

### 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**



### Baptisms

**Paidí Wright.**  
**Ollie John Stubbs,**  
**Beau Nyhan.**  
**Harry O'Sullivan.**  
**Gearóid William O'Regan.**  
**Sadie Kate Dennehy.**  
**Danny Gearóid Morrissey.**  
**Welcome to the Christian Family.**



### Recently Deceased

**Rían O'Shea Curran, Cedar Row, Blackrock**  
**Rest in Peace**



### Happy Easter –

We have been blessed with beautiful Holy Week ceremonies in recent days. There was a lovely sense of a parish faith community gathered in our beloved church walking in the footsteps of Jesus from the glorious entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, through the Upper Room and the Garden of Gethsemane on Holy Thursday, the death of Jesus on Calvary on Good Friday afternoon, the moment of the Resurrection to reach Easter Sunday today. We are grateful to all those who participated in the ceremonies, those who prepared them, those who look after and maintain our church throughout and grateful to God for all these blessings. We greet many families who have made their home in our parish and community and thank them for their faith which enhances our parish. It was also notable this year that people and families from other parishes participated in our Holy Week ceremonies adding to the sense of a growing faith community. Sadly, the world is a troubled place this year but we always have a hope in the Risen Jesus. Happy Easter to everyone. Fr. Michael



**The Offertory Collection** at the Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday is for the support of the priests of the parish. Thank you always for your kindness and support in this and throughout the year.

**Easter Offerings** - Sincere thanks for your generosity in the Easter Offerings this year. This is always appreciated and your support means a lot. Easter envelopes can be returned to the church or No. 1 Presbytery. Contributions may also be received via the Donate button on our parish website - Fr. Michael

### First Holy Communions 2026

Sat. 2nd May Gaelscoil Mhachan (Holy Cross Church)  
 Sat. 9th May Scoil Barra Naofa Buachaillí  
 Sat. 16th May Scoil Barra Naofa Caillíní  
 Sat. 16th May Crab Lane NS (Holy Cross Church)  
 Sat. 23rd May Scoil Ursula, St. Michael's NS & School of Divine Child  
 Sat. 23rd May Scoil na Croise Naofa (Holy Cross Church)

Fr. Michael

085 8735905 [frmichael@corkandross.org](mailto:frmichael@corkandross.org)

### A brief introduction on Sunday's readings

**First reading Acts 10:34, 37-43**  
 Belief in the resurrection is not at all static or neutral, as we listen to Peter drawing out the consequences of Easter faith.  
**Second reading Colossians 3:1-4**  
 The attentive hearer will notice an alarming claim: we have all died! What can that mean and how do we live our new reality?  
**Gospel John 20:1-9 (10-18)**  
 How can we today believe in the Risen Lord? It is a matter of faith and hope, of course, but even more importantly a matter of love.

### The Papers Say.....

**Irish Catholic :** 1. The case of a young Spanish woman who wishes to end her life with state assistance has sparked international sympathy and horror. The Catholic Church has also spoken out. The euthanasia case involving a 25-year-old woman is shocking Spain.

**Tablet :** 1. 'Peace' at the heart of preparations for papal visit to Africa. Pope Leo XVI will begin his four-nation African apostolic journey on 13 April in Algeria, the homeland of St Augustine.

**The Resurrection of Christ** is the basis of our Christian Faith. The Resurrection is the greatest of the miracles -- it proves that Jesus is God. That is why St. Paul writes: "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain; and your Faith is in vain... And if Christ has not been raised, then your Faith is a delusion and you are still lost in your sins... But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep" (1 Cor 15:14, 17, 20). If Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead, then the Church is a fraud, and Faith is a sham. But if He really did rise from the dead, His message is true! Without the Resurrection, Jesus would have remained forever a good person who had met a tragic end. People would remember some of his teachings, and a handful of people might try to live according to them. All the basic doctrines of Christianity are founded on the truth of the Resurrection. "Jesus is Lord; He is risen" (Rom 10:9) was the central theme of the kerygma (or "preaching"), of the Apostles. In fact, the seventeenth-century philosopher, John Locke, some of whose ideas were incorporated into the Declaration of Independence, wrote, "Our Savior's Resurrection is truly of great importance in Christianity, so great that His being or not being the Messiah stands or falls with it."

Vatican News

### Gentle reminder!!

For those attending with young children, if required, there is a Family Room available at the top left inside the church. Thanks.



**BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL Church Gate collection will take place on Week ending 5th April 2026 - Easter Sunday**  
**Your support as always is greatly appreciated.**  
**THERE WILL BE ONLY 1 COLLECTION ON THE SVP WEEKEND**

**Sunday Cuppa continues in the Parish Centre after 11 am mass on 5th April 2026 for tea, bikkies, Easter Eggs and more chat!**  
**Cheaper than the Village 'cos it's free!!**  
**Everyone welcome - Ah go on!**



ALONE the national organisation that enables older people to age at home, are looking for Telephone Support & Befriending and Visitation Support & Befriending Volunteers to support older people in the community. If you or an Older Person you know is in need of support call 0818 222 024, seven days a week 8 am to 8 pm or see [ALONE.ie](http://ALONE.ie)/Volunteer for more info.



**EASTER SUNDAY 2026**  
**CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST IS TRULY RISEN, ALLELUIA!!**  
*A blessed and happy Eastertide to all!*

Today, our proclamation is the triumph of the love of God — a love which has brought Jesus, the Son of God, into the heart of being human, becoming "obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross," to speak to us words of love from within our being human. As we stand before the Easter proclamation, we may well wonder if we could ever make the leap of faith and trust, in a rich and radical way. Actually, the real challenge is slightly different: not so much can I believe the doctrine of the resurrection but rather can I trust in God who so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son. Or in different words, can I open my heart and simply allow myself to be so loved? Can I hear that resounding "Yes" spoken to me, to us all? Easter faith is as much a movement of the heart as anything else.



### Reflections

- The disciples are in a state of shock after their traumatic loss. Jesus, the one in whom they had placed so much hope, has been murdered and buried. Then, before they have time to recover they get another shock. The body of Jesus is missing. Have you had experiences in which one tragedy or crisis follows quickly after another? What was that like for you? How did you cope? Who, or what, sustained you?
- Mary and Peter, and the other disciple, came and discovered that the tomb was empty. In this text no explanation is given. They are left in a state of bewilderment 'for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead'. Have you been in situations, faced with events you cannot explain, possibly events that have dashed your hopes in another person, or in God? What has that been like for you?
- Yet in spite of the lack of explanation, the beloved disciple 'saw and believed'. Have there been times when others have done something that you could not understand, and which they could not explain at the time, and yet you believed that all was not as it seemed; times when you decided to trust in spite of the evidence? Have there been times when others have shown this kind of faith in you, when you were not able to offer satisfactory explanations, and all you could say was 'trust me'?
- Have there been times in your relationship with God when you have felt that you were faced with an empty tomb, and still you believed? What have you learned about life, about love, from such experiences?

**PRAYER**  
*God of undying life, by your mighty hand you raised up Jesus from the grave and appointed him judge of the living and the dead. Bestow upon those baptised into his death the power flowing from his resurrection, that we may proclaim near and far the pardon and peace you give us. Amen.*

### Thought for the day

Traditionally, we have found it easy to think of the cross as the measure of God's love for us. Because of the focus on the cross, we find it more difficult to think of the resurrection as also the love of God, perhaps "all the more so"! The originality of the Fourth Gospel says it all: the disciple Jesus *loved*, the head cloth recalling Lazarus (*see how much he loved him*) and, not least, the great figure of Mary Magdalene (*Mary!*). In summary, Jesus died *and rose again* for love of us. Let us be loved!

### Prayer

*Loving God, you love us more than we can imagine or take in. Help us to allow ourselves to be so loved by you, that your love may penetrate our hearts, our lives and our loves. We ask this through Jesus, who died and rose for love of us and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.*

K O'Mahony OSA

### Easter Creed

Do you believe in God, Source and incarnating power of the immense cosmic space and time, who personally knows and cares about each person in the small and most intimate moments of our lives? **I do.**

Do you believe in God who is intensely personal, Taking flesh in fathers, but is much more than fathers, Taking flesh in mothers, but is much more than mothers, who is ultimately MYSTERY and before whom we must stand wordless and in awe? **I do.**

Do you believe in the divinely human Jesus, born of Mary, Who emerged from among us to open our eyes to the presence of God working in all creation? **I do.**

Do you believe in Jesus as the special revelation of our knowledge of God, Who sometimes used images of women and men, birds and trees, seeds and weeds to help us sense the incredible power and earthy intimacy of God's love? **I do.**

Do you believe in Jesus who from the cross in agony found the strength to love and forgive those who betrayed, tortured, reviled and executed him, And who rose to offer comfort, love, forgiveness and hope And to entrust his mission to us? **I do.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit of God working in and through creation to forgive and comfort, heal and rebuild Communities of hope and love in universal solidarity? **I do.**

Do you believe that you are a part of this community in Christ's Spirit, called every day to spread this hope and comfort in rebuilding our communities, our Church, our nation, our world? **I do.**

*We, in and of your immense universe of cosmic time and space, give you our deepest thanks, our Loving God, through Christ our Lord and in the Living Spirit. Amen.*

