

### Mass Times

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



**Fr Colin Doocey Adm.**

**Recently Deceased**  
**Brian Bourke, Beaumont**  
May the light of God surround him forever.



### Remember your families and friends abroad.

Cards are available for you to remember your families and friends abroad. Place the card in the box provided and they will be remembered at all masses on St Patrick's Day

**St Patrick's Day Masses**  
**9.00 am and 11.00 am**  
**No vigil Mass**



### Some thoughts on today's Gospel....

The thought of Jesus sitting alone by the well is an invitation to be with him. As he looked at the woman, he looks at us: he longs to offer us life; he invites us to see the deeper meaning in what we do; he respects our dignity, asking us to do what we can for him.

When Jesus says, "If you knew...", he reveals his desire to draw us into knowing God as he does. His open and generous heart is the heart of God, inviting us all to rest where we are known and loved, to find enduring life and lasting refreshment.

### THE PAPERS SAY.....

**Irish Catholic.** (1) Dana to launch new St. Patrick song in Downpatrick. (2) What do Pope Francis' latest financial measures mean? (3) The Oblates are working with vibrant young people from around the world who are attracting Irish youth. (4) Deacon Brett Lockhart: Ireland has never quite grasped the significance of the wisdom and thought of St. John Henry Newman.

**Tablet of 4/3.** (1) Illiberal Democracy -- Clear and present danger. (2) Joanna Moorhead: When clerics have so often sought the Status Quo nuns have embraced change. (3) Canonisation plea on the cards for London's 'skateboard hero'

**Catholic Voice.** (1) The Haunting final Homily of Cardinal Pell. (2) Modern ecumenism in the Catholic Church undermines Divine teaching. (3) Lent -- A time of Prayer  
**Messenger.** (1) Fr. Peter McVerry: Why was Jesus executed? (2) Bishop Tom Deenihan homily: Fr. Willie Doyle -- Cause for Beatification (3) God is at work in Dysfunctional Families.

**Synodal Times.** (1) Synodality and decision-making -- The whole community (2) Michael W. Higgins: Jean Vanier Diminished. (3) Oceania Assembly listened to cry of the poor, the earth and the ocean say continent's bishops.

### PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS

There are 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

### 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 March 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](mailto:info@anamcara.ie)



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](http://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**



### Orservations

The readings for this Sunday — the central Sunday of Lent — are thematically very unified. The Exodus reading is followed by a Psalm which mentions the episode at Massah and Meribah; the reading from John makes much of the symbolism of water; even St Paul says the Holy Spirit has been poured into our hearts.

### Mass of Thanksgiving

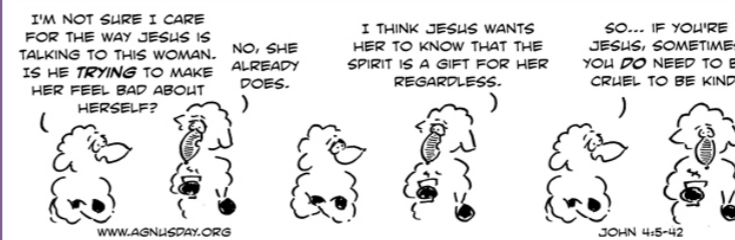
Covid was a very difficult time for all of us, and in particular, the church community.

In this context, we were blessed to have to support of many of our parishioners, including yourself, to help and support Parish through this difficult period.

Now that Covid would appear to have abated, the priests of the Parish and the Parish Assembly would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your help supporting the church, and its parishioners when the call came.

We are painfully aware that the repercussions of the pandemic will live with us for many years and in this context, a Mass to remember all parishioners who were impacted by Covid and to thank those who supported the parish, will be celebrated on **Friday 24th March 2023 at 9.30 am**. We hope that you will be able to join us for this special occasion. Again, thank you for your help, and may God bless you.

