



## 2nd Sunday of Advent 8th December 2024

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### MASS TIMES AT CLONARD

#### Public Mass & Masses via Webcam

**Sunday (Vigil Sat- 7.30pm)**, 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am, and 12.30pm.  
**Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri.**  
7.00am, 9.30am and 6.15pm.  
**Thursday (Novena)** 7.00am, 9.30am, 6.15pm and 8.00pm.  
**Saturday** 7.00am, 9.30am & 12.00 Noon.



We thank you for last week's collection which came to £2,528 for Clonard, £844 for the Bishop's collection. Also for your kind donations, online and by post.

**Clonard Annual Christmas Carol Service** is today, Sunday 8th December at 6pm, with Clonard Choir & Clonard Folk Choir. The congregation is invited to bring gifts of toys, games, toiletries, etc., (**no perishables please**) to be left at the Crib and distributed to those in need by SVP.



### Feast of The Immaculate Conception will be held on Monday 9th December

Mass times: 7.00am. 9.30am & 6.15pm.

**NO VIGIL MASS ON SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER**

Please take a copy of the Advent & Christmas schedule now available from the back of the Church and at Reception.

### This Sunday's Scripture Readings:

*Baruch 5:1-9* Baruch looks to the day when God will guide all people, bringing them joy.  
*Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11* Paul encourages the people of Philippi, and tells them to prepare inwardly for the 'Day of Christ Jesus'.  
*Luke 3:1-6* John the Baptist's words and actions remind the people of Isaiah's call to repentance.

### Prepare the Way of the Lord

John's Gospel message today is timeless. In today's world, we are often overwhelmed by the noise and busyness of our daily lives. We are constantly bombarded with information, distractions, and responsibilities that can pull us away from our spiritual journey. John's call to "prepare the way of the Lord" invites us to pause, reflect, and realign our priorities.

Advent is a season of waiting and anticipation. It is a time to slow down and create space for God in our lives. Just as John the Baptist urged the people of his time to repent and turn back to God, we too are called to examine our hearts and make room for Christ. This might mean letting go of grudges, forgiving others, or seeking forgiveness ourselves. It could involve simplifying our lives, focusing on what truly matters, and being more present to those around us.

In our modern context, preparing the way for the Lord can also mean advocating for justice, peace, and compassion in our communities. It involves being a voice for the voiceless, standing up against injustice, and working towards a world that reflects God's love and mercy. As we light the second candle of Advent, the candle of peace, let us remember that true peace begins with a heart transformed by God's grace.

This Advent, let us heed John's call to prepare the way of the Lord. Let us strive to create a world where Christ's love and peace can flourish. In doing so, we not only prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth but also for His presence in our daily lives and in the world around us.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2024

The Annual Christmas Church Door Collection will take place today. Collectors will be in the car-park after Mass, with their blue buckets. All donations/vouchers are gratefully accepted.  
**Wishing you all a very Peaceful Christmas and thank you for all your help throughout the year.**

Many families will face impossible choices this Christmas.



### **CLONARD SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE NOTICE**

The **Clonard Safeguarding Committee** meets regularly to monitor and review the implementation of Policies and procedures. Further information and our safeguarding policy are available on our website <https://www.clonard.com/safeguarding/>