

Parish of St. Jude the Apostle's Newsletter
Saturday 20th Sunday 21st December 2025
Fourth Sunday of Advent
A Warm Welcome to all to our Church.
Thank you for joining us for Mass.



Mass Times

St Judes: Mon (except BH), Wed, Fri 10.00am // Sat 5.30 pm // Sun 10.00am.

St Pius X: Tue, Thu 10.00am // Sat 7.00pm // Sun 11.30am //

St Pius X First Friday 7.00pm. **Taize Mass: St Jude's Dec 7th.** 7.30pm

St Judes Additional Information

Tuesday morning Prayer Service and Holy Communion 10.00am

Thurs morning Rosary and Holy Communion 10.00am, Adoration 9.15 to 11.00am

Friday morning Adoration 1030am -1.00pm.

Saturday morning 10.00, Prayer Service with Holy Communion.

Confessions on request to Fr. Pat.

St Judes Parish Office Opening Hours: Monday, Wednesday,
Friday 09.30 – 12.30. Closed Tuesday & Thursday.
Email stjudesparishwillington@gmail.com
Phone +353 (0)1 4600127, **Eircode D6W YH51.**
Parish website www.stjudesparish.net

Mass Intentions

Saturday 20th 5.30pm

Joan Deasy (Rec Dec),	Stephanie Feeney (Rec Dec),
Mary Brangan (Rec Dec),	John Murphy (1 st Anniv),
Grace Ward (44 th Anniv),	Michael Williams (B/Day Rem),
Christy McCarthy (B/Day Rem),	Donors Intentions.

Sunday 21st 10.00am

Sadie Lawless (Months Mind),	Gertrude Mills (Anniv),
Bridie + Seamus Sullivan (Annivs),	Eileen Manzor (Anniv),
Brigid Ryan (Anniv),	Kay Colfer (Anniv),
Nuala Downes (Anniv),	Mary Jane Tuite (40 th Anniv).

Parish Centre Office – Mass Cards, Baptismal Candles, Rosary beads are available in Parish Office. **Baptisms** are held Monthly in St Judes on the 3rd Sunday and in St Pius X on 1st Sunday. More Information in the Parish Office.

Bookings for Anniversary Masses etc. Please give one Months' notice. All anniversary and remembrance masses must be booked through the Parish Office.

NOTICES:

St Jude's Parish Office will be closed from Monday 22nd December. It will reopen on Monday 5th January 2026

Cosy Corner Café will open as follows 22nd and 23rd open 0900 – 1400. Christmas Eve Breakfast orders for home delivery should be ordered by Monday 22nd Phone Tom 0831838006. The Café will close at 1400 on 23rd and will reopen on Monday 5th January 2026. Happy Christmas to all our customers.

Fr Pat's Christmas Message

There are many reasons, some global, some closer to home, some very personal to struggle with Joy these days. Our news / media feeds us with negativity and the marketeers bombard us with promises of Joy if only we'd buy this product or service.

Meanwhile approximately 132 million babies were born worldwide last year, over 54,000 in Ireland. On one level childbirth is among the most common of human experiences and yet there is something about the mystery of a baby's birth that overwhelms us, that breaks us out of whatever darkness might be compelling us. We are drawn to give thanks and praise for this common place miracle. There is still wonder in placing our finger into a tiny and perfect hand, and small fingers curl around and grasp ours.

We remember that this is how God has chosen to be 'Emmanuel' (*God is with us*) in the birth of a baby to unknown people in a then unknown backwater of the world. The birth of Jesus is God's promise that he is always close at hand. He appears not in the splendour of a royal palace but in a small stable, not in pomp and power, but in simplicity of life. The birth of Jesus calls us to look beyond the fleeting illusions of certainty and all our worldly cravings to rediscover in the simplicity of this Christ Child, the real hope of peace, joy and love.

A baby is God's opinion that the world should go on. Lets each try to embrace the world more fully in 2026, in our attitudes and actions, as we lovingly place our finger into the tiny perfect hand of Jesus this Christmas. May you all find peace, joy, rest and hope in your families and our Christian community, this Christmas. ***Fr Pat***

Taize Mass this Sunday 7.30pm. Celebrant Fr. Diarmuid Sheehan. Entrance through Rossmore door. All are most welcome.

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

Pope Leo will give his first **"Urbi et Orbi"** blessing from St Peter's Basilica at 11am (Irish Time) on Christmas Day. His message can be viewed on the Holy See website and on RTE 1 television.

Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord Tuesday 6th January

St Pius X 10am *and* 7pm evening Masses **St Jude** 10am morning Mass

Thank you to all who assisted with the beautiful Carol Service last Sunday and who helped with preparation and distribution of the Christmas Card / Dues envelopes.

Light Up a Life Christmas Cards for the Hospice in Harolds Cross are available for sale in the Parish Office.

Message from Father Pat At this time of year, it is nice and proper to take time to reflect and to say a very big Thank You to all the wonderful people all who helped keep our Parish vibrant. In no particular order, my thanks to Altar Servers, Tommy, Parish Office Team, Gardeners, Church Flower arrangers, Cleaners, Parish Web Design, Choir, Organist, Folk Group, Taize Group, Prayer Groups, Parish Council, Collectors and all the many other people from this Parish and from other Parishes who helped the priests and Deacon Gerry. May God Bless you.

CROSSCARE CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2025 Please support our 2025 Christmas Food Poverty Appeal at www.crosscare.ie or call 01 8360011

READINGS

A reading from the prophet Isaiah. (Is 7:10-14)

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.' Then Isaiah said: 'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Emmanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".' *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

Psalms 23:1-6 R **Let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory.**

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples.

It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm.. R

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God

who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. R

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans. (Rm 1:1-7)

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures. This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace. *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

Alleluia, alleluia! The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. (Mt 1:18-24)

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and said 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home. *The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

Jesus has come once at Bethlehem. He will come again in glory. In the meantime he comes to whoever opens their heart to receive him.