

Mass Times

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



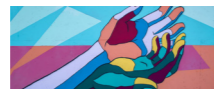
Recently Deceased

Tony (Michael) Long. Beaumont.
Ita O'Brien. Kilbrack Lawn.
Jim Shorten. Tir na nOg.
May the light of God surround them forever.



Baptism

Adam Andrew Harty.
Jack Patrick McCarthy.
Róisín Sile Murphy.
We welcome them into the Christian Family



Sunday Cuppa in the Parish Centre after 11 am mass on Sunday 7th May for tea and refreshments and more chat!

Everyone welcome!



New Parish Assembly for Blackrock Church

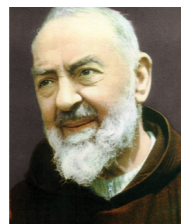
As mentioned last weekend at all the Masses regarding the Parish Assembly 2023, we are now looking for volunteers and nominations to form the new Assembly. You just need to be someone who wants the parish to **grow, work well, support its parishioners** and **add value to the parish life**; you will also get a lot of personal satisfaction from being in position to help of the parish. We have nomination papers in the church 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. Please put the nominations in the box provided. All information is strictly confidential. Thank you.

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



We welcome the Chamber Choir Orfez SLOVENIA visiting St Michael's Church. They are a 34 member choir and the Conductor is Andraz Hauptman. We thank them for their contribution to our liturgy today

Some thoughts on today's Gospel....

Jesus uses rich images from daily life to illustrate the depth of his desired relationship with us. On the one side, he speaks of shepherd and sheep, gatekeeper and gate, pasture and life, recognition and salvation. The contrasting words are: strangers, thieves and bandits, killing and stealing, running away in fear instead of following, climbing in rather than walking through the open gate.

THE PAPERS SAY.....

Irish Catholic. (1). Niamh Ui Bhriain : TDs must keep their promise to voters after abortion referendum. (2) British Government is waging war on Catholic schools in NI While praising them at home (3) Iraq Christians struggle on 20 years after US-led invasion. (4) Building and believing in a future of religious vitality -- Sr. Colette-Marie of the Cork Poor Clares speaks to Chai Brady (5) David Quinn:CSO survey reveals a nightmarish sexual world for many young people.

Tablet. (1). Germany -- Rome reiterates ban on role of laity in episcopal elections (2). St. Francis of Assisi -- in the steps of the Saint. (3). The Pope in Hungary --- Europe's special case. (4) Manners communicate something about our view of the dignity of others.

Sacred Heart Messenger. (1). Andrea Hayes: May, Month of Mary. (2). David Breen: The Gift of the Spirit. (3). Fr. Brendan Comerford S.J. : Courageous Witnesses -- Frank Duff.

Catholic Voice. (1). Richard Greene: St. Anne and Ireland's devotion to the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (2). Mary Kearns: Catholics who walk away. (3). Frank D. Flynn: What's the problem with Freemasonry anyway? *Keep in touch with the Church and support the Catholic by buying and reading a Catholic paper/magazine weekly.*

FIRST FRIDAY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT On Friday 5th May 2023

There is a wedding in the Church that morning so exposition will commence at 2.30pm and continue to 5pm. as usual.



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.

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Church Gate collection will take place on **Week ending 6th/7th May 2023**
Your support as always is greatly appreciated.

Medjugorje Pilgrimage from Cork

May 31st to June 7th 2023.

Spiritual Director Fr. Ted Sheehan. Cost €849.00 pps half board staying in Hotel Leone. **6 places still available.** Contact Sean O'Shaughnessy on 0862959380 or Joe Walsh Tours on 012410800.

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. K O'Mahony OSA

Observations

Christ is risen, he is truly risen. Alleluia!
Χριστός Ανέστη! Αληθώς Ανέστη!

As we lift our sights and engage with the Gospel project, we need to ask practical and pastoral questions:

- Who will lead the community?
- Who will teach and preach the faith?
- Who will celebrate for us each Sunday?
- Who will guide us in prayer and spirituality?
- Who will be there for us at the birth of our children?
- Who will accompany us at times of transition and tragedy?

We are not at all alone in this. Not only are other parts of the church facing exactly the same problems but we also have at the universal level the **Synodal Pathway** — a most realistic assessment of where we find ourselves and what our hopes are.

The hope is that after many centuries of excluding the gifts of the whole membership, now is the time for people to come forward and offer their gifts and energy for the well-being and flourishing of the whole community. This both old and new: a vision of a servant church, going back to the example of Jesus himself. It is new once more in our time: we are (re) discovering the Gospel of service, at this critical juncture in our world and in our church. In word: we cannot hope to build the future by micro-waving the past.

The challenge will be to stay in communion, keep alive our tradition of faith and reason and not to let any kind of Catholic fundamentalism take over.



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.

Anam Cara Cork, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding it's monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 10th May at 7:15pm 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



Thought for the day

What is distinctive about our faith as Christians? We do not believe in a system of ideas or even in a higher ethics: we believe in a person, who gives life "a new horizon and a decisive direction" (Benedict XVI). John's Gospel makes this clear with its great I am sentences, one of which we hear today: "I am the gate." Naturally, we think the gate to what? The gate to life to the full. The risk today is to set our expectations low, to be happy with less. But the Gospel calls not to be half alive, but to be fully alive. Let us enter by the gate himself, because the gate to life is always open.

Prayer

Often, loving Lord, we find ourselves astray and defenceless. Let us recognise your voice, calling us one by one as you call us to follow you.

K O'Mahony OSA

Reflections

- "Care" seems the fundamental image here. It invites a reflection on our own experience of being cared for, in all sorts of ways. It opens us to the experience of being cared for by God in Jesus. Prayer of being loved.
- Guidance is part of the metaphor. In what ways have I found myself lost in the labyrinth life and in need of direction? Where did I find guidance? Does the word of God guide me today? Prayer of being accompanied.
- In looking for meaning, when did I realise the Gospel is really not a teaching but a person? Prayer of relationship.
- We all want to live and be alive, to have life in abundance. How am I at this point in my life? Where does faith in the Jesus as the gate come in? Prayer of being alive.

PRAYER

O God, you never cease to call even those far away, for it is your will that all be drawn into one fold. Attune our ears to the voice of the Good Shepherd, who leads us always to you, that we may find under your tender protection life in all its fullness. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen

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

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.