

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



Wedding

Congratulations to Sinead O'Brien and Aidan Long who were married in our Church on Saturday 2nd. August, 2025. Fr. James McSweeney officiated.



Recently Deceased

William (John) Phelan,
Beaumont, Cork / Tipperary
Peg (Margaret) O'Brien (née Burke),
Blackrock, Cork / Cahir, Tipperary
May the light of God surround her forever.



Day of Prayer
and Reflection
for Gaza
on Sunday
24th August
2025



We all seem to be helpless in front of the dreadful suffering of the people of Gaza, however we never give up on prayer for peace and that aid will reach them.

In addressing the young people gathered for the Jubilee of Youth in Rome and encouraging them in their desire to transform our world for the good, Pope Leo said -

'We are with the young people of Gaza, we are with the young people of Ukraine, with those of every land bloodied by war. My young brothers and sisters, you are the sign that a different world is possible: a world of fraternity and friendship, where conflicts are not resolved with weapons but with dialogue.'

Late Janina & Josef Zielonka

Last weekend, we were all deeply saddened to hear that both Fr. Rafal's mother and father died within hours of one another in Poland. At this time of heartbreak, we pray God's strength for Fr. Rafal, his brothers and sister and their families. The Funeral Mass took place in Olszanka, south western Poland on Thursday last. Fr. Rafal has been in touch to let you know that both himself and his family profoundly appreciate your prayers. It means a lot to them as a family of faith.

May both Janina & Josef now rest in the peace of the Lord and may God comfort and strengthen Fr. Rafal and his family.

Fr. Michael
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A brief introduction on Sunday's readings

First reading **Wisdom 18:6-9**
Our reading is a late reflection on the experience of the first Passover, when the Israelites were spared. The link with the Gospel reading is that of keeping watch in hope of salvation.
Second reading **Hebrew 11:1-2, 8-19**
What is faith really? This reading describes faith, analyses faith and celebrates faith. As we listen, we can ask ourselves who are our heroes of faith today? Who am I, as a believer?
Gospel **Luke 12:32-48**
Given the times in which we live, this reading may resonate more closely than usual with our experience. Wouldn't it be great to have purses that did not wear out! More importantly, we are to live "dressed for action," alert and fully alive.

The Papers Say.....

Sacred Heart Messenger. (1). John Scally: Sr. Clare Crockett, a young nun's story. (2). David Breen: Jesus, Money and Possessions. (3). Fr. Brendan Mc.Manus SJ: Accepting limits after surgery. (4)Kevin Hargaden: Pope Leo -- Light in our darkening world?

Irish Catholic. (1).St. John Henry Newman to be named Doctor of the Church. (2) Patents are 'children's primary and natural educators'. (3). Michael Kelly: Encountering Jesus in the hills of Medjugorje. (4) Editorial -- A demand without justice- why the State must drop its case against the Legion of Mary. (5). Breda O'Brien: The culture that led to the appalling new abortion figures.

Tablet of 26/7. (1). Mary Kenny: The abortion papers -- Letters sent to a journalist more than 40 years ago show how radically attitudes to abortion - and to 'consent' and 'coercion' have changed. (2). Proclaiming the Gospel -- In Africa, Asia and South America the seminaries are full. 31,000 men are training to be priests. Missio's national director in England and Wales reflects on how faith can flourish in very challenging situations.

Friday 15th August – Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Mass @ 9.30am

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

Jubilee Year Opportunities at Lough Derg this August & September
CONTACT by email. info@loughderg.org
Tel. 0(0353) 719861518
www.loughderg.org Pettigo, Co Donegal. F94 PC60
There is still time to collect your Lough Derg Pilgrim Passport Stamp www.pilgrimpassport.ie
Lough Derg, Pettigo, Co.Donegal, F94 PC60
E: info@loughderg.org
W: www.loughderg.org www.icatholic.ie/loughderg

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.

FAITH: HUNGER, ENCOUNTER, TRUST

Today, our second reading, a resounding passage from the letter to the Hebrews, invites us to reflect directly and personally on faith. Perhaps it may help to clear the air by saying that faith does not first of all mean believing lots of things or even behaving in a certain way. Ethics and doctrines are, of course, important — the practical expression of faith and the attempt to express it in words — but they do not arrive at the centre of it all. The centre is once larger than ethics and doctrines and at the same time more personal, more existentially urgent. This is because faith is at the same time a quest, an encounter and an act of trust.

Our faith comes to expression in how we live and so ethics are important. Because faith and reason, both grounded in God, do not finally contradict each other, we try to make sense of faith in words and creeds, within the community of faith, the church. Even so, doctrines are not really descriptions but signposts, holding us before the mystery. Nevertheless, the hunger is mine, the encounter is mine, and — above all — the trust is mine.



Reflections

1. The opening verses of this gospel invite us to ask ourselves what do we see as our purpose in life? What are our priorities? Is our heart set on material progress and advance, or do we have other priorities? What has helped you to appreciate that there is more to your life than earthly possessions and success?
2. At times, one can sense in Jesus an urgency, as if he wanted to shake people and wake them up to take his words seriously. The parable has that tone: "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit." When have you found that being alert enabled you to grasp a moment of opportunity that you might easily have missed, e.g., when a child or friend gives a hint that they would like to talk and a very meaningful conversation ensues.
3. Another consideration that adds to the sense of urgency in the words of Jesus is that we only have one life, and we do not know how long that will last. So Jesus calls us on us to live in the now and to treasure our time. Sometimes we can drift aimlessly through a day, and on other occasions use a day purposefully. What difference does that make, if any, to how you experience the day?

PRAYER

O God, on whom our faith rests secure and whose kingdom we await, sustain us by word and sacrament and keep us alert for the coming of the Son of Man, that we may welcome him without delay. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns, forever and ever. Amen.

Thought for the day

It is alarming to think that "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." To find out where my treasure is I need to look not at what I think but at what I do. How do I choose to spend my time? Where does my best concentration go? What "things" in life provide me with the greatest challenge and the greatest fulfilment? When am I most truly myself? Even more, to know myself spiritually, introspection is only a limited guide. What I really need to do is to take account of how I act. What about the last week, for example? What does that tell me about myself?

Prayer

Lord Jesus, let me know myself and know you, and desire nothing, save only you. Look upon me, that I may love you. Call me, that I may see you, and for ever enjoy you. Amen.
St Augustine

K O'Mahony OSA



Men's Jubilee Camino

Men's hike - Sat Sept 13th 20kms, on greenway, from DominicanAbbey (ruin) in Carlingford to Newry (St Catherine's) via Newry Cathedral (Jubilee Indulgence). Mass, Adoration, Rosary, Confessions & Fraternity. Registration & details on www.dominicans.ie/events/. €70 (Lunch, dinner & bus), over 18's male event. Enquiries to op.evangelisation@gmail.com.

Padre Pio Annual Healing Mass:

The annual Padre Pio healing Mass, with anointing of the sick, to commemorate his ordination to the priesthood, will take place in the Church of the Holy Spirit, Dennehy's Cross, on Sunday, August 10th at 3pm. Confessions will be heard from 1.30pm. The Rosary will be prayed at 2.30pm. Special blessings by priests available after Mass with Padre Pio relics including a mitten and heart bandage. All are welcome.

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

74th Annual Mass & Devotions

HOLY ROSARY SHRINE Lee Road, Cork 7.30 p.m.
FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION Friday 15th August 2025
Chief Celebrant Bishop John Buckley Bishop Emeritus of Cork & Ross Come celebrate part of Cork's Heritage of Faith. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

He is truly risen! Alleluia!

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