

### 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**



### Recently Deceased

**Gerry Brown**, Rockcliffe Village  
**Jeremiah (Jerry) Murphy**, Blackrock  
 May the light of heaven surround them always.



### Baptisms

**Jacob Anthony Attridge.**  
**Josephine Catherine Cusack.**



We welcome them into the Christian Family

**FIRST FRIDAY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.**  
**On Friday 7th January** 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**  
**January Church Gate collection will take place on**  
**w/e 1st/2nd January 2022**  
**Your support as always, is greatly appreciated.**

### Christmas Blessings



Fr Colin, Canon Tadhg and Fr Michael wish you every blessing this Christmas time.  
 May the Peace of Christmas be with you and your families

### CHRISTMAS DUES

**For those parishioners who didn't receive the envelopes by post, there are some available in the church.**

**Anam Cara Cork**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding it's monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on **Wednesday 5th January 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 advise\*



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



**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.**

### WHAT THE PAPERS SAY...

**Irish Catholic.** (1). Fr. Martin Delaney: Hopes for bountiful blessings, not fear for New Year  
 (2) Michael Kelly: Synod is a call to co-responsibility for the Church  
 (3) Pope's Urbi et Orbi warns against indifference to global tragedies  
 (4) Renowned GAA manager Mickey Harte tells Chai Brady about his faith, family grief and his new book (5) The important role of the Church in the EU. — The Church can be a co-guardian of the European project, Bishop Noel Treanor tells Ruadhan Jones (6) Medical Matters — Covid causes considerable increase in loneliness

**Medjugorje Pilgrimage** June 15th to 22nd 2022 flying Cork to Dubrovnik (morning flight) with Aer Lingus staying in Hotel Leone. Spiritual Director Fr. Ted Sheehan. Cost pps €699.00 half board if booked and paid in full by December 10th), €749.00 thereafter. Deposit of €250.00 secures place. COVID insurance cover included in cost. Contact Sean O'Shaughnessy 0862959380



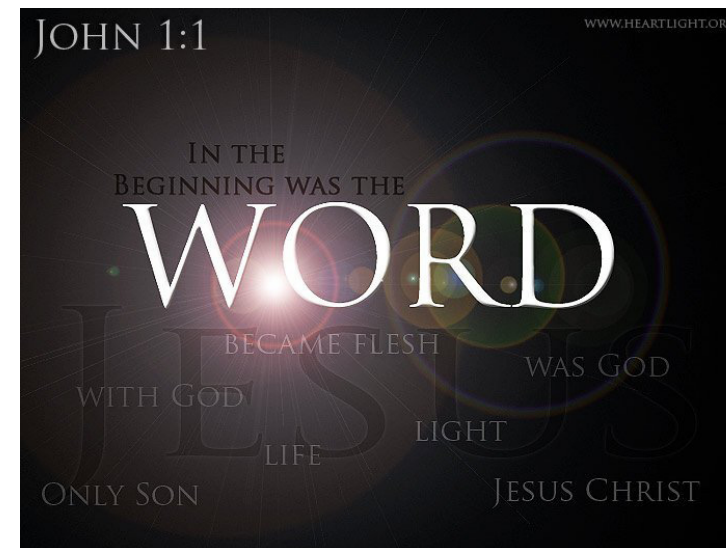
### Thank You!

Our thanks to all the people who helped our parish in any way during the year. Our thanks to John, Jane, the ladies in the Choir and all in the Folk Group. Also to the Collectors, Stewards and Foggers who kept us safe and free from Covid. Thanks also to all in the Communications Team and anyone who volunteered their help and support of the parish during the year - to you all - go raibh mile maith agaibh!

Have a Happy and Peaceful New Year  
 Fr Colin, Canon Tadhg and Fr Michael

### Thoughts

The Second Sunday of Christmas affords a second opportunity to hear the Prologue of John. It may well be that this passage is not usually read on Christmas Day — for pastoral reasons the nativity story from Luke is often preferred. Nevertheless, it is a powerful text, which never ceases to yield. Almost any single line could be a springboard for a deep reflection on what it means to be human and on how the unseen God has come close to us in a single, fragile human life. We could follow the advice of the Wexford Carol: "consider well and bear in mind."



This magnificent passage provides a powerful opening to this gospel. It lays out the main themes of John's gospel – life, light, truth, the world, testimony and the pre-existence of Jesus Christ. He is the Incarnate Logos or Word, who reveals God the Father to us.

Then comes the dramatic statement: "the Word became flesh". The Word took on our human nature in all its fullness. He did not have, as some people believed, just the external appearance of a human but was "like us in all things". And he lived right among us. The Greek term literally means he "pitched his tent or tabernacle" among us. Let us welcome him today.

**MINISTERS OF THE WORD**  
**New Ministers of the Word Rota is available for collection in the sacristy.**

**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**



### Thought for the day

We are at the start of the new civil year and beginning again is an invitation to look in two directions. What happened for me in the last year, both in my ordinary life and in my life as a believer, a person of faith? For what do I ask forgiveness? For what do I give thanks? We also look forward and the new beginning gives us a chance to start again on the Way of discipleship. Both thanksgiving and renewal are to be found in today's readings. The Gospel is in invitation to wake up, to keep watch, to live fully the present moment under God, in whom we live and move and have our being.

### Prayer

*Wake us up, O God, at the start of a new year and rouse us from the slumber of the everyday that we may recognise you in every moment and in every person every day of our lives. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

K O'Mahony OSA

### Reflections

1. John opens his Gospel with a profound reflection on the meaning of creation, of life and of Jesus. Remember when you had a special awareness of the gift of life that filled you with gratitude to God for creation and the beauty and wonder of the world: 'All things came into being through him and without him not one thing came into being.'

2. We hear the gospel message frequently. Sometimes it goes in one ear and out the other. Then there are occasions when it made us feel more alive, times when it helped us see the way ahead, like a light that shines in the darkness. Recall when the gospel gave you hope in the midst of anxiety or sadness and helped you to see what action would be most life giving for you and for others

3. Bring to mind people who have had a prophetic voice in the world - speaking the truth for the world to hear, like as a witness to testify to the light. Some of these may have been public figures. Others were ordinary people who have helped you see the 'light' by the witness of their own lives and words.

4. "No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son of God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known." Jesus came to us to teach us about God and put a human face on God for us. For the people of his day, and for us, that was a mission of getting us to think again about how we see God and to believe in a God who is a God of love. Recall how the life and ministry of Jesus have changed your picture of God.

### PRAYER

*God most high, your only Son embraced the weakness of our flesh to give us the power to become your children; your eternal Word chose to dwell among us, that we might live in your presence. Grant us a spirit of wisdom to know how rich is the glory you have made our own, and how great the hope to which we are called in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit in the splendour of eternal light God for ever and ever.*