are foolish; some are prepared for his coming and some are not, some have their lamps lit, others have not. The point is that, like the wise bridesmaids, we must be always prepared, alert, ready for when the bridegroom will come. Like Good Pope John, we must have our bags packed, our lamps lit, for we do not know the day or the hour. ■



Sunday Mass Times: St.Oliver Plunkett: Sat Vigil: 6.30p.m.
St. Fursey's: Sun 9a.m. & 10.30a.m.

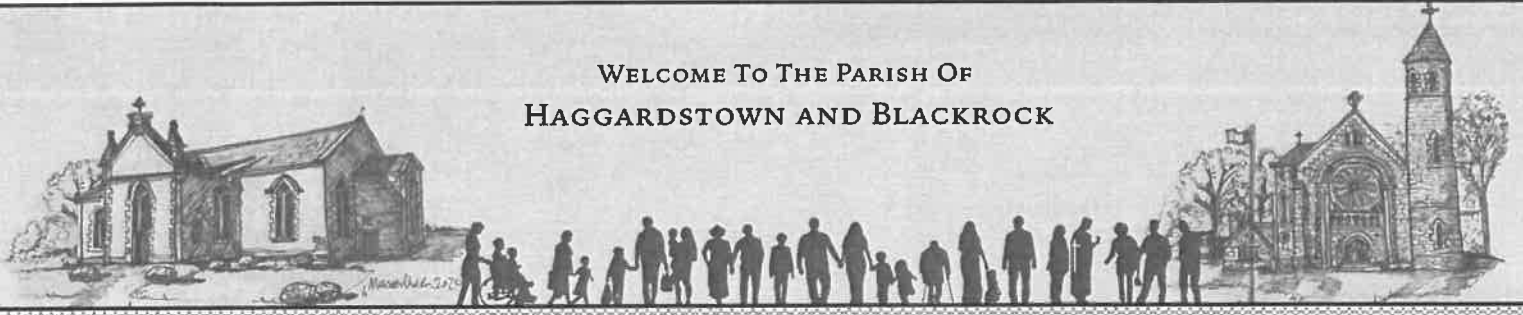
Weekday Masses: St. Oliver Plunkett: Mon-Wed, 10a.m.
St. Fursey's: Thurs-Sat 9a.m.

All Masses (weekdays & Sundays are online) Av. Masses may be offered at any Mass. Months Mind Masses at Sat Vigil and Sundays.

Confession: Every Saturday at 6pm in St. Oliver Plunkett Church.

Divine Mercy Chaplet: Each Friday at 10a.m. in St. Oliver Plunkett Church.

WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF
HAGGARDSTOWN AND BLACKROCK



Novena Prayers: in honour of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal are said at 10a.m. Mass on Monday.
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Every Tues in St. Fursey's Church, from 6pm until 7pm also in St Oliver Plunkett Church every Mon - Sat 9a.m. to 9.50a.m.
Baptisms: To make arrangements for the Celebration of the Sacrament. Tel 042-9321621.
Baptisms will be celebrated each Saturday by arrangement.
The Sacrament of Marriage: To make arrangements contact 042-9321621. At least three months notice must be given to the Priest of the Parish.

Fr. Padraig Keenan P.P. Parochial House, Chapel Rd, Haggardstown, Dundalk. Tel: (042 9321621)
email: pkballygoley@hotmail.com
Rev Dermot Clarke Deacon. c/o Parochial House, Chapel Rd, Haggardstown, Dundalk, email dkclarke@eircom.net

Parish Pastoral Council
The purpose of the Parish Pastoral Council of Haggardstown and Blackrock is to be a faith group that aims to promote the Gospel teachings of Jesus Christ within our parish community. Recognising the diversity of our parish community, we commit to do this by reaching out in an open and compassionate way. The purpose of the Parish Pastoral Council plan and vision is to focus its energies on the following areas:
1.Renewing our Baptism. 2. Growing as a Community. 3. Celebrating our Faith.

Parish Office Hours: 8-30a.m.-11-30a.m. Mon-Thurs.
Tel 042-9366575. Parish E-mail: handbparish@outlook.com
Website: http://www.hbp.ie
Parish Secretary. Sean Watters. email: seanwat67@gmail.com

Parish Instagram Page is hbparish

Sacrament of First Confession & Holy Communion. Do this in Memory Mass.
St. Oliver Plunkett N.S: Sun 19th Nov at 12 noon. Mass in St. Oliver Plunkett Church, Blackrock.
St. Fursey's N.S: Sun 26th Nov at 10.30a.m. Mass in St. Fursey's Church, Haggardstown.
St. Francis N.S: Sun 10th Dec at 12 noon. Mass in St. Oliver Plunkett Church, Blackrock.

Family of God Prayer Meeting: Each Thurs in the Legion of Mary Hall, Sandy Lane, Blackrock at 7.30p.m. *(Jn1:30) All are welcome*

The Parish List of the Dead: November is a special month in which we remember our departed relatives and friends. We remember them through our personal, family, communal and praying for them at liturgies and by visiting the cemetery. The November Dead List and envelopes are available in the entrances to our Churches. We invite you to take one and return it.
The deceased will be prayed for at Liturgies and Masses.

