

St Michael's Parish, Blackrock, Cork

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20/07/2025

16th Sunday Ordinary Time

WEEKLY MASS LEAFLET UPDATES: Email to : parish@stmichaelsblackrock.ie

1245

BAPTISMS: Please contact the parish office. MARRIAGES: Minimum 3 months notice required by Church and State. Pre-marriage course required.

Mass Times Sundays: 9 am & 11 am Saturday Vigil: 6.00 pm Tuesday & Friday: 9.30 am Baptisms are held on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month at 4pm. Fr. Michael Keohane Co-PP



Recently Deceased Estelle O'Donovan, Beaumont Drive May the light of God surround her forever.



Baptism Páidí Eoin O'Sullivan. Finn Frank Downes. Nell Nora Russell. Harry Alan Twomey. Welcome to the Christian Family.



Hurler's Prayer It's great that we can all enjoy this All-Ireland weekend. Many will travel to Dublin for the match and many of us will stay at home to 'mind the house' and pray fervently for a Cork win. We send our best wishes to Alan Connolly, Robbie Cotter and Wayne Sherlock flying the flag for Cork and Blackrock this weekend.



Grant me O Lord, a hurler's skill, With strength of arm and speed of limb Unerring eye for the flying ball And courage to match whate'er befall May my stroke be steady, and my aim be true My actions manly and my misses few No matter what way the game may go May I rest in friendship with every foe When the final whistle for me has blown And I stand at last before God's judgement throne May the great referee when he calls my name Say, you hurled like a man; you played the game.

Second Collection for Diocesan Purposes – this weekend. Through your support, the Diocese of Cork and Ross provides vital support to our parishes in many areas, including Education, Religious Faith Formation in schools, Mission and Ministry, Youth Ministry, Safeguarding, and Stewardship and Governance. We also offer guidance in practical matters such as Data Protection, Finance, and Property.

Year of Prayer, Listening and Discernment Copies of Bishop Fintan's pastoral response are available at the back of the church. This Pastoral Letter and the thematic summary of the responses from our Family of Parishes and the diocese as a whole are available on the diocesan website www.corkandross.org

Fr. Michael 085 8735905 frmichael@corkandross.org

A brief introduction on Sunday's readings

First reading Genesis 18:1-10 God can be present to us in unexpected ways and especially through the people we meet, as we hear in this encouraging reading. The hospitality of Abraham is often depicted on icons. Second reading Colossians 1:24-28 As Christians, we believe God has spoken to us and disclosed himself in Jesus Christ. Who is he? He is our hope, our wisdom, our life. Gospel Luke 10:38-42 Balancing different aspects of life can be tricky for all of us and sometimes we miss what is truly essential. If you've ever felt this way, then this Gospel may speak to you.

The Papers Say..... Irish Catholic. (1). David Quinn: The Government promised abortion would be rare -- how wrong they were (see also -- abortions in Ireland hit record high of almost 11,000). (2). Towards a sensory friendly Mass -- Autism and the Church. 'The sensory-friendly Mass in Knock is the only time we can attend Mass as a family'. (3). 'I found my faith through default'. -- Former hurler Ciaran Carey on addiction, healing and the power of belief. (4). New pathway launched as synod enters new phase under Pope Leo XIV. Sacred Heart Messenger: (1). Fr. Kieran O'Mahony: New Pope. -- An Augustinian Pope. (2). Fr. Gerry O'Hanlon: New Pope -- Giving Thanks (3) The Pharisee and the Tax Collector. (4). Adult and Children's Crosswords.



Best wishes to Rockies involved with Cork



Catholic Papers – available in the church weekly. Thank you for your support particularly throughout the summer months when our routines can change somewhat.

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL July collection came to €2185 Many thanks for your generous continued support.

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL Fr. Michael has generously offered the poor box near the exit as a collection point for SVP. If you wish to contribute any time, it would be appreciated.

