

# St Michael's Parish Blackrock Cork

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12/01/2020

## Baptism of Our Lord

WEEKLY MASS LEAFLET UPDATES:

Email to : [info@stmichaelsblackrock.ie](mailto:info@stmichaelsblackrock.ie)

**BAPTISMS:** Saturdays 3 pm - 2 weeks notice required.

**MARRIAGES:** Minimum 3 months notice required by Church and State. Pre-marriage course required.

### 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



### 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.



### HOLY HOUR TO PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Will be hosted by the Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph at the convent on Blackrock Road (opposite the SMA Church) on Saturday, 18th January from 2:30pm to 3:30pm. All are welcome to join in prayer followed by refreshments.

### Medjugorje Pilgrimage ex Cork

June 30th - July 7th 2020.

EARLY BIRD price €625.00 pps (Half board in Hotel Leone, 2 mins from Church) if fully paid by December 13th. Full price of €725.00 applies after this date. 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.

### 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.

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

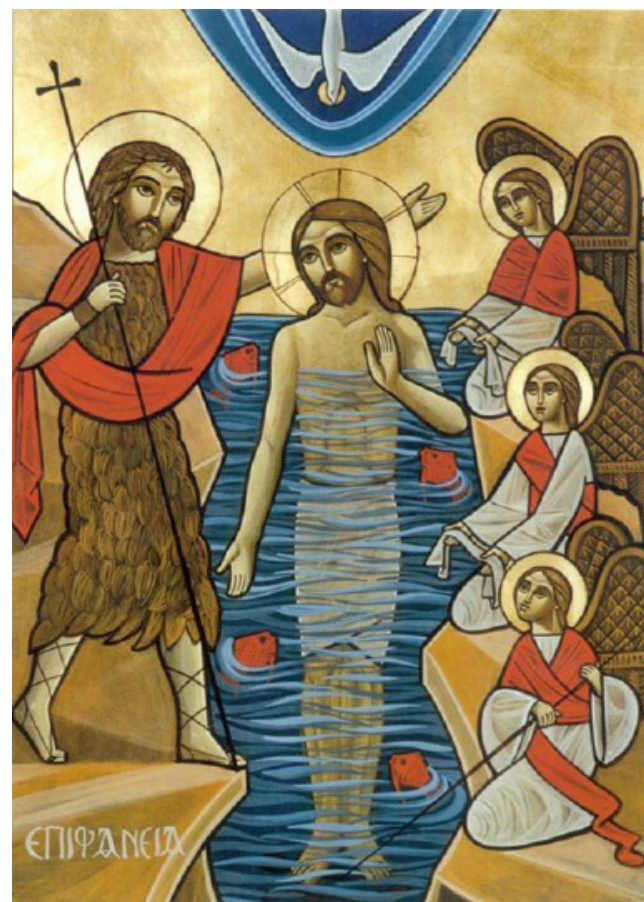
If you would like to receive a weekly commentary on the Scripture Readings, both in AUDIO and in PDF, please log on to [www.tarsus.ie](http://www.tarsus.ie) and register to receive the emails.

### '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

### Approaching the feast -

In the Orthodox tradition, the feast of the Baptism is referred to as the Theophany and it forms part of a three-fold disclosure of Jesus: in the Epiphany, the Baptism and in a scene from the Fourth Gospel (= 1 John 1:29-34 "Look, there is the lamb of God"). In other words, even though we have jumped forward some thirty years in the narrative, there is continuity with the stories of the birth. The lectionary explores the identity of Jesus this Sunday and next before settling down to start the sequential reading of Matthew's Gospel.



### BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

#### January Collection

Thanks to all who contributed to the collection.  
Your generosity is very much appreciated.

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



### 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.



### 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

### Some Inspiration

1. The Baptism of Jesus marks a turning point in his life, and the start of his public ministry. Recall moments when your life changed and you moved into a new phase.  
2. The experience was one in which Jesus had a new sense of his own identity. What have been the experiences which have helped shaped your sense of who you are?  
3. How have you come to an awareness of being a child of God, beloved by God, and one on whom rests the grace of God?  
4. It is surprising that Jesus, the Saviour of the world, asks to be baptised by John. The request symbolises his desire to identify with us. At the same time he is filled with the Holy Spirit. That step of identifying with us is an important element in his being able to help us. Have you ever found that when someone identifies with you, it is easier for him/her to help you? Has your ability to identify with others had any impact on your effectiveness in helping others?

PRAYER

God of the covenant, you anointed your beloved Son with the power of the Holy Spirit, to be the light of the nations and release for captives. Grant that we who are born again of water and the Spirit may proclaim with our lips the good news of his peace and show forth in our lives the victory of his justice.  
We make our prayer through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the splendour of eternal light, God for ever and ever. Amen.

### WHAT THE PAPERS SAY...

**Tablet.** (1) Archbishop Diarmuid Martin wants fewer Irish dioceses. (2) After the election -- A new Northern Ireland

**Irish Catholic.** (1). Mary McAleese told to tone down rhetoric about the Church (2) A hidden Saint -- How Olive Halpin put a ray of sunshine over Kenya.

**Catholic Herald.** (1). Overlooked story. -- twenty-nine missionaries killed in 2019. (2) Fr. Rolheiser: Proofs for the existence of God.

**Universe.** Only the true power of love can transform people's lives.

**Catholic Voice.** French order welcomes nuns with Down Syndrome.

**Catholic Times.** (1) The Christian brother who helped indigenous Guatemalans. (2) Ecological sin -- Idea of updating Church document sparks debate.

### 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](http://www.northridgehouse.ie)

### Thought for the day

Begin by recalling some special moment between yourself and your parents. Did you ever hear from them the equivalent of "This is my son, my daughter, the beloved: my favour rests on you"? In Jesus' ministry, on several occasions, he felt such a word from his Abba, his Father. His baptism by John was one such moment, as was the Transfiguration later on. Such deep love and affirmation grounded him as a human being and as God's prophet to the people of Israel. Our sense of calling grows out of our relationship with the Father, whose beloved we are, whose favour we too enjoy.

PRAYER

Let us hear again, Abba, Father, your words of favour to each one of us. Direct us on the Way of discipleship, that we may be bearers of the Good News by simply being who we truly are before you, your children.

K O'Mahony OSA

### Entrance:

Away in a manger,  
No crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus  
Laid down His sweet head;  
The stars in the night sky  
Looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus  
Asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing,  
The baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus,  
No crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus;  
Look down from the sky  
And stay by my bedside  
Until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus;  
I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever  
And love me I pray!  
Bless all the dear children  
In Thy tender care,  
And fit us for Heaven  
To live with Thee there.

Christmas  
Hymns

### Recessional:

Hark, the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the new-born King,  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled.  
Joyful all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies,  
With angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.  
Hark, the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the new born King.

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of the virgin's womb;  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail the incarnate deity,  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark, the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the new born King.

