

Feast of The Baptism of the Lord



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**...‘ my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways’.**

These words that God spoke through the prophet Isaiah, that we hear in the first reading at Mass today, are always relevant and particularly in our time. And God is close to us, He is near as the prophet reminds us. We are to listen, to pay attention to God who is freely available to us.

We listen and hear our mission to the peoples, to those around us and beyond. For this mission we are blessed like Jesus ‘

You are my Beloved; my favour rests on you.

’ These words were

spoken at Jesus’ baptism, but it’s surely not too much of a leap to believe that they were spoken

at our baptism too.

No public Masses for the foreseeable future

I will continue to join Fr Timothy for Sunday Mass on YouTube in Lobinstown. I will offer Mass each day along with the Mass on RTÉ News Now, at 10.30am, for booked Masses, when they arise. On other days, Mass will be offered for your intentions.

We pray for families with children awaiting baptism, in this time of pandemic, that God will bless them in a special way.

### THANKS

Thanks to all who helped us celebrate Christmas this year. Thanks to our sacristans, altar societies, choirs, stewards, cleaners and website administrator. Thanks for your cooperation in distributing the numbers at the Masses and your support for the parish funds throughout the year.

The Prophet Jeremiah wrote to the Jewish exiles in Babylon, in the 6th century BC, '*Work for the welfare of the city .... intercede with the Lord on its behalf for its prosperity will be your prosperity*' (Jer 29: 7). These were

controversial words at the time, encouraging cooperation with the enemies of the people, but are relevant to our time of restrictions. COVID-19 seems to be more prevalent and contagious in this third wave, so please cooperate with the guidelines, pray for safety and act in a safe way. Pray for all on the front line, those making and implementing important decisions and those administering the vaccines.

### ONLINE DONATIONS

Online donations can now be made to parish and diocesan collections via the Diocesan website [HERE](#)

Please read the note from the Bishop, attached below.

**Note from the Bishop:**

*There is now a live online donation facility via the Diocese of Meath website ([www.dioceseofmeath.ie](http://www.dioceseofmeath.ie)) which will allow individuals to donate either direct to their Parish of their choice or to one of the central Diocesan funds. There are two electronic 'Donate Buttons' on the front page of the website. The first button is called 'Parish Collections'. This button allows you to donate to any of our 69 Parishes to the Weekly Collection or the Clergy Collection. This money is credited to the central Diocesan bank account and at the end of each month any monies collected will be directly transferred to the relevant local parish bank account by the Diocesan finance department. The second button is called 'Diocesan Collections'. This allows a donor to donate to the central Diocesan fund, the fund for Sick and Retired Priests or the fund for the Training of Students for Priesthood.*