

### Mass Times

**Sundays:** 9 am & 11 am  
**Working Holy Days:** 10 am & 7.30 pm  
**Monday to Friday:** 10 am  
**Saturday Vigil:** 6.00 pm  
**Fr Colin Doocey Adm. Pro Tem**



### Baptisms

**Liam Thomas Ahern.**  
**Chloe Louise Cavanagh.**  
**Olivia Nel Heaphy.**  
**Rory Weldon.**



*We welcome them into the Christian Family*

### Recently Deceased

**Catherine O'Keeffe.** Douglas.  
**Denis Ahern.** Rockgrove Estate. Blackrock.  
*May the light of heaven surround them always.*



It seems only a short few weeks ago when the young people and children began their summer holidays.

Thankfully they were blessed with beautiful weather and

lovely sunshine which I'm sure helped them to enjoy the holidays more. Time flies when we are having fun, the saying goes. Now, it is time to return to school once again.

We take this opportunity to wish the children, young people, teachers and all those working in our primary and secondary schools every blessing, success, joy and good health for the new academic year.

We also remember parents and grandparents at this time, especially acknowledging the great sacrifices that they make. May you all stay safe.

*Fr. Colin*

### WHAT THE PAPERS SAY...

**Irish Catholic.** (1) Organised religion is a great cure for conspiracy theories. (2) Breda O'Brien: Enriching our parishes by truly including single people. (3). Mary Kenny: A Muslim woman defends the Taliban ... (4) Tackling power abuse in the Church

**Catholic Voice.** (1). Responding to the 'Mass' exodus. (2). Cardinal Robert Sarah on the Credibility of the Catholic Church (3) St. Dominic's 'New Evangelisation' succeeded because of radical adherence to Christ. (4). Our priests need our prayers

**Tablet.** Three issues available

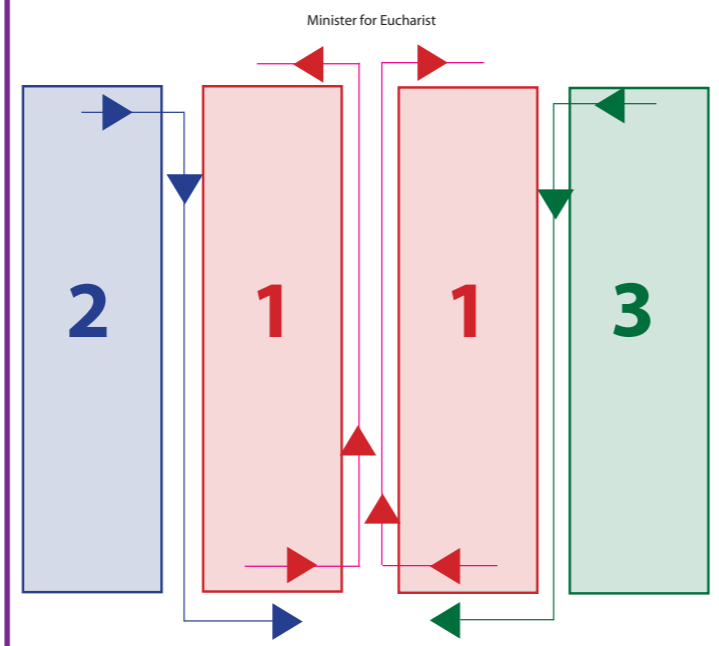
**BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL**  
**Monthly Church Gate collection will take place on**  
**w/e 4th/5th September**  
**Your support as always, is greatly appreciated.**

Covid 19 is still in our community despite all the vaccinations. Therefore, we would encourage parishioners to observe the Social Distancing guidelines for the foreseeable future.

The stewards are there to assist you for communion and below is a template for receiving. Please do not cross the pews. Wait until the steward gives you the signal that it is safe to proceed. Sections marked 1 will proceed first from the **back** followed by section 2 and then 3 from the **front**, always following the direction of the arrows. Please wait until you are called by the steward. This template refers to both halves of the church.

Thank you.

**FACE MASKS MUST BE WORN IN THE CHURCH.**



### Baptisms

Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism resumed last weekend. These are such joyful moments and families who have been so patient over the last year are encouraged to contact the parish to make arrangements for baptisms.

### Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation

Bishop Fintan has written to parishes this week to say that these celebrations are not to take place at this time and hopefully the promised government announcement at the end of the month will bring some clarity as to when it is safe to resume.

### Parish Finance – Thank You

Many people now use the Donate Button on the Parish website to support the parish and priests. This is really appreciated in these challenging times for everyone.

