

Useful Contacts

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 Phone: 01 288 3970

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Our Meeting Room is now available for use
 by groups at moderate rates
 Contact the Parish Office at 01-2832988
 The parish Good News Stand has cards,
 candles, gifts and books for general reading
 and all occasions.

NEWPARK ORTHODONTICS FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN
 Dr Máirín O'Donnell, Specialist Orthodontist
 THIS COULD BE YOU!
 70 Newtownpark Avenue, Blackrock.
 01-2104588 www.dublinbraces.ie
FREE CONSULTATION

MARIAN GALE
 8 The Mall, Donnybrook, Dublin 4.
New Collection for 2012 is now in stock
 We are now open Sundays from 1.00 to 5.00 p.m. during December
Holy Communion Dresses available from €200
 We stock socks, tights, gloves, bags shoes, veils, head pieces and cardigans
 We also list your school so no two dresses turn up on the day.

Your Space for Local Services
 Our quarterly newsletter is delivered to over
 2,000 households in the parish
 For advertising information contact the
 Parish Office, tel 01-2832988, email:
 newtownparkparish@eircom.net



Guardian Angels Parish Quarterly

Volume 3: Issue 4

December 2011

Newtownpark Avenue Parish Office 2832988 Email: newtownparkparish@eircom.net
 www.newtownparkparish.com

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CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Give God one very special gift just from you to him:
 Let this gift be something personal that no one else needs to know about. Perhaps your gift will be to commit to spending more time with God.
Plan a project of good will this Christmas
 Do you have an elderly neighbour in need of home repairs or a simple visit? Find someone with a genuine need, involve your whole family and see how happy you can make someone this Christmas.
Send Christmas Cards that convey a spiritual message
 This is an easy way to share your faith at Christmastime.
Write a Christmas letter to a missionary
 Many missionaries are unable to travel home for the holidays, so it can be a very lonely time. Write a letter thanking them for giving their life in service to the Lord—it will mean more than you can imagine.

We, your priests, take this opportunity to wish all our parishioners and all those who worship in the Church of the Guardian Angels every Christmas Blessing and God's Peace throughout the New Year.

Fr Dermot Leycock, PP
 Fr Seamus Toohey, CC

Fr William Fortune, CC
 Fr J Anthony Gaughan, PE



Christmas at The Church of The Guardian Angels Newtownpark Avenue Blackrock
 Left: Main Altar with Tree
 Right: The Parish Crib



Church of The Guardian Angels, Newtownpark - Christmas Masses and Services

Tuesday	20th December	Penance Service:	7.00 p.m.
Saturday	24th December	Christmas Masses	Christmas Vigil Mass 7.00 p.m.
Christmas Eve			Christmas Night Mass 9.00 p.m.
Sunday	25th December		09.30 a.m., 10.45 a.m. and 12.00 noon
Christmas Day			No evening Mass on Christmas Day.
Monday	26th December		10.00 a.m. only
Bank Holiday			
Tuesday	27th December until Thursday 5th January 2012		Mass at 10.00 a.m.
Saturday	31st December		Vigil Mass 7.00 p.m.
Thursday	5th January		Vigil Mass 7.00 p.m.
Friday	6th January		9.30 a.m., 10.45 a.m. and evening Mass at 7.00 p.m.
	Feast of the Epiphany		
Saturday	17th December	Confessions	10.00 a.m.—12.00 noon
Friday	23rd December		10.00 a.m.—12.00 noon



Parish News Round-up

Guardian Angels' National School

As we approach the Christmas season, the school is a hive of activity with each class participating in several events.

Our annual school walk in association with the P.T.A. was a huge success and helped raise funds for the school.

Our Christmas shoe box appeal this year saw over 219 boxes of presents being sent to children in countries who are not as fortunate as us. This event gives the children a great sense of sharing and humanity.

Junior classes are having fun preparing for their Christmas plays which will take place mid December. All classes are practising for the Carol Service.

We are all looking forward to our annual cake sale which takes place on Friday December 9th. Many children and parents will be afforded the opportunity to display their cake making skills through our cake baking competitions.

Mrs. Grace and her 2nd class are to be highly congratulated in the making of the Abundance Prayer Video on the 24th November this year. We are all looking forward to watching it and participating in the prayer.

As part of our Green Schools Programme—Travel theme all 6th class pupils are currently involved in a safe cycle scheme skills and bike maintenance. 5th class have undertaken a walk ability audit with the help of An Taisce to encourage parents and pupils to “walk and park or stride” to school.

Many thanks to all our parents for the very successful recent formal parent/teacher meetings.

