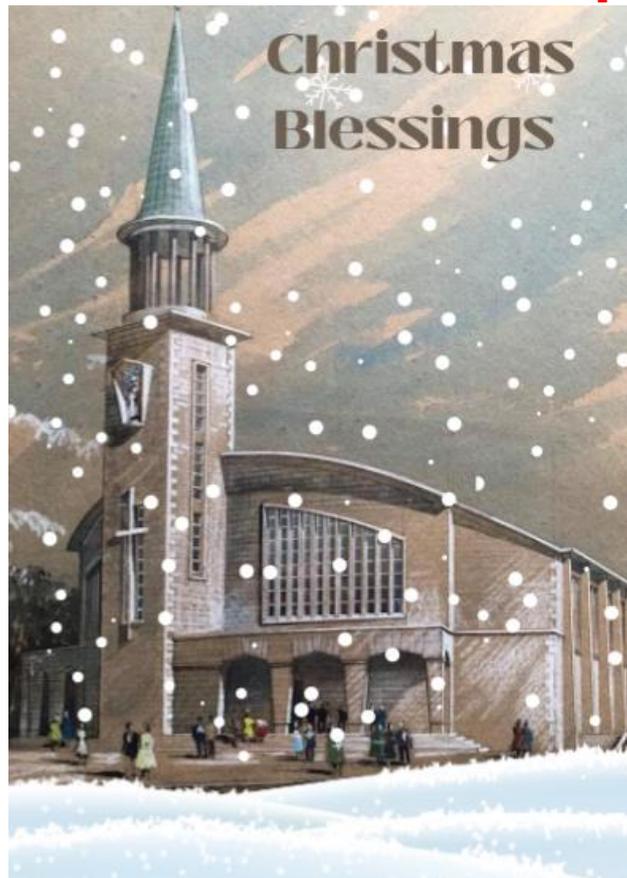


# **Parish Mass Times for Christmas 2021 at Our Lady Crowned Church – Upper Mayfield**



All Masses are livestreamed: [olcmyfield.ie/livestream](http://olcmyfield.ie/livestream)

## **Christmas Masses 2021**

**Christmas Eve: 3.00pm, 5.00pm and 7.00pm**

**Christmas Day: 9.30am and 12.00 noon**

**NO TICKETS REQUIRED**

## **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

### **Feast of the Holy Family**

**Mass Times: 9.30am and 12.00 noon**

**Blessing of Families will take place during Mass.**

## **Christmas Week 2021**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

**Mass each morning at 11.00am**

# Christmas Crib Prayer of Hope & Joy



**INFANT Jesus, may the light of hope, which shone at your birth, bring hope to our parish, community and country, especially to all who are suffering at this time.**

**Help all who have come home for Christmas to treasure the friendship of relatives and friends and find you in their loved ones.**

**Ease the loneliness of those without a home or who are far away from home and family.**

**Wipe away the tears of children.  
Care for the sick and the elderly.  
Comfort the bereaved.**

**EMMANUEL, God with us, make us more aware of the many ways you are with us.**

**Guide those in public life charged with finding a way forward.**

**God of peace, gift of peace for all of humankind, come to live in the heart of every individual and of every family.**

**Set those who have died free with everlasting peace this day. Be our peace and joy now and always.**

**May the happiness of this Christmas be for all a foretaste of the happiness of everlasting life. Amen.**

# The Three Kings in the Christmas Story



Many Christmas carols make mention of the three kings, who follow a star and come to pay homage to the baby Jesus in Bethlehem. In the Bible, they are not called kings, and their number is not specified - instead they are “wise men from the East.”

According to the Gospel of Matthew (Mt 1:24), a bright star led the Magi from the east until it stopped “over the place where the child was,” and “upon entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother”

The Magi knelt down in front of the baby Jesus and “offered him gifts of Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh.”

The story of the Magi and their names and their lands of origin are believed to be: Melchior hailed from Persia, Gaspar (also called “Caspar” or “Jaspar”) from India, and Balthazar from Arabia.

Their gifts had special symbolic meanings as well: Gold signified Jesus' status as “King of the Jews;” Frankincense represented the infant's divinity and identity as the Son of God; and Myrrh touched upon Jesus' mortality.