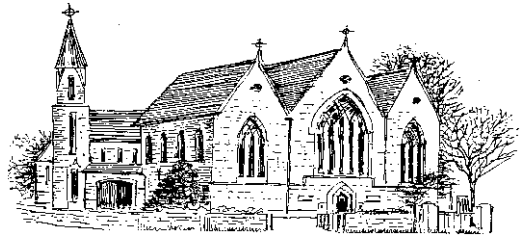


WEEKLY BULLETIN

**St. Mary's, Star of the Sea,
Sandymount**



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Sunday 30th November 2025

**Parish Office 6683894 / 6683316 – Monday, Thursday, Friday 9.30 – 12.30
Fr. Enda Cunningham PP Tel. 087 138 0695 Fr. John McDonagh
sandymountparish@eircom.net
www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.com**

MASS TIMES: Sunday Mass: Vigil, Sat. 6.p.m.; Sun. 10.30 a.m. and 12 noon. **Weekday Masses:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday 7.30 a.m.; Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 10.00 a.m.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEKEND

Your prayers are requested this weekend for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Damien Reade, Fergus Murray, Seamus Cleary, Sr. Frances Teresa Dunne, Mary and Martin Boughan, Pdraig Allen, Kevin Dowling.

**MAY THEIR SOULS, AND THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED, THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD,
REST IN PEACE. AMEN.**

YOUNG ORGANISTS OF THE FUTURE

Organ Recital This Sunday, 30th November, at 5 p.m.

We are delighted to announce that students from Technical University Dublin, Blaithin Cotter and Mickey Tomas, under the direction of their Lecturer in Organ, Simon Harden, will present a programme of organ music on our beloved, restored organ this weekend, Sunday 30th November at 5 p.m. Both Blaithin and Mickey are renowned as up and coming organists. All are welcome and entrance is free. Donations will be gratefully received.

Survive & Thrive - Support post-cancer treatment

Information is available on posters on the notice boards in the Church about 4 free 8-week programmes hosted by the Marie Keating Foundation, two online and two in person, to assist those who have undergone successful cancer treatment and who may benefit from the experience of others. Begins 6th January 2026. enquiries to fsullivan@mariekeating.ie or phone Fiona on 087 9657144

Family Offering Envelopes 2026 Weekly Offerings

Welcome new Parishioners! Please drop in your name and address to the Parish Office at your convenience as we will be updating our records starting in January.

PARENTS – HAVE YOUR SAY

The current Department of Education survey on the future of patronage in the primary sector is important as it will shape the discussion on primary school divesting for the years to come throughout our Country. The survey is **school specific** and needs to be responded to by **all parents and prospective parents locally**. It is important that those who wish for a change in patronage would have their voice heard. It is equally important that those who wish for a Catholic education for their children, and the support for sacramental preparation available in Catholic schools, would have their voice heard also. For those reasons and to ensure that an accurate picture emerges, **please participate in this survey if you are a parent** or a prospective parent of a Primary school student. The survey can be accessed at www.gov.ie/primaryschoolsurvey/ <<http://www.gov.ie/primaryschoolsurvey/>>. **It closes on Tuesday, December 16.**

CHURCH COLLECTIONS

The amounts collected last week:

16th November, 2025:

1st collection €410 (Common Fund)

2nd collection: €785 (Share)

The Four Advent Candles Each Have Meaning

The four candles of Advent represent the four Sundays of Advent, and they respectively symbolize hope, peace, joy, and love. In some homes and parishes, people will also light a fifth candle on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to represent the birth of Jesus; this candle, when added to the Advent wreath, is typically white and larger than the other candles and is placed in the centre of the wreath.

Advent candle weeks, names & colors:

Advent week 1 – Hope: Prophecy Candle (purple)

Advent week 2 – Peace: Bethlehem Candle (purple)

Advent week 3 – Joy: Shepherd's Candle (pink)

Advent week 4 – Love: Angel's Candle (purple)

First Advent Candle/Sunday: Hope

“Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world.” – C.S. Lewis

It is only fitting that the first candle on the Advent wreath represents Hope – the first Sunday of Advent not only leads us to anticipate the birth of Christ but celebrate the beginning of a new liturgical season as well. The first candle is purple, the primary color of Advent and a colour symbolizing royalty. Sometimes called the “Prophecy Candle,” the first candle harkens us back to Isaiah’s foretelling of the birth of Christ and all of the promises God gave us in the Old Testament that would be fulfilled by the birth of Jesus. This Advent, light the first candle on Sunday, December 1, 2024.

Work in the Back of the Church This Coming Week

The back of the Church will be closed after the 7:30 Mass on Wednesday and again after the 10am Mass on Thursday for sanding and lacquering. The Shrines may not be accessible during these times.