



ST. GABRIEL'S NOTES

13th December 2020



A Different Christmas

We are being asked not to gather in large family groups to combat the Coronavirus. People are not coming home for Christmas. There are sacrifices for everyone.

In the Church we are trying to protect people and yet prepare for the coming of Jesus. Some churches have decided only to have Mass on webcam. Here as you know, we have an extra Christmas Mass, but even with six Masses cannot cater for what we would be accommodating at one Mass in previous years. We have sent out the details of our programme for Masses and other ways of welcoming Jesus.

Next weekend we will have the blessing of the "**Bambino**" for the cribs. We ask you to bring the infant from your crib to the church or else have it blessed on the webcam. The suggestion is that you wrap the infant figure and place it under the Christmas Tree with all the presents. The infant is God's gift to us and should be the first gift to be unwrapped on Christmas morning. We have included a blessing for your crib on our Christmas card.



Family Visits to the Crib

on Christmas Eve from 11am to 4pm

We encourage families to bring their children to see Jesus

Candle

We ask you to light a candle in your home on Christmas Eve to tell the Holy Family that they are welcome in your home. A Blessing of the Candle is included in the Christmas Card. Candles will be available in the Gathering Area of the Church on Saturday 19th from 12pm.



Masses for Christmas

Christmas Eve	5pm	7pm	9pm
Christmas Day	8.30	10.30	12.30

*** **Ticket Only** ***

Tickets are available next Saturday from 12 noon in the Gathering Area

Obviously with Government regulations only 100 are allowed for each Mass. Perhaps you might like to join us on the Parish Webcam. The Irish Bishops have suggested that families might come to Mass, instead of Christmas Eve or Day, on one of the 12 days of Christmas. Please make this a Happy Christmas for everyone, and observe the norms that will help us all to enjoy it safely. It will be different, and mean sacrifices, but hopefully only for one year.

Thank you for your patience.

Fr. Pat