

Mass Times

Vigil Saturday: 9 pm
Sundays: 9 am & 11 am
Working Holy Days: 10 am & 7.30 pm
Monday to Saturday: 10 am
Fr Colin Doocey Adm. Pro Tem



ST PATRICK'S DAY MASS TIMES

7.30 pm Monday Vigil.
Tuesday 9.00am and 11am

Remember your family and friends abroad.

Cards are available for you to remember your family and friends abroad.

Place the card in the box provided and they will be remembered at all masses on St Patrick's Day



BLACKROCK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION IMPORTANT NOTICE

Because of the recent developments around the Covid-19 Corona Virus, it has been decided to close Blackrock Community Centre until after 29th March in line with government guidelines.

BLACKROCK HURLING CLUB

In the interests of safety as the number of Covid 19 Infections continues to rise, the Organising Committee have made the decision to postpone next Saturday's Celebration of Champions at the Club. This event will be rearranged for a future date. Fergal Mac Caochlaioich, Rúnaí.

Cork Scripture Group

Workshop on Justice in Matthew's Gospel with Seán Goan will be held on Saturday 21st March from 10am to 1pm in Sacred Heart Hall, Western Road. Cost €10 and all are welcome.

For bookings contact corksripturegroup@gmail.com

AUsome Autism Conference is Ireland's ONLY conference where the presenters on Autism are Autistic themselves. It's taking place in Rochestown Park Hotel Sunday, March 29th 9am to 5pm. For more info look up autism training on www.konfidentkidz.ie or call 087 2945977.

FIRST FRIDAY VISITS TO THE HOUSEBOUND

Please contact Fr Colin Doocey at 086-8136877, if you or a relative would like to receive the Blessed Sacrament in your home on First Fridays.

Coronavirus - COVID-19

Those who have flu are under no obligation to go to Mass. If you have the flu, please stay at home, rest, stay well hydrated and, if necessary, seek your doctor's help. Mass is available via the internet on the Parish website www.stmichaelsblackrock.ie

Sign of Peace: For the present, we would remind our parishioners that during the sign of peace it is fine to simply smile, wave, or bow to others to convey Christ's peace to them.

Holy Communion: Everyone administering Holy Communion will wash their hands before beginning. Holy Communion will be administered **into the hands only** and **NOT** on the tongue.

To minimise the risk of spread of infection, the use of communal vessels will be suspended.

The chalice will no longer be available to parishioners.

Some Inspiration

The woman at the well, as Augustine says, is all of us — trundling on with our everyday chores, oblivious to the inner hungers of the heart. The spiritual awakening of the woman is extraordinary, leading to a setting aside of the ordinary (she puts down her bucket!) and the assumption of a new role.

St Augustine comments :

"We must then recognise ourselves in her words and in her person, and with her give our own thanks to God. She was a symbol, not the reality; she foreshadowed the reality, and the reality came to be. She found faith in Christ, who was using her as a symbol to teach us what was to come. She came then to draw water. She had simply come to draw water; in the normal way of man or woman."



Parish Cafe

Coffee/Tea morning is held at the Parish Centre each Thursday morning from 10.30am to approximately 11.15am. It is a very pleasant gathering with lots of chat. A warm welcome and friendly company is guaranteed.



St. Michael's Wall of Prayer will give people the opportunity to express their faith and to be inspired by the faith of others. You can place your prayer on the **Wall of Prayer** using the cards provided. Each card has adhesive on the back which will easily stick to the board.

Everyone is invited to view and read the Wall of Prayer.

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR FULL NAME OR GIVE SPECIFIC DETAILED CIRCUMSTANCES

Diocese of Cork and Ross

Pilgrimage to Lourdes 12th - 17th June 2020

5 nights Full Board from €759.

Direct flights from Cork.

Contact Joe Walsh Tours 021 727 7959

A very useful resource leaflet for Lent is available on the tables.

How to get the best of the **Springtime of Faith**, it has excellent apps and guides to make Lent more fruitful.



