

Email : [info@stmichaelsblackrock.ie](mailto:info@stmichaelsblackrock.ie) Website: [www.stmichaelsblackrock.ie](http://www.stmichaelsblackrock.ie)  
 Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stmichaelsblackrock](http://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsblackrock) | Parish Mobile No. (086) 813 6877

WEEKLY MASS LEAFLET UPDATES: 515  
 Email to : [info@stmichaelsblackrock.ie](mailto:info@stmichaelsblackrock.ie)

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



**Baptism**  
**Ellie Teresa Hayes.**  
 We welcome her into the Christian Family



**Recently Deceased**  
**Maisie O'Keeffe**, McGrath Park  
**Thomas Greene**, Linden Avenue  
*May the light of God surround them forever.*



**Recent appointments and changes from Saturday 12th August 2023**

Family of Parishes of Ballinlough, Blackrock, Blackrock Road and Mahon  
**Fr. John Denvir SMA Co-PP** resident in Blackrock Road.  
**Monsignor Gearoid Dullea Co-PP** resident in Ballinlough.  
**Fr. Michael Keohane Co-PP** resident in Blackrock.  
**Fr. Jerome Anoumou-Sassou SMA CC** resident in Blackrock Road.  
**Fr. Rafal Zielonka CC** resident in Mahon.  
**Fr. Michael Keohane Co-PP** will fulfil the role of Moderator. *Healthcare Chaplaincy*  
**Fr. Colin Doocey** to be Chaplain in Cork University Hospital.  
**Monsignor Gearoid Dullea Co-PP** to be Diocesan Chancellor.  
**Fr. Michael Keohane Co-PP** to be Diocesan Education Secretary and continue as Diocesan Secretary pro tem.

**The Papers Say.....**

**Irish Catholic.** (10. Fr. Bernard Cotter: Baptism needs the biggest makeover in Ireland. (2). Synod's first-ever discussion of 'LGBTQ+ people' raises important pastoral questions. (3). Schoolchildren can't be forced to attend States sex-ed classes. (4). David Quinn: Politicians are out of control in their zealotry to reshape every aspect of life.  
**Tablet of 15/7.** (1) Pope Francis finds his striker in Cardinal designate Victor Manuel Fernandez. (2) Cluster munitions — Dirty bombs. (3). Delegates announced — Women to join as voting members in Synod first.  
**Tablet of 8/7.** (1). Christopher Lamb: The Francis papacy and the synod process is opening up unexpected new paths in the search for Christian unity. (2). Irish abortion law three day waiting period saves thousands of lives. (3) Co-responsibility between priests and laity 'a strong driver for change' in Ireland.  
**Sacred Heart Messenger.** (1). Ghosts and ancestors — Fr. Vincent Sherlock enjoyed a Bruce Springsteen concert with 40,000 others. (2). Fr. Peter McVerry SJ challenges the culture of individualism.

**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. There will be a certain amount of unavoidable disruption with scaffolding but it will be kept to a minimum.  
 We will keep you updated as we go along and the first undertaking will be the Parish Centre which is ongoing.

**Jesuit Week at Knock Shrine 23rd – 30th July**  
 Theme: *'Nourishment for a Hungry Heart'.*  
 You are invited to participate in all the events this week, or to drop in for any session.  
 The Week can serve as a Retreat for those who wish. It is not necessary to book, all are welcome. Sessions will take place in the Taize Room in the Prayer Centre unless otherwise stated.  
 For further details, see [www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie)



**BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL**  
 Church Gate collection will take place on **Week ending 5th/6th August 2023**  
 Your support as always is greatly appreciated.

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



Members of Blackrock Community Association welcomed Lord Mayor Cllr. Kieran Mc Carthy on his first Official visit as Lord Mayor to Ceili na Carraige Duibhe pic George Hatchell

**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 28th July the next meeting.**



**Inspiration**  
 The Economist magazine, which works in entirely secular categories, once described the Catholic Church has the largest NGO in the world. Probably, they are right. It is also one of the most centralised organisations in the world. It's always risky, not to say dangerous, when such a highly autocratic body begins to feel the need for profound change. And the **need for change** has been registered worldwide by the synodal consultation.

People — all of us together — seem to have realised that we cannot simply carry on as before. This is true at the level of organisation and ministry and also at the level of certain applications of the gospel to living today. The synodal exploration threw up contrasting expectations on what we may call the neuralgic issues. For example, the question of decentralisation itself is anathema to many people and a welcome revolution to others. The question of women in the church and women in ministry has produced divisions: is the exclusion of women from ordained ministry part of God's plan or a cultural hang-over of the time of patriarchy? The desire for the church to be more welcoming and tolerant in relation to certain oppressed groups in society has also triggered contrasting opinions.



To mark the first official visit of Councillor Kieran Mc Carthy as Lord Mayor to Ceili na Carraige Duibhe he was presented with a framed photograph by members of Niamh Hatchells School of Irish Dancing pictured Left to Right Carmel Hatchell, Lucy Thornhill, Keelan O Rourke, Lord Mayor Kieran Mc Carthy, Jessica Callanan, Freya Flanagan and Niamh Hatchell The Lord Mayor has been a great supporter of The Community Associations events for a number of years pic George Hatchell

**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**  
 Again today we have two versions of the one parable, the original and a later church interpretation or reception. Communities of faith are always "mixed," in that some people are fully engaged, some are half-hearted and many, perhaps most, are somewhere in between. What to do? The temptation to go for a radical, purified church has been a recurring one across history. The teaching of this parable is left things alone—it is not for us to judge. It could be (we hope!) that less committed believers may change and a welcoming, compassionate approach may enable that to happen.

**Prayer**  
*Jesus, your compassion to all inspires us today to recognise our own need of your grace. Help us work on the plank in our own eyes before we dare to recognise, much less to offer to remove, a splinter in our neighbour's eye.*  
 K O'Mahony OSA

- Reflections**
1. The owner of the field who allowed the wheat and the darnel to grow together is a reminder to us to be patient with ourselves and with others when we see everything is not right. Sometimes a preoccupation with the negative (the darnel) can blind us to seeing the positive in our own lives and in the lives of others. When have you found that a willingness to live with the messiness of the present created the conditions for future growth?
  2. Have you ever found that it was through accepting the darnel that you learned important lessons for life, e.g., learning by making mistakes, or asking stupid questions, or taking foolish risks?
  3. The parables of the mustard seed and the leaven are reminders that seemingly insignificant things can have very positive results. Have you ever been surprised by the benefit to yourself or others of a kind gesture, a small initiative, or a word of encouragement?

**PRAYER**  
*O God, patient and forbearing, you alone know fully the goodness of what you have made. Strengthen our spirit when we are slow and temper our zeal when we are rash, that in your own good time you may produce in us a rich harvest from the seed you have sown and tended.*  
*We make our prayer 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.*



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. K O'Mahony OSA