### Welcome and Thank You

We are so grateful to our volunteer stewards, foggers, church collectors, parish ministries and parish volunteers who continue to make sure that we can gather confidently and safely for Mass. *Go raibh maith agat.*

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

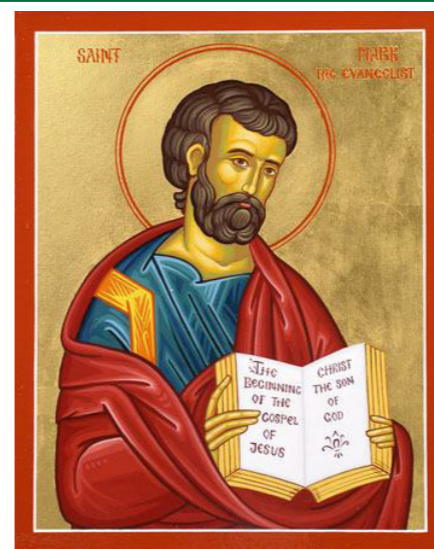
**DO NOT RETURN IT TO THE TABLE**



### Thoughts

The last time we heard from Mark was on Sunday 18 July: Mark 6:30-34. After our 5 Sundays of John 6, we now resume our reading of the Gospel for the current year. The appointed reading is Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23. Something of the cumulative power of the text and its cogency are lost when the omitted verses are not read. The YouTube video tries to show that Mark 7:1-23 is really a structured unit of argument. In spite of its length, it might be worth considering offering the full text. It is never forbidden to expand a passage of Scripture!

As regards the content, the “declaring all foods clean” is really a reflection of later controversies - in Paul (Romans, Galatians and Philippians), Luke-Acts (Acts 10:1-11:18; 15) and here in Mark 7. Jesus did break certain laws, such as the Sabbath rules or the purity laws. However, he met too few Gentiles for the food laws to be an issue during his ministry. This new situation forced early communities to discern for themselves, in the absence of any teaching from Jesus. There is considerable potential there for us today!



### FIRST FRIDAY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.

On **Friday 3rd September** following morning Mass.

Rosary & Benediction at 5p.m.

There are sheets on the tables in the Church where Parishioners can indicate the times most suitable for them to be present. We would like that there would be at least 2 people present for each period. If there are vacant periods we would appreciate volunteers to fill these times by putting their names on the list.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.

**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.**

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](http://www.tarsus.ie) and register to receive the emails.

### Thought for the day

As disciples, we all need a kind of personal “rule of life” and we are supported by the community of faith and its practices. But the externals of religions—the very supports we need— risk becoming merely cultural, an empty shell, if our heart is not in it. All three readings this Sunday underline the point: Pure, unspoiled religion is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it.

### Prayer

*Heavenly Father, you know the human heart, that most devious thing of all (Sir 42:18; Jer 17:9). Help us to know ourselves. Help us to grow in integrity, rooted in purity of heart. Help to serve our neighbour in need with undivided hearts that we may come before you in heartfelt praise and thanksgiving. Amen.*

*K O'Mahony OSA*

### Reflections

1. Certain sections of the Jewish people put great store on the importance of rules and conventions as a measure of the goodness of a person. Jesus challenges this view. How have you found that getting appearances right did not necessarily make you a good person?

2. Even fidelity in religious practice is not enough. “This people honours me with their lips, but their heart is far from me”. How have you experienced the importance of carrying your faith beyond attendance on Sundays? When have you seen that in others? What brought this home to you?

3. What Jesus seeks are followers whose faith is whole-hearted and warm, people whose religion is not primarily in dutiful observance but in their enthusiasm for life and their care for one another. It is good to be with them. Think of the contrast between a dinner party at which everything is just right but very formal, and another party which is rather haphazard and casual but full of great warmth.

4. “It is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come.” It is also from within that good intentions come. We do have choices. When have you been faced with the choice between good and evil? When did you realise the importance of accepting responsibility for your own life and choices? How has this helped your growth as a person?

### PRAYER

*Father of light, giver of every good and perfect gift, bring to fruition the word of truth sown in our hearts by your Son, that we may rightly understand your commandments, live your law of love, and so offer you worship that is pure and undefiled. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.*

**You may be using your mobile phone for Mass, if so, please ensure it is on silent. If not, please switch it off. Thank you**



### MASS CARDS

We have received a supply of the Packet of 12 Mass Cards. Like everything else during Lockdown they have doubled in price. We will sell any parishioner a single Mass Card signed by the priests of the parish – the cost €1.00 per card plus the Stipend for the Mass.