



## 2nd Sunday of Advent 4th December 2022

CLONARD MONASTERY  
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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 £2,134.  
Also for your kind donations, online and by post.  
The Bishop's collection will be included today.

**Clonard Choir will sing Evening Prayer today, Sunday, 4th December at 6.00pm.**

### Feast of The Immaculate Conception Thursday 8th December

Mass times: Vigil Mass Wednesday 7th Dec., 6.15pm.,  
Thursday 8th Dec.: 7.00am. 9.30am & 6.15pm & 8pm.



### CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

The Christmas Carol Service will take place next  
**Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6.00pm.** Everyone is welcome.



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

Fr Gerry Cassidy was born in 1940, the second child in a family of two girls and six boys.

He received the names Michael Gerard at baptism but, because his father was called Michael, he was always known and called Gerard by his family. He left school at 14 and trained as a motor mechanic. In 1962 he went to Brazil and worked there with the Redemptorists for three and a half years. And then returned to Ireland and entered the Formation programme. Professed as a Redemptorist in 1967 and ordained on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1973.



He didn't ever return to Brazil: ministered for almost 50 years in Ireland – all but 8 of them on the northern side of the border. [Esker for three years/Dundalk for four years.] After three years at St Clement's [1974 – 1977] – where he and Fr Sean Keeney did Youth Ministry together – Fr Gerry moved to Clonard and spent thirteen years as a member of the Clonard Community. During those years he worked with Fr Gerry Reynolds in ecumenical ministry and, in 1984, he joined the staff of Corrymeela as a Christian Education Worker.

The Rev Alex Wimberly– Leader of the Corrymeela Community – posted a message the day after Fr Gerry died: “...we give thanks for the life of Fr Gerry. And we give thanks for this gentle servant, this washer of feet” – a reference to Jesus washing the feet of his disciples.

It was at St Gerard's, doing all the bits and pieces of parish ministry that he came into his own. He served two terms there as Parish Priest: 1993 – 2002/2008-2019. It was at St Gerard's he was most at home. It's where he really flourished.

His ministry there was very much a ministry of presence: he was there for the people of the parish – baptising their children; visiting the schools; marrying couples; attending the sick and the house-bound; celebrating so many funerals.

The people felt his closeness to them. They appreciated his gentleness; his sincerity; his availability. They loved him! And he loved them!

Father Gerry returned to Clonard in 2019.

He was basically – in the very best sense of the word – a simple person. He certainly had a mind of his own! But I think there weren't any angles to him. He was easy to live with: pleasant, friendly, good-humoured, undemanding. His smile lit up his face!

He loved to play a game of Scrabble; he spent hours doing a jigsaw; he enjoyed his food; he listened to Classic FM. He loved to be with his friends.

And, of course, he was also a great walker: for a number of years he travelled to Spain to walk the Camino.

To the end, Fr Gerry was deeply prayerful. May he rest eternally in God's peace.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2022

This year again, we are asking for cash or voucher donations instead of toys or food. If you wish to donate there are **SVDP blue envelopes** at the back of the Church which you can take away and bring back to us. Any donations are greatly appreciated and will help those families in need in this area. Please place the envelope in the box at the back of the Church.

**The last date for requests for assistance is Wednesday 14th December.**

**St Gall's Bazaar**, Sunday 4th December 1.00pm - 4.00pm, St Gall's Club House, Milltown Row, Falls Road

Many families will face impossible choices this Christmas.

 **ANNUAL APPEAL**  
Society of St. Vincent de Paul