

### Mass Times

**Sundays:** 9 am & 11 am  
**Saturday Vigil:** 6.00 pm  
**Tuesday & Friday:** 9.30 am  
**Fr Colin Doocey Adm.**



### Recently Deceased

**Mary Fitzgerald. Menloe Gardens.**  
**John O'Connell. Ashleigh Gardens.**  
May the light of God surround them forever.



### Easter Vigil Baptism

**Sean Patrick Muldoon.**  
We welcome him into the Christian Family



### New Parish Assembly for Blackrock Church

Since the present Parish Assembly members are stepping down after a number of years, we are now looking for volunteers and nominations to form the new Assembly.

You just need to be someone who wants the parish to **grow, work well, support its parishioners** and **add value to the parish life**; you will also get a lot of personal satisfaction from being in position to help of the parish.

We will have nomination papers in the church next week and we ask that you might consider nominating yourself or someone else you feel would like to be a member. We would encourage younger people to think about making the commitment. More details will follow next week.

### PYX APPEAL.

If any parishioner has a PYX in their home that they are not using would they kindly return same to the Sacristy please.

### Collection

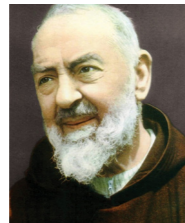
The second collection w/e 22nd/23rd April is for DIOCESAN NEEDS.

### 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

### 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.



### Cork International Choral Festival Church Interchange Programme 2023

The Choir of St Michael's Church, Blackrock; Conductor Jane Fitzpatrick, Organ John Fitzpatrick will sing at the 11am Mass on Sunday, 23rd April in St Patrick's Church, Rochestown. The Choir of St Francis Church will sing in St Michael's. **On Sunday, 30th April at 11am, as part of the Choral Festival Sacred Trail, we will have the Chamber Choir Orfez SLOVENIA visiting St Michael's Church. They are a 34 member choir and the Conductor is Andraz Hauptman.**



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

**T**he Risen Jesus meets his closest friends for the first time after they had all abandoned him in his hour of need. It must have been a moment they were all dreading. Yet his first words, twice over, were, 'Peace be with you'. No rebuke, no reproach, just 'Peace!' And then he showed them his wounds, the unmistakable signs.

'As the Father sent me, I also send you'. While they were feeling they had failed abysmally as his disciples, he entrusted them with the same mission he had received from the Father: now they knew it was not they who had chosen him, but he had chosen them. Their mission, a mission of bringing forgiveness of sins, was to be carried out by the power of the Holy Spirit. We stand in awe in the presence of the Risen Jesus, sharing his great joy and that of his best friends at this meeting.



### THE PAPERS SAY.....

**Irish Catholic.** (1). 'Significant' rise in parental concern over inappropriate education material. (2) Do not give free school meals to 'better off' says Fr. Sean Healy (3) Good Friday Agreement 25. -- Archbishop Eamonn Martin: Our failure to recover the truth will continue to undermine the foundations of peace AND Martin Mansergh: The Agreement is a landmark in Irish history. (4) First Irish person (from Co. Cork) appointed to Vatican Marian academy.

**Tablet.** (1) L'Arche: The way forward. -- Where the light comes in. (2). Mary at the Cross. -- Was she there? (3). Assisting dying -- Breaking the 'golden chain'.

**Messenger.** (1) Bringing life to villages in East Timor. (2). Pope Francis on Vocations.

**Synodal Times.** (1). Garry O'Sullivan: For what we have failed to do; Kyrie Eleison. (2). How both hurt and hope came out of the European Continental Assembly of the Synod in Prague.

**Catholic Voice.** (1) Four teachings on Hell from St. Thomas Aquinas. (2). Niall Carroll: Priestly Vocations. -- A way forward for Ireland.

### 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.

**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

**O**ur Gospel for this Sunday is remembered as the story of doubting Thomas — this in spite of the fact that Thomas makes the most resounding act of faith in Jesus in the whole Gospel of John. It should really be remembered as a story of faith — believing Thomas. But that will never catch on, simply because we identify more readily with the figure of doubt — just tha bit nearer to our experience.

### EASTER CREED

Do you believe in God, Source and incarnating power of the immense cosmic space and time, who personally knows and cares about each person in the small and most intimate moments of our lives? **I do.**

Do you believe in God who is intensely personal, Taking flesh in fathers, but is much more than fathers, Taking flesh in mothers, but is much more than mothers, who is ultimately MYSTERY and before whom we must stand wordless and in awe? **I do.**

Do you believe in the divinely human Jesus, born of Mary, Who emerged from among us to open our eyes to the presence of God working in all creation? **I do.**

Do you believe in Jesus as the special revelation of our knowledge of God, Who sometimes used images of women and men, birds and trees, seeds and weeds to help us sense the incredible power and earthy intimacy of God's love? **I do.**

Do you believe in Jesus who from the cross in agony found the strength to love and forgive those who betrayed, tortured, reviled and executed him, And who rose to offer comfort, love, forgiveness and hope And to entrust his mission to us? **I do.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit of God working in and through creation to forgive and comfort, heal and rebuild Communities of hope and love in universal solidarity? **I do.**

Do you believe that you are a part of this community in Christ's Spirit, called every day to spread this hope and comfort in rebuilding our communities, our Church, our nation, our world? **I do.**

*We, in and of your immense universe of cosmic time and space, give you our deepest thanks, our Loving God, through Christ our Lord and in the Living Spirit. Amen.*

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.

**Anam Cara West Cork** the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening on **Tuesday 18th April 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)



### Thought for the day

**H**ow did any of us make the journey towards faith in Christ? No doubt a great part of it is simply what we received — usually from family. At some point, did I make a conscious choice? Perhaps at other times, I felt like walking away from the faith project? What kept me going? Did a more personal ownership of faith result? Perhaps I felt the intuition of John O'Donahue, "Faith is helpless attraction to the divine." In spite of everything, in spite of myself, somehow it is part of who I am.

### Prayer

Mysterious God, we are those who have seen and at the same time not seen. Help to look beyond the simple gifts of each day to see you the giver behind—and in—every gift. Help us embrace the grace that we may know true blessedness in believing.

K O'Mahony OSA

### Reflections

1. "Peace be with you" was the greeting of Jesus on meeting his frightened apostles. Who has come to you bringing peace at times when you were afraid? To whom have you been able to bring peace?

2. Thomas, doubting and questioning, is possibly a person with whom we can identify. What part have doubting and questioning played on your faith journey? How has your faith been strength- ened by such moments?

3. Note the way that Jesus dealt with Thomas. He did not give out because he doubted. He accepted how he felt and led him along to see the truth of his resurrection. Who has been that kind of teacher for you, gently taking you from where you were and leading you to a deeper knowledge about some truth about life? For whom have you been that kind of teacher?

4. "Blessed are they who have not seen and yet believed". That requires great trust. Perhaps you have had the experience of being trusted without having to justify every step along the way. What was it like to be trusted in that way? Who have you been able to trust in a similar manner?

### PRAYER

*God of life, source of all faith, through the waters of baptism you have raised us up in Christ and given us life that endures. Day by day, refine our faith that we who have not seen the Christ, may truly confess him as our Lord and God, and share the blessedness of those who believe. Grant this through Jesus Christ, the res- urrection and the life, who lives and signs with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.*



### THANKS

Thanks to all the parishioners who made the Easter Ceremonies so memorable.