

Mass Times

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



Recently Deceased

Noel Punch. Clontarf Estate.
May the light of heaven surround him always.



Baptisms

Harry Thomas Mathews.

We welcome him into the Christian Family



FIRST FRIDAY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.

On Friday 4th February 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.

God never tires of forgiving us



JOY OF THE GOSPEL

"How good it feels to come back to him whenever we are lost! Let me say this once more: God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy. Christ, who told us to forgive one another "seventy times seven" (Mt 18:22) has given us his example: he has forgiven us seventy times seven.

Time and time again he bears us on his shoulders. No one can strip us of the dignity bestowed upon us by this boundless and unfailing love. With a tenderness which never disappoints, but is always capable of restoring our joy, he makes it possible for us to lift up our heads and to start anew. Let us not flee from the resurrection of Jesus, let us never give up, come what will. May nothing inspire more than his life, which impels us onwards!" (3)

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

January Church Gate collection will take place on **w/e 6th/7th February 2022**
Your support as always, is greatly appreciated.



Study Theology Online, is this for you? The Priory Institute provides online Theology courses to degree level. Attend Saturday lectures in Tallaght or from the comfort of your own home. Register before 8 February for Spring 2022. Find out more on our website, prioryinstitute.com



CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS/DUES –
The Priests of the parish are very grateful to the parishioners who have returned the dues envelopes. Your support is greatly appreciated in these difficult times.

MINISTERS

New Ministers of the Word and Eucharist Rota is available for collection in the sacristy.

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY...

Irish Catholic. (1) Region hosting Olympic skiing has history of Catholic persecution (2) David Quinn: Irish Government should not recognise commercial surrogacy. (3) Ruadhan Jones: 'Tell your friends you'll meet them at Mass'. (4) Shannon Campbell: Students must be educated beyond their echo chamber. (5) Fr. Shay Cullen welcomes raised age of consent in the Philippines

Catholic Voice. (1) The Holy Face Devotion. (2) Mary O'Regan: St. Joseph's supernatural staircase. (3) The Patron Saint of the Unborn — St. Gerard Majella. (4) Mary Kearns: Working through our guilt?

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

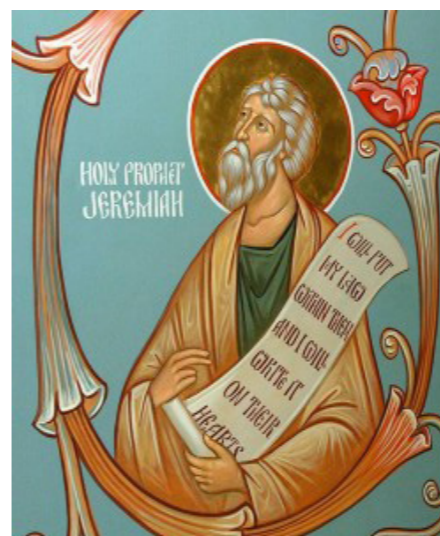
Anam Cara Cork, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding it's monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on **Wednesday 2nd Feb at 7:20pm in the Clayton Hotel, Silver Springs, Cork City.** This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. *Subject to change in accordance with



Inspiration

The lectionary divides Luke 4:14-30 into two parts. Our Sunday Gospel is, therefore, the continuation of the scene in Nazareth, as imaginatively represented by Luke. Luke's expansion of the story anticipates, in symbolic fashion, the inclusion of the Gentiles in the Gospel project. Welcoming the Gentiles was a real struggle, as may be seen from Acts 10:1-11:18 (the "conversion" of Cornelius) and from Galatians. The struggle may speak to us today, as we become aware of the individual and groups we exclude from the worshipping community.

It is not forbidden to continue to reflect on the place of the Scriptures in our lives, precisely because last Sunday's Gospel reading was Part I. This Sunday we have Part II of the Lucan scene in Nazareth. There are more resources in www.tarsus.ie, including a rich collection of pastoral resources from the Council for the New Evangelisation (Rome). The Synodal Pathways journey will indeed be fruitful if, and only if, we ground our participation in prayer and in the Word of God. The regeneration of faith can have no other genesis.



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



Medjugorje Pilgrimage ex Cork June 15th - 22nd. €749 pps (€50 discount if paid in full by Jan 31st). Spiritual Director Fr Ted Sheehan. Contact Sean O'Shaughnessy 0862959380 to secure place. Limited availability. Full COVID travel insurance included.

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.

Thought for the day

Probably all of us have experience of "small town Ireland" (or wherever). The limited set of expectations limits what we can see and recognise in others. It may even be that we are both victims and perpetrators! Familiarity does not always breed esteem. This is even true in the faith: we can be so "familiar" with it all that any sense of energy or newness has long since dissipated. And yet, we *should* allow ourselves to be surprised by the God of surprises: "See, I am making all things new." (Revelation 21:5) This newness of the Gospel is more radical than mere novelty: it is a new creation in Christ. New wine, new wineskins!

Prayer

God of the new, help us shake off the shackles of familiarity and come once more with open hearts and lives to hear again your prophet Jesus.
Amen. *K O'Mahony OSA*

Reflections

1. The people of Nazareth could not accept that this local boy was one to teach them. It can be difficult for us to see those close to us as people through whom God is going to reveal some truth to us. Yet what a difference when we drop our prejudices and are open to what is being said. Perhaps you have experienced this?
2. The anger of the people arose when Jesus confronted them with God's inclusive ways. God was 'their God' and God's blessings were for them. Jesus reminded them that this is not God's way. When have you been challenged to think in new ways and not to be excluding some people from your thoughts or concerns? Was there good news for you in the challenge?
3. Jesus continued his work despite the opposition. Have there been times when despite opposition you have been able to 'walk through the people' and 'continue on your way'? Have you seen this courage in others?

PRAYER

God of salvation, in your Prophet, Jesus the Christ, you announce freedom and summon us to conversion. As we marvel at the grace and power of your word, enlighten us to see the beauty of the gospel and strengthen us to embrace its demands.
Grant this through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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 and register to receive the emails.