



Second Sunday of Advent 7th December 2025



CLONARD MONASTERY 1 CLONARD GARDENS BELFAST BT13 2RL





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MASS TIMES AT CLONARD Public Mass and Masses via Webcam

Sunday 7:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am and 12:30pm

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 7:00am, 9:30am and 6:15pm

Thursday (Novena) 7:00am, 9:30am, 6:15pm and 8:00pm

Saturday 7:00am, 9:30am and 12:00 noon. Sunday Vigil Mass 7:30pm



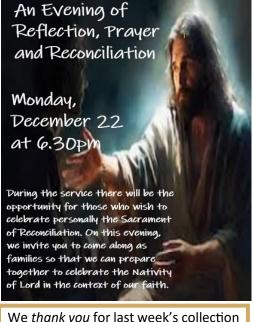
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The <u>Feast of The Immaculate Conception</u> will be held on **Monday 8th December.** Mass at: **7.00am. 9.30am and 6.15pm.**









We <u>thank you</u> for last week's collection which came to £3,059. Also your donations, online and by post.

REFLECTION - Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist's voice echoes through the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord." His message is urgent, but it's not just for the crowds by the Jordan, it is also for us today. He bursts onto the scene with a powerful wake-up call, proclaiming simply the massage "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

Advent is a season of preparation, not just for the Christmas celebrations, but for Christ Himself. John the Baptist reminds us that real preparation begins in the heart. It's about turning away from what distracts us and turning toward God with sincerity. For me, this passage says: "If I want to welcome Christ fully, I must clear the clutter in my soul." That means letting go of grudges, pride, and the endless rush that keeps me from prayer and actually living my religion. Repentance isn't about guilt, it's about freedom. It's choosing to live with purpose and hope.

My personal challenge this week is to take one small step to "prepare the way." Maybe it's five minutes of quiet prayer each day, or reaching out to someone you've been avoiding and give them your time, which although will cost you nothing could be priceless to them. Or maybe identify one specific, small, recurring action that pulls you away from being your best, (gossiping, scrolling mindlessly, getting angry in traffic). When that moment arises, consciously choose repentance instead: silence, a prayer, a kind word, or just a deep breath. these simple actions create space for Christ to enter our lifes. John's call is clear, don't just wait for Jesus, make room for Him. When we do, our lives become the very road on which He walks with us.

THIS SUNDAYS READINGS

Isaiah 11:1-10 Isaiah looks forward to the coming of a messiah, who will restore

harmony and justice.

Romans 15:4-9 Paul reminds us that the scriptures were written to teach about

God's promises.

Matthew 3:1-12 John the Baptist's call to repentance is described by Matthew.

SHRINE FOR THE DEAD

Please remember to <u>collect</u> your **Memoriam Cards, Photos**, etc. that you left at the **November Shrine**.

They are available on the tables at the <u>front of St Joseph's altar</u>.





ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

<u>Every Thursday</u> during Advent the <u>Blessed Sacrament</u> will be exposed after the **9.30am Mass until 5.30pm** for <u>personal adoration and prayer.</u>