

### 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

**Laoise Jenny Buckley.**  
**Ellie Marie Counihan.**  
We welcome them into the Christian Family



### Listen



We are heading into the start of November and our time of prayer and remembrance for those who have died. Our November Novena will begin on next Tuesday on the Feast of All Souls and on Friday evening we will celebrate our Annual Remembrance Mass for those who have died since this time last year.

It is a poignant time of the year. The weather reflects a change as nature begins to fall asleep for the Winter. The certainty that we have is that nature reawakens in the Spring. It is our shared understanding of life, death and eternal life. We remember those who have died with respect, sadness but above all, with a sense of hope that they will reawaken to eternal life.

The key word in the Word of God at Mass this weekend is to 'listen.' We don't just listen with our ears but with our hearts and lives. We listen in a deep way in the same way that we experience loss and bereavement deeply. May those who have died experience a deep joy in the presence of God. May they rest in peace.

Fr. Michael.

**FIRST FRIDAY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.**  
**On Friday 5th November 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**  
**Monthly Church Gate collection will take place on**  
**w/e 6th/7th November**  
**Your support as always, is greatly appreciated.**

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 Guidelines

Following Tuesday's government statement on Covid-19 public health measures, public worship can take place without capacity limits from 22nd October but with all protective measures remaining in place.

These remaining protective measures include :

- Mask wearing
- Good ventilation
- Sanitisation on entry and departure
- Social distancing insofar as possible

We are very grateful to volunteer stewards, those who sanitise and clean churches and church personnel who continue to maintain churches so that we can gather safely and joyfully for public worship.

November is always a special time in our churches when people and families gather to remember their loved ones who have died and greater numbers will gather for remembrance Masses. In light of this we need to continue to be vigilant in relation to protective measures working closely with our parish volunteers and stewards to make sure that everything is in order.

Let us continue to keep each other in prayer.

Yours sincerely in Christ  
**+ Fintan Gavin**  
Bishop of Cork and Ross

### WHAT THE PAPERS SAY...

**Irish Catholic.** (1) Number of Catholics in Asia & Africa continue to rise (2) Sr. Anne Cahill, OLA (Ardfoyle) tells Ruadhan Jones about her 50 years as a missionary (3) Nuala O'Loan: We need a massive expansion of palliative care rather than investing in death (4) Networks set up to make life more interactive also operate in a more insidious way by harming your peace of mind, writes David Quinn

**Catholic Voice.** (1) Paul Kengor: Remembering the Battle of Lepanto 450 years on. (2) Mary Kearns: African seminarians need books

**Tablet of 23/10.** (1) COP 26 Special: Good grief -- Hannah Malcolm laments a world that may be past saving. (2) Synodal Process -- Tge gifts beyond the pale

### 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.

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.

### Thoughts

It can be helpful to ask direct and plain questions. This is what happens in this Sunday's Gospel: 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' We may smile at the context, which is the 613 commandments to be found in the Torah (by tradition the same as the number of seeds in a pomegranate). Christian ethics and doctrine are also "rich" in rules and teachings. So, what stands at the very heart of our faith?

The "simple" answers given are simple to grasp but anything but simple to live. We are not just to believe that there is a God — we are to love God and in case we missed it how that is to be done it is spelt out: with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second commandment, to love our neighbour as ourselves, is equally demanding, even costly.

### MASS OF REMEMBRANCE.

Our Mass of Remembrance for those parishioners who died in the last 12 months will take place on **Friday 5th. November, 2021 at 7.30pm.**



**Anam Cara Cork**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on **Wednesday 3rd November at 7:20pm** in the Clayton Hotel, Silver Springs, Cork City. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not.  
\*Subject to change in accordance with government advice\*



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

### 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

There is a story told about an elderly Cistercian, who on being asked what he believed at that point in his life replied, "I believe more and more in less and less"! It is not as paradoxical as it seems. As we go on, the core dimension of the faith should stand out for us. As Erasmus wrote, the essentials are few but essential.

### Prayer

*God, your love is always there ahead of us, even before we are aware of it. Help us, therefore, to love you by letting you love us first. May we love you in our neighbour in need. Amen.*

K O'Mahony OSA

### Reflections

1. Today's gospel brings us right to the heart of what a Christian life involves: love of God and of neighbour. Jesus tells us that having life both now and in the future is the fruit of living in a spirit of love. How have you experienced the power of love given, and received, as a source of life and vitality?

2. If you were asked what is most important in life, what would your answer be? Recall the experiences and relationships you have had. Which are the ones that you treasure most? What has particularly enriched your life? How would you encourage another person who asked you how s/he could live a full life?

3. Jesus praises the questioner as one who had answered wisely. Recall some of the wise people you have known, people who in their words and actions impressed you with their capacity to see and treasure what is important in life.

### PRAYER

*Lord our God, you are the one God and there is no other. Give us grace to hear and heed the great commandment of your kingdom, that we may love you with all our heart and our neighbour as ourselves. 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.*

NOTHING IS MORE PRACTICAL THAN FINDING GOD, THAT IS THAN **FALLING IN LOVE** IN A QUITE ABSOLUTE FINAL WAY. WHAT YOU ARE IN LOVE WITH, WHAT SEIZES YOUR IMAGINATION, WILL AFFECT EVERYTHING. IT WILL DECIDE WHAT WILL GET YOU OUT OF BED IN THE MORNING, WHAT YOU DO WITH YOUR EVENINGS, HOW YOU SPEND YOUR WEEKENDS, WHAT YOU READ, WHO YOU KNOW, WHAT BREAKS YOUR HEART, AND WHAT AMAZES YOU WITH JOY AND GRATITUDE. FALL IN LOVE, STAY IN LOVE, AND IT WILL DECIDE EVERYTHING.

PEDRO ARRUIPE, SJ