Diocesan Prayer & Spirituality Commission: Prayer Fest 2023: in Franciscan Missionary Sisters, Mount Oliver, Dundalk on Sat Nov 25th from 10.00a.m. to 1.00p.m. The theme is 'Jesus our servant King' with the celebration of Mass, talk and discussion and Taize prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome.

The Pope's Monthly Intention: For the Pope: We pray for the Holy Father, as he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Week of Witness Campaign, 20th-27th Nov 2023:
Remembering Christians around the world who have been persecuted because of their faith.
Prayer for persecuted Christians.

O God of all nations,
the one God who is and was and always will be
in your providence you willed that your Church
be united to the suffering of your Son.
Look with mercy on your servants
who are persecuted for their faith in you.
Grant them perseverance and
courage to be worthy imitators of Christ.
Bring your wisdom upon leaders of nations
to work for peace among all peoples.
May your Spirit open conversion for those
who contradict your will, that we may live in harmony.
Give us the grace to be united in truth and freedom,
and to always seek your will in our lives.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sacrament of Baptism: We congratulate and welcome into our Parish Community.
Dáithí Gerard Declan Long. Kyron Jay Mulligan-Callan. Sadie Kate Homer.

All notices for bulletin must be left in by 6p.m. on Wed evening, and include a contact name and telephone number.

Society of St. Vincent De Paul: The Annual Christmas Appeal will take place at all Masses on the weekend of the 4th -5th Dec. The first collection will take place after the Offertory Procession. The Parish collection will take place after Holy Communion. The local St. Oliver Plunkett Conference of the Society are truly grateful to the support of all in their work.

Totus Tuus Scripture Conference 2023 is live on Radio Maria Ireland on Sat 18th Nov from 2p.m. Speakers include Fr. John Ryan (Cloyne Diocese), Fr. Luke Demasi (Home of the Mother), Fr. John McEneaney (Waterford & Lismore Diocese), Frances Hogan (Scripture Scholar). Radio Maria Ireland can be listened to by downloading the Radio Maria Ireland App, Saorview Channel 210 or listen live at 01-4373277

Geraldines G.F.C. Lotto Results Tues 7th Nov.
Numbers drawn 6, 24, 30, 32 for jackpot of €13,000.
No jackpot winner. 2 match 3 winners share €200.
Next draw Tues 14th Nov for €13,200.

Clermont Chorale
presents
Winter Wonderland
A 20th Anniversary Celebration
Musical Director: Ronan Dennedy
Featuring Glas Quartet
Sun 10th Dec. 2023 at 7p.m.
in St. Oliver Plunkett Church, Blackrock.
Tickets €15

St. Oliver Plunkett Church Main Car Park Wall: Detailed is the description of work undertaken to the wall and cost of same. Erecting temporary fencing around works and protect existing tarmac with plywood sheeting. Demolish existing wall and excavate foundations, cutting into rock with a small rock hammer and excavator, to avoid damage to tarmacadam. Suitable backfill material stored on site and remaining material disposed off site.
Place reinforced concrete foundation. Construct 215mm concrete block wall with intermittent piers, incorporating contraction joints. Place specialist precast concrete capping to match existing. Backfill void behind wall with excavated rock and imported material. Continue existing timber fence, to a slope to meet new wall. Make good to render of existing adjoining wall. Cut edge of existing tarmacadam to achieve a straight line and infill tarmacadam to meet the new wall. The cost was €12,706.41.

Parish Offertory Collection
(Online, Weekly Envelope & Basket)
4th / 5th Nov 2023. €3,488.78

Thanks to all for their support.
Contributions to Support your Parish can now be made online at
Parish Website www.hbp.ie Click, Support
In supporting the Financial well being of the Parish, one can also do so through the Weekly Envelope Collection.
We invite parishioners who would like to avail of the Weekly Envelope to contact the Parish Office: 042-9366575.

Requiescant in Peace: *Fr. Brian White, Armagh. Wayne Rogers, Ard Shee. Mary Duffy, Point Road. Marie Donohue, Blackrock, Dublin. Joan Bailey, Belfry Crescent.*

St. Oliver Plunkett's Blackrock			St. Fursey's Haggardstown		
Sat 11 th	6.30p.m.	McQuillan Family. John Savage. Marie Donohue.	Sun 12 th	9a.m. 10.30a.m.	Robert 'Bobby' Armstrong. M.M. John & Carmel Martin. Brid & Al Connolly. Patrick & Kathleen Reenan. Jimmy & Christine Maguire.
Sun 12 th	12noon.	Deceased Members of Legion of Mary. Brian Morris.	Thurs 16 th	9a.m.	Tommy & Margaret Martin and Deceased Family Members.
Mon 13 th	10a.m.	Special Intention.	Fri 17 th	9a.m.	
Tues 14 th	10a.m.	Special Intention.	Sat 18 th	9a.m.	
Wed 15 th	10a.m.		Sun 19 th	9a.m. 10.30a.m.	Michael Mackin Snr. Vincent Prendergast. M.M. Bernie Keyes. Joe & Kathleen Thornton & Deceased Family. Hugh & May O'Connor and Matthews Family.
Sat 18 th	6.30p.m.	Rita & Joe Mulvihil. John & Una Donaghy. Aine Buckley.			
Sun 19 th	12 noon.	Stephen Carroll.			