Some Reflection

1. Jesus leads the woman along a wonderful journey towards a deeper and fuller life. You can enter the story with Jesus, the ideal leader, parent, teacher, or spiritual guide. Notice how he meets the woman where she is, needing her assistance, how he is patient with her, but also challenges her to grow to what she is capable of. Perhaps you have been such a teacher, or you can recall people who were.

2. You can also enter the story from the perspective of the woman's journey. Notice the steps along the way: suspicion, distrust, curiosity, misunderstanding and conversion. Her journey was one in which a very human motivation attracted her to Jesus: the thought of having water in such a way that she did not have to come and draw it from the well. What have been the human motives that have attracted you to faith, prayer, religion, church and which have been stepping-stones to a deeper personal relationship with Jesus? Perhaps we can also see the same movement in the growth of some of our human relationships.

3. The woman's final tactic is to attempt to buy time before responding (v. 25) —it will all happen sometime in the future. Jesus points out that the time for a faith response is NOW. How have you discovered the importance of the NOW moment?

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY...

The sales of Catholic papers may be problematic at the moment due to the Church being closed on Saturday evening and Sunday morning so we appeal to those who can to support them. Here are some articles this week-end:

Catholic Herald. William De'Ath: A thief, vagabond and daily Mass-goer. Universe: (1) Sacred Scripture is an open window on God's love for His people. (2) The Priests cap wonderful career in music with an MBE.

Catholic Times. Dominican Brothers use ultramodern means to teach order's ancient music

Catholic Voice: A Catholic survival guide for the Corona virus Pandemic.

Irish Catholic Rabbi Andrew Sacks: If you want to rebuild the Church, make sure the social life of the parish is as active as the spiritual one.

Tablet: Global fallout -- From the Vatican to Bethlehem, from Lourdes to Vietnam, religious observation is curtailed or denied.

Young Adults 18-15 are invited to join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes as helpers to the sick and disabled. The pilgrimage will be led by Bishop Fintan Gavin and will travel from Cork from 12th to 17th June 2020. As a young adult helper you will be assisting with the sick in the hospital in the wards, kitchen or dining room, pushing wheelchairs to and from liturgies and Mass, participating yourself in all the Masses and ceremonies of the pilgrimage, accompanying the sick and disabled in social time. If you are interested please contact Fr Charlie Kiely on **021 4537474** for more details and booking form.

We would ask parishioners to be good enough to switch off mobile phones during Mass. Thank you



Thought for the day

Today we are greatly helped by the wonderful Gospel of the Woman at the Well. On the third attempt, Jesus finally gets through to her but after that there is no stopping her. As Augustine teaches, she represents us: what do I thirst for? What is the most important thing in my life? Where do I now find God? By relentless challenge and resolute honesty, we too can be led to that encounter with Jesus, which changes everything, "giving life a new horizon and a decisive direction." May we come to believe because we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.

Prayer

In the midst of the ordinary things, loving God, you call us to the deeper realities: your thirst for us and our thirst for you. Never let us be satisfied, until we come to the springs of living water, welling up for eternal life.

K O'Mahony OSA

Today's Hymns

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now I'm found,
Was blind, but now I see.

T'was grace that taught my heart to fear.
And Grace, my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come.
Tis Grace that brought me safe thus far
and Grace will lead me home.

The Lourdes Ave

The bells of the an-ge-lus call us to pray
In sweet tones announcing the sacred Ave.
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria;
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

An angel of mercy led Bernadette's feet
Where flows the deep torrent, our Lady to greet.
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

If you would like to receive a weekly commentary on the Weekly Scripture Readings, both in AUDIO and in PDF, please log on to www.tarsus.ie and register to receive the emails.

PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS

There are now 2 Defibrillators located in the Parish, one in the village & one outside Murphy's Circle K Petrol Station. The code to operate both is **2017**

We invite you to take the Newsletter home and give it to someone who couldn't make our celebration of Eucharist.