

Mass Times

Sundays: 9 am & 11 am
Saturday Vigil: 6.00 pm
Tuesday & Friday: 9.30 am



Fr Colin Doocey Adm.

Recently Deceased

Tony Daly, Templevale.
 May the light of God surround him forever.



Baptisms

Jens Tilman Moloney.
 We welcome him into the Christian Family



Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday after the 9.30 Mass in St Michaels Church.

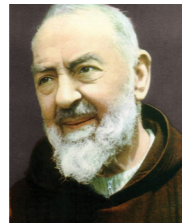
Ash Wednesday 22nd February

Ashes will be distributed after 9.30 am Mass on Wednesday.
 Trochaire Boxes available on the tables.



St. PIO Prayer Group of Our Lady of the Rosary

We meet on the **last Wednesday** of every month with Rosary at 7.45pm followed by Mass at 8pm. In Ardfoyle Convent
 Why not join us for a quiet unrushed hour?
 ALL WELCOME.



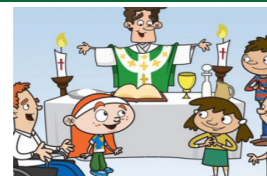
Following the successful return of the Sunday Cuppa would like you to swing by the Parish Centre after 11 am mass on **Sunday 5th March** for tea and refreshments and more chat!

Everyone welcome!



Do This in Memory 2023

6.00 Vigil on 4th March 2023



BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Church Gate collection will take place on **w/e 4/5 March 2023**
 Your support as always is greatly appreciated.

FIRST FRIDAY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.

On Friday 3rd March 2023 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.

Some thoughts on today's Gospel....

“An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth” has a grim ring to our contemporary ears... This is not good enough for Jesus “But I say to you”. Jesus is here setting the bar much higher for his followers. The new model now is how the heavenly Father deals with all of us regardless of how we relate to Him.

We are called to nothing less than perfection. In the Gospel of St Luke we learn more about the sort of perfection called for. St Luke's phrase is: “Be merciful as your heavenly Father is merciful”. What is called for is the perfection of mercy. In his last moments on Calvary Jesus gave us an example of what is meant: “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do”. Let us try to be more like Jesus.

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland Alzheimer Social Club.



Cork Alzheimers Café a safe place for people with Alzheimers and other dementias, their carers, family and friends along with social and health professionals to meet. **Last Friday of each month 11am to 12.30pm in St Finbarrs Hospital Activity Centre, Douglas Road.** Light refreshments provided free of charge. All welcome. Friday 24th February the next meeting.

'Desert Fathers' A Lenten Program for men.

A Lenten program for men has been developed by an Irish priest to help men make this Lent different. The program contains 4 pillars - Prayer, Penance, Spiritual reading & Charity. To find out more and join an online group a zoom information meeting is scheduled for **Sunday Feb 19th at 8:30pm.** Meeting ID 494 625 9738 Password: 997298.



County Champions St Michaels Gaelic Footballers Treble Celebration

I-r **Eoin De Roiste**, U19 Captain **Sean Keating** Senior A Captain and **Paul Murphy** Junior Captain display their trophies at the Victory Dinner in the Rochestown Park Hotel recently. *pic George Hatchell*



If you would like to receive a weekly commentary on the Weekly Scripture Readings, both in AUDIO, VIDEO and in PDF, please log on to www.tarsus.ie and register to receive the emails.

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



Observations

The four antitheses from last week's Gospel were a challenge for many people — and required some contextualisation to make sense of them for today. The remaining two antitheses from Matthew 5:38-48 are easier to understand but, of course, no less challenging to live. The signature teaching of Jesus is love, love which includes even love of our enemies and persecutors.

To enrich our reflection on this Gospel passage, we could do much worse than re-read “God is Love”, the first and very inspirational encyclical of Benedict XVI, which has stood the test to time.

Day of Reflection

An afternoon of Reflection and Prayer for Ministers of the Eucharist and Word will take place on **12th March 2023 from 2.30 to 5.30 in the Parish Centre Blackrock.**

This is open to Ministers in the Mahon, Ballinlough and Blackrock Parishes.

The afternoon will be facilitated by Fr Ronan Sheehan, Ballincollig who was ordained in the diocese last year. Refreshments provided.

RTÉ will broadcast Mass on Sunday 19 February 2023 at 11am to mark **Temperance Sunday 2023.**

Prayers will be offered for all who are in treatment for addiction and for those who are in recovery.

The Offertory Hymn composed by Ephrem Feeley is a new arrangement of the Serenity Prayer.

Liturgy of the Word Thursdays at 9:30am

There will be a Celebration of the Word of God and Prayer every Thursday during Lent in Holy Cross Church at 9:30am. All Welcome.



Anam Cara West Cork the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening on **Tuesday 21st February at 7:20pm in the Mill Court, Mill Place, Bandon P72 E938.** 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



Special Cork **Pilgrimage to Fatima** last remaining places 9-14th June 2023 ex Dublin for Feast Day of Saint Anthony Patron Saint of Portugal visit Saint Anthonys birthplace and baptismal font in Lisbon contact James Treacy 061921470

Cork Scripture Group

4 Monday nights (27th Feb, 6th, 13th, 20th March) on “Treasures Old and New: The Bible as the Heart of our faith.” Presenters: Sean O'Sullivan, Luke Macnamara OSB, Sr Mary T. Brien PBVM, Phil Mortell. Saturday workshop (March 11th) on Matthew and Justice facilitated by Sr Sheila Curran RSM. Cost €50. To book a place, please email corksripturegroup@gmail.com

Thought for the day

Today's gospel continues the challenge from last week to go deeper into the heart, the seat of hidden thoughts and desires. The call to conversion is a call to give just as we have received: we are loved and so should love; we are forgiven and so should forgive; we are consoled and so should console and so forth. Why is that? Because the love etc. that we have received becomes truly “me” only when I pass it on. Only then have I experienced the message of the prophet: I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. (Ezek 36:26)

Prayer

O God, open our ears to hear the word of Jesus, your Son. Open our hearts, that we may know true conversion from within. Open our hands that we may give just as we have received.

K O'Mahony OSA

Reflections

1. Jesus tells us to act out of love and says that acting out of love is better than acting out of revenge. What does your experience tell you?
2. Perhaps you have at times hit back in revenge when you have been hurt or offended. What effect did this have you, on others, and on your relationship with them? Contrast this with the times when you resisted the urge to retaliate. What effect did this have on you, on others, and on your relationship with them...at the time, and in the long-term?
3. From other passages in the gospels, it is clear that Jesus did not mean that we should ignore injustices and never make a stand against others. What lessons have you learned in life on when and how to make a stand? What wisdom would you share with others from your experience?

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, in Christ Jesus you challenge us to renounce violence and to forsake revenge. Teach us to recognise as your children even our enemies and persecutors and to love them without measure or discrimination. We ask this 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.

Candle of Atonement Prayer

Lord, forgive us our many sins. We grieve and repent with all our hearts for having offended you, for our great failings and neglect of the young and vulnerable. We place all of those who have been hurt by the Church in any way into your loving hands and under the protection of Our Blessed Mother. Lord, bring peace to their broken lives and show us all the way out of darkness and into the light of your Word. May we as the people of God be more fully human, more fully Christ-like and more fully your people, that we may see the errors of the past and go forward with renewed hope and faith in Christ and in our Church. Amen.

Worldwide Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Sexual Abuse on 24th February.

In previous years, candles have been lit in cathedrals and churches across the country as a reminder of the need for atonement and to symbolise repentance; light in the darkness and hope.