Coronavirus  
COVID-19



CORK CITY FAMILY OF PARISHES PRESENTS

<p><b>HOW TO PRAY</b></p> <p>SIX LENTEN TALKS ON PRAYER WEDNESDAYS AT 7.30PM IN SAINT FINBARR'S SOUTH CHURCH</p>	<p>MARCH 1ST AN INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER</p>	<p>MARCH 8TH THE PSALMS</p>	<p>MARCH 15TH ADORATION</p>
	<p>MARCH 22ND LECTIO DIVINA</p>	<p>MARCH 29TH THE OUR FATHER PRAYER</p>	<p>APRIL 5TH PRAYER DURING HOLY WEEK</p>

JOIN US FOR A CUPPA AFTERWARDS

**St Michael's Wall of Prayer** will give people the opportunity to express their faith and to be inspired by the faith of others. You can place your prayer on the Wall of Prayer using the cards provided. Each card has a peel off adhesive on the back which will easily stick to the board. Everyone is invited to view and read the Wall of Prayer.

**PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR FULL NAME OR GIVE SPECIFIC DETAILED CIRCUMSTANCES**

### Thought for the day

Today we are greatly helped by the wonderful Gospel of the Woman at the Well. On the third attempt, Jesus finally gets through to her but after that there is no stopping her. As Augustine teaches, she represents us: what do I thirst for? What is the most important thing in my life? Where do I now find God? By relentless challenge and resolute honesty, we too can be led to that encounter with Jesus, which changes everything, "giving life a new horizon and a decisive direction." May we come to believe because we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.

### Prayer

*In the midst of the ordinary things, loving God, you call us to the deeper realities: your thirst for us and our thirst for you. Never let us be satisfied, until we come to the springs of living water, welling up for eternal life.*

K O'Mahony OSA

### Reflections

1. Jesus leads the woman along a wonderful journey towards a deeper and fuller life. You can enter the story with Jesus, the ideal leader, parent, teacher, or spiritual guide. Notice how he meets the woman where she is, needing her assistance, how he is patient with her, but also challenges her to grow to what she is capable of. Perhaps you have been such a teacher, or you can recall people who were.

2. You can also enter the story from the perspective of the woman's journey. Notice the steps along the way: suspicion, distrust, curiosity, misunderstanding and conversion. Her journey was one in which a very human motivation attracted her to Jesus: the thought of having water in such a way that she did not have to come and draw it from the well. What have been the human motives that have attracted you to faith, prayer, religion, church and which have been stepping-stones to a deeper personal relationship with Jesus? Perhaps we can also see the same movement in the growth of some of our human relationships.

3. The woman's final tactic is to attempt to buy time before responding (v. 25) — it will all happen sometime in the future. Jesus points out that the time for a faith response is NOW. How have you discovered the importance of the NOW moment?

### PRAYER

*O God, living and true, look upon your people, whose dry and stony hearts are parched with thirst. Unseal the living water of your Spirit; let it become within us an ever-flowing spring, leaping up to eternal life.*

*Thus may we worship you in spirit and in truth 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. Amen.*

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

**Holy Land Christmas 2023** Ex Dublin, taking in Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Nazareth, Dead Sea, Sea of Galilee, Last Supper Room, Garden of Gethsemane, Mount of Olives with full day in Bethlehem on Christmas Day.

Payment can be made by instalments contact James Treacy 061921470 [jamestreacyphotography@gmail.com](mailto:jamestreacyphotography@gmail.com)

DIOCESE OF CORK AND ROSS

## Turkey & Syria Earthquake Collection

Bishop Fintan has given approval for a diocesan collection to be taken up in support of people affected by the devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

This will take place on Saturday 18th March/Sunday 19th March.

All funds raised will be channelled through Trócaire who are working with the Caritas Internationalis Network in Turkey and Syria.

### BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The Collection last Sunday raised €1955  
A great response and support from parishioners.  
Thank you.

The AGM of the **Blackrock Community Association** will be held at the Community Centre, Convent Road on Monday 20th March 2023 at 12 noon. Everybody welcome.

**SECOND COLLECTION W/E 11th & 12th MARCH**  
**IRISH BISHOPS COMMISSIONS.**

### Unfolding the Word:

*Listening to the Word of the Lord in Lent*  
Why not join us on **Thursdays 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th March** in the church room in Holy Cross, Mahon from 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm. An opportunity to come together and spend some time reading and discussing the Scriptures, followed by prayer. Everyone is most welcome and we even have a cuppa and chat afterwards as well!

### 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.

