

### Mass Times

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



### Recently Deceased

**Barry Davidson**, Church Road  
*May the light of God surround him forever.*



### BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Church Gate collection will take place on  
**Week ending 8th / 9th July 2023**  
Your support as always is greatly appreciated.

### Painting.

In the coming weeks, we will begin to refresh the paintwork in the Sanctuary and the Parish Centre. Particular attention will be paid to the areas behind the three altars.  
We will keep you updated as we go along and the first undertaking will be the Parish Centre starting now.

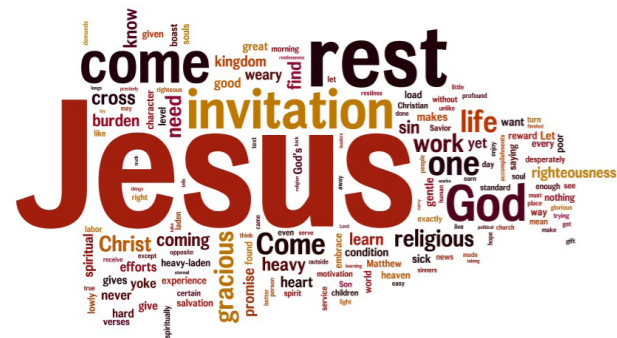
### The Papers Say.....

**Sacred Heart Messenger.** (1). Fr. Albert Mc.Donnell explains the ceremony of baptism. (2). Fr. Kevin O'Gorman SMA considers the relationship between sport and spirituality. (3). Fr. Sean Mc.Donagh: Are we running out of water?

**Irish Catholic:** (1). Prof. Eamonn Conway: Vatican emphasis is no longer to be on controlling theologians but on promoting and supporting them to do their jobs properly. (3) Nuala O'Loan: God will send priests despite modern world where life is no longer sacred.

**Tablet.** (1). Dublin Conference — Synodality will drive decentralisation. (2). 'Love does not die' — What drove Don Aldo Mei and other priests to join the resistance to Nazi occupation of Italy? (3). Peace in Ukraine — The human cost of ruling out a ceasefire.

**Catholic Voice.** (1). Frank Wright: George Soros is funding the destruction of Ireland: Here's how. (2). Mary Kearns: We often neglect to describe the supernatural. (3). Brian Williams: Seven amazing facts about the Holy Mass.



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



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

Think of a public figure who leaves a press conference and goes home to be greeted by her child: she is known and recognised in very different ways. Theologians can become scientists who are experts about God but, without prayer, God remains unknown. Here you are, drawn to prayer, called into relationship with your loving God: this gladdens Jesus' heart more than any library, thesis or ecclesiastical pronouncement. Listen for what God wants to reveal to you now.

### Website of the Week: Ecological Examen

The 500-year old Ignatian Examen is a daily prayer of review, used across many Christian denominations. The purpose is to discern the ways in which God has been present to you during the day, the times when the Holy Spirit was drawing you towards life. A special 'Ecological Examen' has been developed as a tool for reflection and action to help deepen our call to care for creation and the most vulnerable. This inspiring self-guided resource can be accessed at [www.newpilgrimpath.ie](http://www.newpilgrimpath.ie).

**Sunday Cuppa continues in the Parish Centre after 11 am mass on Sunday 6th August for tea and refreshments and more chat!**  
*Everyone welcome!*



### Synod 2023/2024

The working document for the first session of the Synod has just been published. This is a crucial moment and the document itself is inspiring. We should all give it our attention. [www.synod.va](http://www.synod.va)



### Excerpt from Working Document,

To the Synodal Assembly we bring the fruits gathered during the listening phase. First of all, we have experienced the joy expressed in the sincere and respectful encounter between brothers and sisters in the faith: to meet each other is to encounter the Lord who is in our midst! Thus, we were able to touch with our own hands the catholicity of the Church, which, in the variety of ages, sexes and social conditions, manifests an extraordinary wealth of charisms and ecclesial vocations, and is the custodian of a treasure trove of differences in languages, cultures, liturgical expressions and theological traditions.  
In effect, this rich diversity is the gift of each local Church to all the others (cf. LG 13), and the synodal dynamic is a way to appreciate and enhance this rich diversity without flattening it into uniformity. Similarly, we have discovered that there are shared questions, even if synodality is experienced and understood in a variety of ways in different parts of the world on the basis of a common inheritance of the apostolic Tradition. Part of the challenge of synodality is to discern the level at which it is most appropriate to address each question. Equally shared are certain tensions. We should not be frightened by them, nor attempt at any cost to resolve them, but rather engage in ongoing synodal discernment. Only in this way can these tensions become sources of energy and not lapse into destructive polarisations. #6

### Inspiration

Our Gospel reading for this Sunday is both arresting and appealing. Who is not drawn by the words: *Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest.* Who is not pulled up short by the claims of Jesus in the words: *no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.*

We are left with a good question: what do I do, on a daily basis, so that I may "shoulder his yoke and learn from" him? Usually it involves a combination three things: practical living of Gospel values; time "wasted" in prayer; time spent reading the Gospel to become familiar "again for the first time" with the person and teaching of Jesus. Perhaps the summer might provide a little more time for these life-giving practices.



**Come to me...and I will give you rest**

### 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.

### PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS

There are 2 Defibrillators located in the Parish, one in the village & one outside Murphy's Circle K PetrolStation. The code to operate both is 2017

### Thought for the day

The Lord understands us and knows us better than we know ourselves. O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. (Psa 139:1-3) He knows of what we are made and so we can come confidently before him with our brokenness and need of his grace. It might be good during Mass today to become aware of whatever is a burden to me now in my life and ask the Lord for his love and healing touch.

### Prayer

*Lord, you bore the weight of our humanity to come as near to us as possible. Help us to realise you stand beside us and walk with us the journey of life.*

K O'Mahony OSA

### Reflections

1. Human beings are always setting up barriers which divide people into those who are important and those who are not. It happens in every community and Jesus met it among the Jewish people of his time. God wants to break down these barriers so that those who are on the wrong side of them can experience that they too are his children and have a unique contribution to make to their community. Perhaps you can recall someone whom you did not think of highly but who turned out to be very good in some sphere. What good news that you were wrong!
2. Great intelligence is not sufficient to develop a relationship with God, unless combined with an open childlike capacity to wonder. Does this resonate with your experience?
3. The ministry of Jesus was to introduce people to a relationship of intimacy with God. How has Jesus given you that kind of relationship?
4. Another aspect of the ministry of Jesus was to free people from the burden of a legalistic understanding of religion, and to introduce them to a faith marked by freedom and love. Perhaps you have made that journey also. Who has been a Jesus person for you and helped you to find freedom, joy and rest in your faith?

### PRAYER

*Father, Lord of heaven and earth, by whose gracious will the mysteries of the kingdom are revealed to the childlike, make us learn from your Son humility of heart, that in shouldering his yoke we may find refreshment and rest.*  
*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.*

