



Mass Times

Vigil Saturday: 6pm

Sundays: 9 am & 11 am

Working Holy Days: 10 am & 7.30 pm

Monday to Saturday: 10 am



LOURDES. Cork & Ross Pilgrimage 2019.

10 – 15 JUNE - 5 nights

Full Board Accommodation.

Booking Forms Available for the Pilgrim Section from

Joe Walsh Tours. 117 Patrick Street, Cork. Tel (021) 4277959



Enquiries for Special Sick/Assisted Section to: The Pilgrimage Director. V. Rev. Canon James O'Donovan. Parochial House, Ballinlough, Cork. Tel. (021) 4292296

LOURDES 2019: YOUNG ADULT HELPERS

The Diocese of Cork & Ross invites young adults 18-25 to join the pilgrimage to Lourdes as helpers from 10th to 15th June. As helpers you will assist with the sick and be involved in the full pilgrimage programme – time for prayer, sharing in the story of Lourdes and making new friends. Limited number of places – for further details contact Fr Charlie Kiely on 021 4537474.

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

BLACKROCK VINCENT DE PAUL

The March collection for SVP will be on the 2nd & 3rd 2019.

HANDING ON THE FAITH – TALK AND WORKSHOP – SATURDAY 9th MARCH

from 10:00am to 1:00pm at **St Michael's Blackrock Parish Centre, Cork.** Keynote address will be given by Dr Dan O'Connell from Mary Immaculate College, Limerick who is a parent, parishioner and professional educator. He will address us on the theme and this will be followed by a workshop on *HOW TO USE THE YOUCAT SERIES* in your parish, home, school as tools for handing on the faith. Open to all – parents, parishioners, teachers, clergy, religious. Contribution €5 per person to include workshop handbook. To reserve a place contact 021-4537474 or email pdo@corkandross.org

Parish Café

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.



Some Inspiration

This Sunday, we have a choice between the penetrating teaching of Jesus in the Gospel and the portrayal of Christian hope in the second reading. Are they more linked than might seem at first glance? After all, the resurrection of Jesus is the disclosure of the depth of God's love for us all. We have been set free from the power and fear of death by the unconditional love of God; in response, we are set free for a life of unconditional loving in our turn. Not counting the cost becomes our trademark.

A similar joining up of perspectives is found in the First Letter of John: *In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.* (1 John 4:10-11)



PYXES STILL NEEDED

Our Parish is short of Pyxes, which are used to carry the Blessed Eucharist to parishioners who may be unwell and housebound. If anybody has a pyx lying around unused, please return it to the Sacristy at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

Cork Simon's Coffee Morning

is back and we need your help. Organise a coffee morning during March in your workplace, school or home and help fight homelessness in Cork. Don't like coffee – no worries organise an Afternoon Tea instead. We have everything you need to help you organise your gathering. Please contact Margaret O'Sullivan, Community Partnerships Officer at 021 4929415 to receive your pack.



FREE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

Northridge House, at St Luke's Home are offering a Free Professional Training Programme for those wishing to become Carers. The programme is on behalf of South West Gno Skillnets and is open to those on receipt of Social Welfare. The courses includes two QQI Level 5 Modules and other essential training for this important role. It is an area in which there is a shortage of qualified carers. The Course commences 20th March and has 12 full days concluding 12th June. Interviews are on 12th February and prior booking is essential. Places limited to 20. Call Claire at 021-536551 for further information.

Reflections

1. Our natural tendency when attacked is to self-protection and when we are attacked we attack back. We respond to an angry word with another, or to a blow by hitting back. Here Jesus suggests that at times there may be another way to act. What has been your experience of retaliation? Has it been lifegiving? Have you experience of another way of acting?

2. When we do good to another, it can sometimes be in return for what we have received. At other times it can be done in the hope of getting something back. Or we may do it simply for the sake of doing good without any strings attached. Jesus suggests that this is when we are at our best. Recall your experience of these different ways of giving and celebrate the occasions when you gave without expectation of return.

3. Jesus proposes the generosity of God as a model for our generosity, and says that the generous will be rewarded. Perhaps you have experienced rewards, even in this life, from generous behaviour.

'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

Anam Cara Cork, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening on Wednesday 6th March at 7:20pm in the Clayton Hotel, Silver Springs, Tivoli, Cork. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not.



ST PIO PRAYER GROUP MONTHLY MEETING

Next meeting of the Blackrock St Pio Prayer Group will take place on Wednesday 27 February, Ardfoyle Convent, Blackrock. Rosary 1945 hrs. Mass 2000hrs. All welcome. Anne O'Sullivan, Prayer Group Leader



Medjugorje Pilgrimage May 28th - June 4th ex Cork.

15 places remaining. €725.00 half board. €200.00 deposit secures place. Staying in locally owned Hotel Leone, 3 mins from St James Church. Spiritual director Fr Sean Corkery. Contact Sean O'Shaughnessy on 0862959380.

Thought for the day

In the kindest perspective, the desire for retaliation represents a longing for justice and equity. For example, "an eye for an eye." Such justice is easily distorted into vengeance, hence the limiting of vengeance to precisely equal retaliation in the Old Testament. That tempering of vengeance does not really go far enough. The problem is responding in kind—the ultimate logic of which would be one person left with one eye!! Jesus goes to the heart of the matter: do not respond to violence with violence, do not engage at the level offered. Instead, turn the dynamic on its head: love your enemies and break the cycle of hatred and violence.

Prayer

Help us, compassionate God, to take to heart the teaching of Jesus that love without limit may be our rule of life.

K. O'Mahony OSA

Pope Benedict's Prayer.

Dear friends, may no adversity paralyse you.
Be not afraid neither of the world
nor of the future nor of your weakness.
The Lord has allowed you to live
in this moment of history
so that by your faith, his name
will continue to resound throughout the world.



An Easter Triolet

by *Malcome Guite*

We won't give up on love, it is a given
And given things can always live again.
The stone is rolled away, the rocks are riven
We won't give up on love, it is a given
The grave is made the very gate of heaven
We sowed in tears but here's the golden grain:
We won't give up on love, it is a given
And here's a given thing that lives again.

If you would like a detailed commentary on the Scripture Readings (audio and pdf) for each week of the year, please e mail kamahony1@me.com or visit www.tarsus.ie