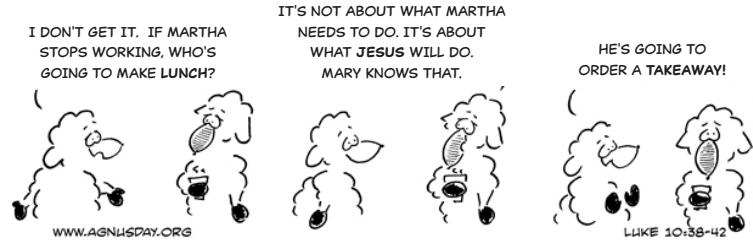
Christian hospitality In all cultures, hospitality is highly valued, prized even. To say someone is hospitable is to be very complimentary. It is a joy to be welcomed and it is a gift to able to make people feel welcome. Different cultures celebrate hospitality in different ways and one of the pleasures of travelling is to enjoy hospitality in new, perhaps unexpected ways. The world of the bible is no different. We can see it in today's first reading and also in the Gospel of Mary and Martha. Luke knows that hospitality, especially perhaps in the Middle East — has a practical side — unless someone prepares and prepares well, the guest will feel not quite welcomed. On the other hand, if the welcome stops at the level of the material expression of hospitality, at the formal and so to speak external levels, then the welcome will have fallen short. Luke also knows that it is the encounter which counts so that when you meet someone you really do meet the person. When that happens, then both host and guest will be truly refreshed. So the contrast is not so much between two ways of being but rather a contrast between an incomplete and a complete welcome. The ultimate goal is not simply to serve the guest but to attend to the guest fully as a whole person, to connect, as we say today.



Reflections 1. The two sisters symbolise the contemplative and active dimensions of life, at times difficult to balance. What wisdom have you learned through life experiences on how to strike a balance between prayer and action? 2. Many people misunderstand hospitality. They worry and fret about decorating the house and preparing abundant food. Yet sometimes it is something else that is needed to make people feel at home, namely, to sit with guests and to listen to them speaking. What has been your experience of being a cherished guest and when have you been able to make others feel welcome and at home? 3. We can make the same mistake in relation to people who are important to us in life: children, friends, parents, or others. We can worry and fret about doing things for them when perhaps the important thing is to give them time and to listen to them. What does your experience tell you? 4. When it comes to welcoming God into our lives, one appropriate response is to give time listening to God's word. When have you found time devoted to the word of God enriching for you? PRAYER Eternal God you draw near to us in Christ and make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our daily lives, make us attentive to your voice and alert to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Thought for the day Being busy is a sort of cultural value among us—and rightly. “If you want something done, ask a busy person.” But, of course, the question of balance arises. There are indeed other needs and other hungers. These include simple human things like time for friends. Even hospitality—which is always work—can get in the way of really meeting. Something similar can be said of time for reflection, meditation and prayer. Time is not really the issue—after all, we manage to find time to waste on TV, tablets etc. It is more a question of insight, choice and decision, lest we overlook and even lose “the better part.” Prayer Help us, Lord, to listen to the stirrings of our hearts. When we meet friends, help us to really meet. When we meet you, help us too to be present to you. K O'Mahony OSA

Diocesan Purposes Collection 19th / 20th July 2025 The Diocese of Cork and Ross provides vital support to our parishes in many areas, including Education, Religious Faith Formation in schools, Mission and Ministry, Youth Ministry, Safeguarding, and Stewardship and Governance. We also offer guidance in practical matters such as Data Protection, Finance, and Property. This work is only possible because of your continued generosity. In April, the Diocesan Quarterly Collection raised €48,661 — a contribution for which we are deeply grateful. These funds help sustain and strengthen the mission of our parishes and Families of Parishes. As we continue this special Year of Prayer, Listening, and Discernment across our Diocese — seeking together how God is calling us to be his Church and faith communities for the future — your support is vital. The next Diocesan Quarterly Collection will take place on the weekend of 19th & 20th July 2025. Your generosity at that time will be greatly appreciated.



World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly – 27 July 2025 In recent years the Sunday closest to the Feast of Ss. Joachim and Anne has been designated as 'World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly'. This year that Sunday falls on 27 July 2025. The National Pilgrimage of the Catholic Grandparents Association takes place that day in Knock with chief celebrant Archbishop Francis Duffy. This is the 5th World Day and the theme is 'Blessed are those who have not lost hope' (Sir 14:2). Grandparents and the Elderly are central components of the life of every parish. Pope Leo XIV reminds us “embracing the elderly helps us to understand that life is more than just the present moment”. He calls on every parish/diocese/movement to become a “protagonist in a ‘revolution’ of gratitude and care”.

PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS There are 2 Defibrillators located in the Parish, one in the village & one outside Murphy's Circle K PetrolStation. The code to operate both is 2017

Mass cards are available in the sacristy after every mass both at weekend and weekdays.