

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

Patrick (Paddy) Murphy, Upper Beaumont Drive.
Miriam Smith, Beaumont
William O'Mahony, Skehard Road
May the light of heaven surround them always.



Baptisms

Florence London Keelan.
Alice Olivia Minihan,
We welcome them into the Christian Family



Christian Weapons

In recent weeks we have slowly emerged from the global pandemic and had begun to look ahead to the spring and summer with hope. In just a few days our world has been turned on its head again with a brutal war in Ukraine. While we are worried perhaps frightened ourselves it is only a fraction of the suffering experienced by innocent people and families in Ukraine. Our hearts go out to them and to their beloved country. May God keep them brave and strong.



Ukraine Saint Michael

We have started the Season of Lent during the week on Ash Wednesday. During Lent, the three 'Christian weapons' of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are central. These are weapons of conversion and peace not of destruction and anarchy. These Christian weapons change lives and hearts. We will fight a spiritual battle with these weapons all the while praying and fasting for peace in Ukraine and stability in our world.

May God bless the people of Ukraine and may God bless all of us in this Season of Lent.

Fr. Michael



Saint Sophia Cathedral, Kiev.

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY...

Tablet of 5/3. (1) US Archbishop prays for the conversation of Vladimir Putin (2) Shelagh Fogarty: I wonder if a miracle is happening in the person of Volodymyr Zelenskiy (3) Fr. James Martin SJ: How Thomas Merton has changed my life. Inspire - a quarterly for young adults - is included with this week's Tablet

Irish Catholic. (1). Michael Kelly: A great evil has been visited upon Ukraine. (2) David Quinn: Having a child should not be reduced to a transaction like something that can be bought in a shop (3) Fr. Bernard Cotter: Can pastoral ministry be continued by non-priests. (4) The Sunday Godspeed with Fr. Sylvester O'Flynn: Lent prepares us for Easter

Sacred Heart Messenger: Archbishop Dermot Farrell: The Parish Council. (2) Fr. Gerard Condon: Lent and the Synod. (3) Fr. Brendan Comerford SJ: Bishop Joseph Shanahan who played such an important role in the Church in Nigeria

Catholic Voice: (1) Mary Kearns: Superbook — a modern way to teach the bible (2) How to practice a good Lent — Part 1

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



BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL
March Church Gate collection will take place on w/e 5th / 6th March 2022
Your support as always, is greatly appreciated.

The Novena in honour of Matt Talbot will be starting again in The Way of the Cross Church, Togher at 7.30 p.m. on the Mondays of Lent. We are delighted that we can celebrate in person this year but for those who are far away and would like to join online, they can do so at https://www.churchservices.tv/togher Organised by Cork Regional Pioneer Council. I would also be very grateful to hear from any parish who has old Pioneer documents like registers or minute books where there might have been a Pioneer centre in the past.

We are anxious to gather these in the coming months as they are a very valuable part of our Pioneer and social history. People can contact me on this email address or on 0863642619

Anam Cara West Cork the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening on Tuesday 15th March at 7:20pm in the Munster Arms Hotel, Bandon. This is a free event and open to all bereaved parents. For further information please contact us on 085 288 8888 or info@anamcara.ie



BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL
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.

Inspiration

As Lent approaches, we are painfully aware that war has broken out in Europe. It is a catastrophe. Pope Francis reflects:

My heart aches greatly at the worsening situation in Ukraine. Despite the diplomatic efforts of the last few weeks, increasingly alarming scenarios are opening up. Like me, many people all over the world are feeling anguish and concern. Once again the peace of all is threatened by partisan interests. I would like to appeal to those with political responsibility to examine their consciences seriously before God, who is the God of peace and not of war; who is the Father of all, not just of some, who wants us to be brothers and not enemies. I pray that all the parties involved refrain from any action that would cause even more suffering to the people, destabilising coexistence between nations and bringing international law into disrepute.

And now I would like to appeal to everyone, believers and non-believers alike: Jesus taught us that the diabolical senselessness of violence is answered with God's weapons, with prayer and fasting. I encourage believers in a special way to dedicate themselves intensely to prayer and fasting this Lent. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.

LENT



Mask Wearing in Churches

During the week Bishop Fintan wrote to parishes in response to enquiries received about how we should proceed now that most covid related restrictions have been lifted as follows:

I have received a number of calls in recent days enquiring about the situation in parishes since most covid related health restrictions were lifted on 28th February last. At that time the government added that people should 'continue to manage risk for themselves and others who are more vulnerable by mask-wearing, physical distancing as well as maintaining basic hand and respiratory hygiene' Protective Measures

In light of this, it is important that people are encouraged to continue wearing a face covering in the church while priests and Eucharistic Ministers should continue to wear a face covering for the distribution of Holy Communion and in any other liturgical settings that require close contact with people.

Hand sanitiser should continue to be provided at entrance and exit doors of churches. It is important that dispensers should be replenished regularly.

TROCAIRE BOXES AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH.

SECOND COLLECTION W/E . 12/13 MARCH. IRISH BISHOPS COMMISSIONS.

Thought for the day

The days of spring lengthen and Lent echoes nature inviting us as well to a new springtime of faith. As in farming and gardening, there is work to be done if new growth is to flourish or even to happen at all. We have to look back and see what has done well and what has, in effect, died off. We need to make space by clearing the ground and looking at ourselves honestly. It would be good to identify what will feed and sustain us during this journey from the ashes of Ash Wednesday to the new birth of the Easter.

Prayer

In this springtime, creator God, we watch new life appear from the dark earth after the night of winter. Help us also to grow. In us, there is darkness and night; yet we know that you can bring us once more to life. Amen

K O'Mahony OSA

Reflections

1. Jesus was led by the Spirit into what proved to be a wilderness experience. When you look back on times when you hit a low point, can you see the presence of the Spirit of God in some of them?

2. Jesus is on the verge of starting his public ministry. In the temptations we can see his struggle to say 'yes' to the mission given him by God. Perhaps some of your important decisions have been preceded by a time of anxiety and worry. What helped you to say 'yes' to risky but hope-filled invitations in your life?

3. Behind each of the devil's invitations was a basic temptation to lose trust in God. How have you been tempted in this way? What helped you to hold on to trust in God?

4. One can enter into the temptations singly and ask:
• How have I been tempted to give priority to bodily needs and satisfactions?
• How have I been tempted to a selfish use of power?
• How have I been tempted to seek to be the centre of attention?

PRAYER

Lord our God, you alone do we worship only your word gives life. Sustain your Church on its Lenten journey. When we walk through the desert of temptation, strengthen us to renounce the power of evil. When our faith is tested by doubt, illumine our hearts with Easter's bright promise. We ask this through Christ, our deliverance and hope, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, holy and mighty God for ever and ever.

DO YOU THINK THAT SATAN REALLY THOUGHT HE COULD DEFEAT JESUS?



WELL, HE IS THE FATHER OF LIES. PERHAPS HIS FIRST LIE IS ONE HE TELLS TO HIMSELF.



AIN'T THAT THE TRUTH!

