

# St Michael's Parish Blackrock Cork

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19/09/2021

25th. Sunday Ordinary Time.

WEEKLY MASS LEAFLET UPDATES:

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

**BAPTISMS:** Please contact the parish office.

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

## 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

**Lorcan O'Neill.**  
We welcome him into the Christian Family



## Recently Deceased

**Mary Desmond**, late of Linden Avenue  
**Mary Brohier**, Ballinsheen Court  
**Michael O'Sullivan**, Woodvale Road  
**Breda Brennan**, Silverdale  
*May the light of heaven surround them always.*



The **Annual Pilgrimage** in honour of St. Finbarr will take place on Sunday 26th September in Gougane Barra.

Rosary will be recited at 2:30pm and Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Fintan Gavin at 3pm.

People attending are asked to follow current government guidance in relation to social distancing between household groups and wearing of face coverings.

**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**



## Pandemic restrictions

You will be aware that there have been changes to the restrictions regarding attendance in churches which became effective last week. The new restrictions allow us to celebrate Mass with the church occupied to 50% of its capacity. Our church in Blackrock has a capacity of 796, therefore, to comply with restrictions the church could seat 398 people.

To ensure continued confidence in attendance at Mass we have decided as an interim measure to increase the current capacity from 100 to 150 people, to do this we are amending current protocols as follows:

- The pews were arranged to be 1 metre apart at the beginning of Covid and this will remain unchanged.
- There is no longer a requirement to divide the church into 2 separate parts.
- Stewards will continue to assist the congregation identify suitable seats, at communion and for entering and exiting the church.
- Two Ministers of the Eucharist will be situated half way to distribute to the lower half of the church.

To maintain appropriate distancing between the congregation, we will **continue to sit and stand** (as appropriate) rather than kneel. We will continue to receive communion as heretofore. These procedures will be reviewed in October in line with government guidelines.

**FREE initiative for over 50s**

**Age & Opportunity**  
Incorporating Age & Opportunity active, The National Sport and Physical Activity Programme for Older People

**FitLine**  
A friendly word to get you more active.  
Free phone: **1800 303 545**  
When you're working it's important to make time for yourself to exercise. FitLine can guide and motivate you to do this. FitLine Volunteer Mentors make regular phone calls to people who would like to get more physically active.

**CHECK IT FITS**  
The RSA Check it Fits Service is now offering **FREE** virtual child car seat checks. The new virtual service means that parents, guardians, grandparents, and childminders in your parish can now have their child car seats checked by one of our expert checkers from the comfort and safety of their home. To avail of the new virtual service visitors can book an appointment at [www.rsa.ie/checkitfits](http://www.rsa.ie/checkitfits).



## WHAT THE PAPERS SAY...

**Irish Catholic.** (1) Mark Pattison: 9/11 anniversary renews call of sainthood for Franciscan priest (see Mary Kenny also). (2) Brendan O'Regan's TV/Radio -- Are the hundreds of thousands who voted against repeal to be represented? (3) John L. Allen Jr: From Flanders to Sicily, contradictions abound on Europe's religious scene. (4) David Quinn: Pope John Paul II was right about the 'war on terror'

**Tablet.** (1) New Ferns Bishop: First priority is to listen to the people. (2) Right to abortion. -- the runaway court.

**SECOND COLLECTION W/E. 25/26 SEPTEMBER. PRIESTHOOD EDUCATION.**

**Blackrock Community Association** will hold Registration for members on Monday 27th September between 2-4 pm. Registration will take place in line with government advice re covid 19.

## 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**

## Thoughts

The teaching on discipleship in Mark's Gospel is profound and relevant. As we know from reading the Gospel, he takes great care in its presentation, using a three-fold lay-out. Good teacher that he is, he teaches by misunderstanding, leading to a correction and clarification. The pattern can be seen in the graphic below. The frames are vital: two healings, with the first in two stages. Mark knows that the cost of discipleship is not easy to understand or to live. It all takes time, perhaps our whole life.



Cork Lions Club is holding a Covid compliant Drive In Bingo at 3:00pm Sunday Sept 26h at Curraheen Greyhound Stadium. Gates open at 2:00pm. You can buy bingo books on the day or on line at [www.corklionsclub.ie](http://www.corklionsclub.ie) Martin Walley, Cork Lions Club [www.corklionsclub.ie](http://www.corklionsclub.ie)

## Wexford Cycle 2021

Thanks again to all who have donated to the Peter McVerry trust. So far, 124 people have contributed over €10,000, which is really wonderful. The cycle took place on Saturday, 18th. The weather was good for the day -- cloudy (which was fine), with a couple of showers and about 17C, which was really nice. Very best wishes and renewed thanks to all, *Kieran (OSA)*

## 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**

## Cork Autism Online Conference 2021 - Thriving with Autism. Sunday, October 17th.

This online conference offers interventions, skills and strategies to support people on the autism spectrum. Suitable for Parents, Families, Caregivers, Autistics, Employers, Educators, Professionals, Agencies, Advocates and anyone with an interest in autism. Visit: [www.autismcork.ie](http://www.autismcork.ie)

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

Jeremiah, who knew a thing or two about the human condition, wrote: *The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it? (Jer 17:9)* A healthy introspection (it need not be introversion!) is essential, if we are to become free from inherited drives and free for service.

## Prayer

*Lord Jesus, let me know myself and know you, and desire nothing except you alone. Let me hate myself and love you. Let me do everything for your sake. Let me humble myself and exalt you. Let me think of nothing except you. Let me die to myself and live in you. Let me accept whatever happens as from you. Let me banish self and follow you, And ever desire to follow you.*  
*From St Augustine K O'Mahony OSA*

## Reflections

1. Jesus uses the time they are travelling along the road to teach his disciples what it means to be one of his followers. Think of the wisdom you have acquired about life, about faith, about what it means to be a Christian. Who have been your teachers? Remember them and give thanks for them.
2. One of the lessons Jesus gives them is that there is a dying to be endured as we move to a fuller life. That was the road he would travel. It is also our journey, not only at the end of this earthly life, but also in small ways through life. When have you found that by dying in some way you came to a fuller life?
3. Achievement, affirmation, recognition and status are attractive and enjoyable when they come our way. Yet we can be in trouble if, like the disciples, we become caught up in pursuit of them. Jesus tells them that true greatness lies in service of others. What has helped you to appreciate the value of loving service of others? When have you experienced the service of others to you?

## PRAYER

*O God, protector of the poor and defender of the just, in your kingdom the last become first, the gentle are strong, and the lowly exalted. Give us the wisdom from above, that we may find in your servant Jesus the pattern of true discipleship and the grace to persevere in following him, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.*

**Ballinlough Men's Retirement Club** will resume on Wednesday 22nd Sept. at 2.30 pm in Ballinlough Community Centre. Enjoy a game of Short Mat Bowls (Bowls supplied by the club) in an atmosphere of fun and camaraderie or just drop in for a chat and a 'cuppa'. All those who are fully vaccinated or completely recovered from Covid 19 are welcome. Contact person: Noel 085 1615 360.

## 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.