

### Mass Times

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



### Baptism

All baptisms have been cancelled for the moment.

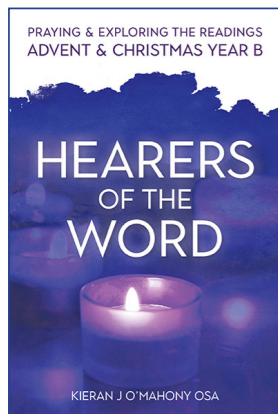
### Recently Deceased

**Denis Finbarr Collins**, Firmount Avenue  
**Una Reid**, late of Beaumont Drive  
**John Aherne**, formerly Ballinure  
*May the light of heaven surround them always.*



### Thank You..

Fr Colin and Canon Tadhg would like to thank you for your November offerings for the Holy Souls Novena. It is much appreciated at this time. We continue to remember all our loved ones in the prayers during this month.



### Hearers of the Word

Praying and Exploring the Readings for

Advent and Christmas

Available from [messenger.ie](http://messenger.ie)

When you use the newsletter, please take it home with you.  
**DO NOT RETURN IT TO THE TABLE**

## Coronavirus COVID-19

# Stay safe. Protect each other.

Continue to:



**Wash**  
your hands well and often to avoid contamination.



**Cover**  
your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing and discard used tissue safely



**Distance**  
yourself at least 2 metres (6 feet) away from other people, especially those who might be unwell



### WHAT THE PAPERS SAY...

**Universe** (1). Beautiful stained glass nativity scenes on UK 2020 Christmas stamps. (2) Christians, Muslims again top list of faiths facing hostility worldwide. (3) Reform or suppression: Troubled lay

movements need outside oversight  
**Messenger.** (1) Young people of Faith. -- The Young John Paul 11. (2) The Ministry of Music. -- Fr. Liam Lawton links music, prayer and the word of God in the Pope's intention for this month

**Irish Catholic.** (1) Fr. Bernard Cotter: To become moral and Christian is a lifelong struggle. (2) Photos of the blessing of graves in three Cork cemeteries including St. Michael's. (3) Trinity College Catholic society pressured to stop praying  
**Catholic Herald.** (1). Sophie Caldecott asks how parents can harness the benefits of smartphones and social media without putting their children in danger. (2) As the 'patron saint of the Internet' Carlo Acutis beatified and churches broadcast Masses online what are the consequences for Catholic life?

**Tablet of 31/10.** Sister Marie-Ange de Saint Chamas belonged to a monastic community of women who welcomed those with Downs

**Tablet of 7/11.** As the Church under Francis tilts towards the East, the Tablet's Rome correspondent meets one of the newest Asian bishops to don a red hat, Corneilius Sim of Brunei

**Catholic Voice** (1). Making the most of the sacraments is an essential part of our spiritual life. (2). 15 stirring quotes by newly beatified teen Carlo Acutis



### Welcome to St Michaels for Personal Prayer

To maximise the number of people that can join us for Personal Prayer, we have made a number of changes to the church so that we comply with HSE guidelines and keep everyone safe. Please use only the bottom half of the church and exit from the left only, using the one-way system following the arrows.



We have placed **yellow spots** to highlight where people should sit.

We ask that you **do not kneel-down** at anytime

Many thanks for your help and we hope you all keep well.

### Some Reflection....

*A comment from Ulrich Luz (Hermeneia Commentary on Matthew)*

Luz is very aware of reading the parable as a general moral — a kind of down reading. The conclusion of his commentary on the parable offers these closing thoughts:

The exegesis and the history of interpretation here have demonstrated where the roots of such a misuse of the parable lie. The parable itself invites misunderstanding.

When Jesus, his whole message and his God, becomes the parable's signature and the definition of its contents, such misuse cannot happen. Where this was not the case, the parable was misused.

The parable of the talents is theologically true only when it speaks of the God of Jesus Christ, who loves people in such a way that they are indebted to him for everything that they are and that they can achieve.

It is theologically true only when it speaks of his commission to love and of the gifts that are used for that purpose and not for just any human activities.

It is theologically true only when it is related to the community of love that Jesus wanted.

When it does not speak of these things, it is merely an empty shell of words with which every human activity can be legitimised.

I would like to draw your attention to a new initiative called **Tarsus Scripture School**. Building on the good experience of the online Scripture Summer School, the three presenters (Jessie Rogers, Sean Goan and Kieran O'Mahony) have got together to create an online service. Our hope is to offer shorter and longer courses as appropriate throughout the year.



Our first programme for Advent 2020 is entitled *Resilient faith: Advent spirituality for a time of pandemic*. All the details of topics, resources, a webinar and registration may be found in one place: **Tarsus Scripture School**.

K O'Mahony OSA

### 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**

### Thought for the day

**W**hat does God desire of us? This simple question is perhaps not asked frequently enough! It can be made quite personal: what does God want of me, from me? In the end, the answer has to be—in the words of the song—"all that I am," precisely because God loves all that I am. This will mean allowing ourselves to be loved. It will also mean responding with my whole self, including all the gifts of body, mind and soul that God has bestowed upon me. In the end, God does hope that we may be and become our true selves. Nothing less is adequate to God's own love for us.

**PRAYER** We are truly grateful to you, God our creator and redeemer, for your many gifts. We ask your help that we may use all you have given us for your glory and for the good of our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Some Thoughts....

1. A gift given in love, is given to be enjoyed, treasured, and used. Through fear, one servant failed to recognise the loving trust being shown to him and buried the talent. When have you found that overcoming fear helped you to make the most of opportunities in life?  
2. On the level of our own personal life, faith is not given to us to be locked away, but to be "traded" with. We trade with it when we believe in its value, trust it, and use it, bringing it into the experiences we have in daily life. Can you recall times when relying on your faith has brought you rewards?  
3. Likewise with our own personal gifts and talents. We can fall into the trap of seeing these as our personal possession so that we can do with them as we like, rather than share them as gifts so that they can be multiplied. What is your experience of hoarding or sharing your own gifts? When did you feel most alive?  
4. Pope Francis in his letter *The Joy of the Gospel* wrote, "I invite everyone to be bold and creative in this task of rethinking the goals, structures, style and methods of evangelisation in their respective communities. ... The important thing is to not walk alone, but to rely on each other as brothers and sisters." EG (33)

How is your parish responding to this call?

**PRAYER**  
*O God, from whose own abundance, all gifts and skills are lavishly bestowed, encourage us to use our talents as generously as you have allotted them, so that, being faithful to your purpose, we may become sharers in your glory.*

*We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

K O'Mahony OSA