

Mass Times

Vigil Saturday: 6pm
Sundays: 9 am & 11 am
Working Holy Days: 10 am & 7.30 pm
Monday to Saturday: 10 am
Fr Colin Doocey Adm. Pro Tem



Recently Deceased

Mary Byrne, Silverdale
May the light of heaven surround her always.



Penny Dinners Fundraiser

Wellness & Craft Fair in aid of Cork Penny Dinners at The Metropole Hotel McCurtain Street Cork city on Sunday the 26th January from 12pm to 5pm. On the day readings, massages, Kinesiology, reflexology & various treatments, hair styling, nail art, crystals, jewellery books, jams, hats & accessories & much more, with music on the day. Admission €5. Kids go free. All proceeds on the day go to Cork Penny Dinners, we are looking forward to see you there. *William Murphy, Organiser.*

Announcement of the Sunday of Word of God. January 26th 2020

Pope Francis is passionate about the Word of God. He has declared a special Sunday dedicated to the Bible. All of us are invited to respond imaginatively and actively to this new Feast. Here in our parish, there will be a number of initiatives including pastoral resources for the day itself. The Feast marks the start of a year of increased engagement with the Word. Information leaflets are available on the tables.



Medjugorje Pilgrimage ex Cork

June 30th - July 7th 2020.
€725.00 pps (Half board in Hotel Leone, 2 mins from Church)
Spiritual Director Fr Sean Corkery.
Group Leader: Sean O'Shaughnessy.
€200.00 deposit secures place. Limited places.
Contact 086 2959380 or Joe Walsh Tours 01-2410800.

2020 Parish Calendars are available on the tables in the church. Please take one.

'When all the others were away at Mass'

When all the others were away at Mass
I was all hers as we peeled potatoes.
They broke the silence, let fall one by one
Like solder weeping off the soldering iron:
Cold comforts set between us, things to share
Gleaming in a bucket of clean water.
And again let fall. Little pleasant splashes
From each other's work would bring us to our senses.
So while the parish priest at her bedside
Went hammer and tongs at the prayers for the dying
And some were responding and some crying
I remembered her head bent towards my head,
Her breath in mine, our fluent dipping knives—
Never closer the whole rest of our lives.
Seamus Heaney

A three-fold theophany

In the old liturgical tradition, three feasts in sequence went under the heading of "theophany": the *Epiphany* proper, the *Baptism* and the *Wedding Feast of Cana*. This tradition is honoured in the current three-year cycle. Because the Cana story is read in Year C, we hear this year from John 1:29-34.

The narratives in John 1:19-51 are unlikely to be straight history as they stand (for example, the Baptist's lack of knowledge about Jesus is evident in Luke 7:18-23 and Matthew 11:2-15). Instead, these accounts are incredibly rich in theology, making them suitable for this third "theophany Sunday."

For example, the very first words spoken about Jesus on the lips of John the Baptist serve to usher in a theme of incalculable significance across the entire Gospel of John — Jesus as the Lamb of God.



DIOCESAN COLLECTION

The 2nd collection this weekend is for Diocesan needs.

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.

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



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.



DO THIS IN MEMORY



Scoil Ursula
6pm. Vigil Mass on Sat 25th.
Beaumont Boys & Girls
Sunday 11.00am. Mass on 26th.

Some Inspiration

1. The words of John point to a deep recognition of Jesus' identity. Can I recall times when this recognition took place for me, first of all on a human level, and then on the faith level?
2. John the Baptist admits to not knowing him—a place of real honesty which is the beginning of the pilgrimage of faith. At some point, perhaps, I heard the words of the Psalmist in my heart: a voice I did not know said to me, I freed your shoulder from the burden (Ps 81).
3. What is my own conviction about being sent and about the one sending me? Prayer of call and response.
4. Jesus baptises with the Spirit—a baptism I too have received, perhaps too young. In later life, there can be an awakening of the Spirit, an inner hunger and thirst, a sense of the Spirit's help in our weakness. Prayer of Romans 8:26-27.
5. Witness is the key. Who have been witnesses to me of the Good News? To whom am I today a witness? Prayer of 1 John 1:1-4.

PRAYER

Merciful God, you sent your Son, the spotless Lamb, to take upon himself the sin of the world. Make our lives holy, that your Church may bear witness to your purpose of reconciling all things in Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Anam Cara West Cork

The organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening on 21st January at 7:20pm in the Munster Arms Hotel, Bandon. This is a free event and open to all bereaved parents.



Building Resilience through Mindfulness Meditation

7 week evening course, starts on Thursday, 23rd January 2020, from 7 -9:30pm. All courses based at Northridge House Education Centre (located on the grounds of St Luke's Home, Mahon). Contact 021 4536551. www.northridgehouse.ie

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY...

- Irish Catholic** (1) Pope Benedict's name revived from controversial celibacy book (2) Fr. John Universe O.P. : If we are not on fire with love for Jesus Christ, none of our good intentions matter.
- Universe** (1) Vatican laments Catholics' lack of scripture knowledge as pope sets aside day for Bible study. (2) Bishop Edward Daly named as of UK's most influential people.
- Catholic Herald** (1) Any further deterioration in relations between Iran and the West could lead to the end of Christianity in the region. (2) Fr. Rolheiser: St. Therese's 'little way'.
- Catholic Voice** (1) The mystery of redemption in a few words. (2) Be victorious this year with a spiritual plan.
- Tablet** US election year -- (1) The great evangelical pretender and (2) And in the blue corner.
- Catholic Times** (1) Evolving Door -- New Year may bring new opportunities for women at the Vatican. (2) Fr. Marsden: From Jan, 18th. an octave of prayer for visible Christian unity.

Thought for the day

In John's Gospel, the first thing that any human being says of Jesus is found on the lips of John the Baptist: *Look, there is the Lamb of God.* We think naturally and correctly of the Passover lamb and of the Passover, the feast which marks the liberation of Israel. To be set free is a wonderful experience and we could reflect on how I experience my freedom in Christ. From what have I been set free? (For example, fear of death, the risk of absurdity, sins and false directions in life...) Even more important, for what have I been set free? Prayer

Jesus, Lamb of God, help me to recognise whatever in me is holding me back from life in abundance: give me your life, your forgiveness, your healing. In you, I put my trust.

K O'Mahony OSA

Today's Hymns

Entrance:

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,
Christ be above me, never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me, shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising, light of my life.

Christ be in all hearts thinking about me,
Christ be on all tongues telling of me.
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me,
In ears that hear me Christ ever be.

Recessional:

Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our lives be near us,
with ever-joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

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

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.