We wish all parishioners a happy and safe Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

“The Chifundo Cookbook”

The Chifundo Foundation founded by **The Cogavin family** in 2006 set out to educate under-privileged Children in Zomba, Malawi.

Last month, as a fundraiser Elaine Cogavin compiled and produced the “Chifundo Cookbook” now available at a cost of €10. The aim in this book was to gather “tried and tested” recipes which have really worked for people. The recipes are laid out in a simple way, easy to follow and in general contain simple ingredients, readily available. Elaine hopes that you may find this book attractive, useful and enjoyable from which to work.

A great Christmas Gift too!



Book Choice

The “Good News Stand” has a wonderful selection of books at present. Hereunder is just a flavour of the best sellers:

Title	Author
Be not Afraid I go Before You.	Imelda K. Butler
Dancing with Dinosaurs	Mark Patrick Hederman
Ten Popes who shook The World	Eamon Duffy
Exploring Eucharist	Donal Harrington
Your Sunday Missal	
Youcat	Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Gifts, novelties, religious objects and cards for all occasions are also available from the Good News Stand.

Our unsung Heroes- The Collectors

Do we take for granted The Collectors? Perhaps we do and if so, it is because each weekend they quietly, systematically and unobtrusively attend to the collections. It is an important role in the day to day management of the parish and we are truly grateful to them for their unfailing work.

To the team of Collectors, we say a very sincere thanks.

Your Gardening Fortune Seasonal Tips by Father Bill

Geraniums are versatile plants suitable for jardinières, or bedding plants. They blossom right through the summer and into the late Autumn. In order to protect these plants against the frost, they should be taken out of the beds and put into pots, wrapped generously with garden fleece and placed in the green-house for the winter months. If the winter is harsh, one cannot guarantee success, but if the winter is relatively mild, your effort should be rewarded by having good healthy plants for the following Spring.



Volunteer Groups



International Eucharistic Congress 2012 - Volunteers Urgently Needed

Volunteers will have an integral role to play in the success of the forthcoming **Eucharistic Congress**. It is hoped to have at least **10 people** volunteer from each parish in Dublin. Volunteers are needed for a wide range of roles including general administration, stewarding, meet and greet, pastoral preparation, IT., transport, medical, multimedia and much more!

If you think you can help, please give your name, phone number and Email address to the Parish Office.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul - Guardian Angels' Conference



The Society was founded in Paris in 1833 by Frederic Ozanam and was established in Ireland in 1844. Guardian Angels' Conference celebrated its fortieth anniversary on the 9th December 2009.

At present there are seven members and two auxiliary members. We meet once a week on Monday evenings for about one hour.

The confidential phone number is 086 890 7800.

We are a visitation conference, our primary work consists of home visitations and providing help, both financial and advisory, to anyone who might need our help. In winter months we provide a fuel allowance where needed and in summer we try to arrange holidays

for seniors and families at one of the Vincent De Paul holiday sites.

The Society Conferences of better off parishes are twinned with Conferences of less well off parishes. We are twinned with Cherry Orchard parish, we help them at Christmas and throughout the year and we also help Mulhuddard at Christmas. We are part of Dublin South Area Council, our president is a member of the Dublin South Committee and we contribute to the council with our surplus funds throughout the year. All our funds are derived from our monthly church collections and donations. Our current President is Patrick Stanley, a member of the parish.

New members are always welcome.

Parish Development

The commissioning of the Aumbry Stained Glass and Memoriam Panel Stained Glass marks the final stage of the New Gathering Area which commenced in 2009. The sketches in the panels illustrate the theme proposed by **Artist George Walsh** expressing the religious sentiments associated with the entering and departing of this life in the Christian Tradition. It was proposed that **Michelle O'Donnell** also an eminent glass artist would collaborate in the preparation of these panels in fused art glass. This concluding phase is scheduled for completion in the early New Year. **Our Parish extends its appreciation to all those who have made it possible to bring our Gathering Area Project to completion.**



Photos show Michelle O'Donnell working on the Panels

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish now has a Pastoral Council. Its President, Fr. Dermot Leycock, will soon introduce members to the Parish at a Sunday Mass and invoke a blessing on them and their work. This will also be an opportunity to hear of their ideas on how they propose to serve parishioners.

Most of those who were nominated for membership committed themselves to serve on the new Council. They committed themselves at the end of a process of discernment that gave them a clearer vision of the role of the Council and the contribution they could make. At the same time they thanked Leonard Kaye, pastoral worker, for enabling them to reach this point. They also proposed an agenda and date for the initial meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council, Monday 12th December. At this meeting they intend to start to plan how best to fulfil their role and commitment to engage with everyone in the parish.