

Mass Times

Sundays: 9 am & 11 am
Working Holy Days: 10 am & 7.30 pm
Monday to Friday: 10 am



Fr Colin Doocey Adm. Pro Tem

Recently Deceased

Tom Lynch, Blackrock (formerly of Macroom).
Bernadette Flynn, Kilbrack Lawn.
Finbarr (Barry) O'Donovan, Church Road.
Patrick (Pat) Horgan, Dundanion Court.
Cara O'Sullivan, Frankfield.



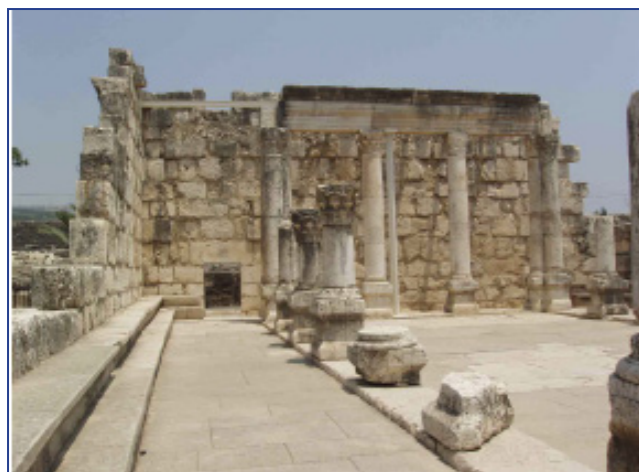
May the light of heaven surround them always.

PARISH COLLECTIONS

We would like to thank parishioners who are continuing to donate to the parish collections. A special thanks to parishioners who donate through our website. Just hit the **DONATE** button and follow the links.

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**



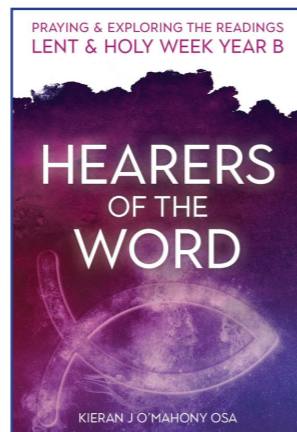
The synagogue at Capernaum. Although the present structure is later, it is almost certainly on the site of the first-century synagogue.

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.*



The new publication written for Lent in the series

Hearers of the Word

by Kieran O'Mahony OSA

Available now from Messenger Publications

www.messenger.ie

Catholic Schools Week 2021
Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith and Resilience

COMMUNITIES OF FAITH AND RESILIENCE 24 JANUARY – 31 JANUARY 2021



COMMUNITIES OF ...
FAITH
LEARNING
LOVE
RESILIENCE
HOPE

When evil darkens our world, give us light. When despair numbs our souls, give us hope. When we stumble and fall, lift us up. When doubts assail us, give us faith. When nothing seems sure, give us trust. When ideals fade, give us vision. When we lose our way, be our guide! That we may find serenity in your presence, and purpose in doing your will.

John D. Rayner

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL
Under the current Covid circumstances, Fr. Colin has generously offered the poor box near the exit as a collection point for SVP. If you wish to contribute any time, it would be appreciated. Thank you.

Thoughts

All the gospel writers choose their opening scenes with care and precision, as a kind of curtain raiser of what is to come. This is true also of Mark, often regarded as a less sophisticated writer. Close reading of the Gospel obliges us to review that estimation somewhat. In her most recent study of Mark, Helen Bond comments: "While we should certainly not overplay Mark's literary abilities, he was clearly a competent and reasonably skilled writer who was perfectly able to convey his ideas in the literary form of a bios." (Helen Bond, The First Biography of Jesus, Genre and Meaning in Mark's Gospel; Grand Rapid MG: Eerdmans, 2020 p.89; bios = life, the Greek term for a biography).

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY...

Irish Catholic. (1). The Church must preach the Gospel even if that is unpopular Archbishop-elect of Dublin Dermot Farrell tells Michael Kelly in a four page interview. (3). David Quinn: America's bishops must challenge Joe Biden when it is necessary (4) Letter from Rome -- Mixed messages on Biden reveal not just competing camps but divided hearts. (5) Michael Kelly: There is a cruelty at the heart of rigid funeral restrictions.

Messenger (1). Four things I like about Blessed John Sullivan. (2). Loving myself -- A command of Jesus

Universe. (1) Fr. Francis Marsden: The Gospel according to Mark (2) Vatican Letter -- Lectors, acolytes: formal installation means more than service at Mass. (3) New figures reveal abortion remains world's top killer. (4) Hope returns -- now it's up to Biden to restore faith in US democracy (5) Manchester's own 'Mother Teresa', Sr. Elizabeth Prout, on path to sainthood

Keep in touch with the Church and support the Catholic press -- buy and read a Catholic paper every week!

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

Thought for the day

How often do we meet people whose words and deeds match? Sometimes at least, but it may be rare enough. In the old expression, when all is said and done, more is said than done. Jesus is a teacher with authority — not the authority of position or force but power from within. This is suggested by the Greek word for authority exousia, from within (my) being. Even today, there are religious leaders who speak from within, whose word is genuine, whose deeds match what they say. These are the one we listen to; these are the ones we would love to be like.

Prayer

Loving God, you love us wholly and your desire is that we become both whole and holy. Help us to take the Good News to heart. May we become fully mature in Christ, so that our inner and outer selves are one.

Reflections

1. In the first chapter, Mark familiarises his readers with the type of things Jesus did to proclaim the kingdom, the Reign of God. Our passage today touches on two of these, the first being that 'he taught as one having authority'. It makes a difference when you listen to someone who is clearly speaking from experience and personal knowledge. Remember people who impressed you in this way.

2. Jesus' combined teaching with healing, and he drove the evil spirit out of the man. The power of God that worked this wonder through Jesus is also at work in and through us today. When have you been freed from some bad habit?

3. The evil spirit convulsed the man before it left him. The path to liberation can be a painful struggle. If you have found it so, who was the Jesus person that helped you through the struggle to freedom?

4. It is not only individuals but groups that can be struggling with an evil spirit – jealousy, rivalry, malicious gossiping, abuse of power, etc. Sometimes a Jesus person comes into the group and drives out that evil spirit. Have you experienced this? Perhaps you yourself have been this person on some occasion?

PRAYER

Faithful God, your Holy One, Jesus of Nazareth, spoke the truth with authority, and you confirmed his teaching by wonderful deeds. Through his healing presence, drive far from us all that is unholy, so that by word and deed we may proclaim him Messiah and Lord and bear witness to your power to heal and save. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

K O'Mahony OSA

When you use the newsletter, please take it home with you.

DO NOT RETURN IT TO THE TABLE