

Mass Times

Sundays: 9 am & 11 am
Saturday Vigil: 6.00 pm
Tuesday & Friday: 9.30 am
Fr. Michael Keohane Co-PP



Baptism

Cillian John Howick.
Chloe Susan Cameron.
Ella Maia Linehan.
Éabha Elaine O'Connor.

We welcome them into the Christian Family



Autumn Approaches

While we wonder if we had a summer or not, how often do we say that it will be a lot better 'when the children go back to school!' Well, we have nearly reached that point as many post primary schools will be reopening in the coming week and primary schools on the following week.



More than likely, this will also entail a return to duty for many grandparents who will be 'back on duty' for their grandchildren at school gates and after school activities.

While none of us like being 'tied down' we also appreciate that the days can be so much more meaningful and purposeful with the return of routine. Similarly, in our faith lives, the routine of Mass on Saturday evening or Sunday morning or weekday Mass keeps us close to God and strengthens our sense of parish and community.

The pandemic dismantled our routine, and we are only slowly getting it back. Perhaps this autumn, we can establish a new routine with the Mass and our parish at the centre of it. We want to hear the words that Jesus speaks in the gospel this weekend, 'go your faith has saved you'.

Fr. Michael

Masses in St. Michael's this week will be celebrated on Monday 21st, Tuesday 22nd Wednesday 23rd & Friday 25th as the repainting of Holy Cross Church continues.

FIRST FRIDAY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT On Friday 1st September 2023

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

The priests have 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.

The Papers Say.....

Irish Catholic. (1). Fr. Martin Delaney: God in the midst of chaos, fear and natural disasters. (2). Mary Kenny on Dr. Cyril Daly, an unsung hero of Irish life. (3). Narrow secular definitions of diversity railroad debates about immigration, liberalism and more. (4). 'Multiple FBI field offices' collaborated over anti-Catholic memo in US.

(5). Fr. Rolheiser: What will heaven be like?

Tablet of 12/8. (1). World Youth Day — The joy of Faith in Christ. (2). City of cemeteries — Vienna's love affair with death. (3). Feast of the Assumption — Our Lady, saint of joy. (4). Pope dreams of peace at a grace-filled World Youth Day.

Tablet of 5/8. (1). Archbishop Eamonn Martin warns of dangers to the young of 'unlimited choices'. (2). Sin and Synodality — The laity and the revolution in spirituality.

Catholic Voice. (1). The uncomfortable parable of the sower. (2). The ancient practice of bringing Holy Communion to the sick.



Pope Francis on Canaanite woman

Pope Francis writes, "Faith is God's free gift, which calls for humility and the courage to trust and to entrust." The Canaanite woman received this free gift. She was willing to be as humble as possible, and likens herself to a dog. This was because she had the courage that she would by this humility, receive the healing for her daughter. The woman had the courage to trust in this man, who claimed to be the Son of Israel's God. She was willing to step out of the boundaries of her nation like Abraham, the father of faith. Like Abraham, she blindly believed. Jesus, the Son of God tested her faith just as Abraham's faith was tested. Faith in God and his word should be present in our lives especially during tough situations. As St John Paul II says, faith is demanding. While Abraham was ready to sacrifice his only son to prove this faith, the Canaanite woman was ready to accept the sovereignty of Jesus. In her efforts to find healing for her daughter, the conversation with Jesus led her to find the true God."

Sunday Cuppa continues in the Parish Centre after 11 am mass on Sunday 3rd September for tea and refreshments and more chat!
Everyone welcome!



Inspiration

One of the strong values of the times in which we live is the value of inclusivity. Of course, there are division and of course we suffer from different kinds of racism; nevertheless, the desire not to exclude people on the basis of ethnicity or religion or orientation is a strong one in our culture.

It may come as a surprise to learn that the foundation of such "universality" is found first in the Christian tradition (St Paul) and that, paradoxically, early Christianity struggled to be genuinely inclusive, just as we do.

Each year, I undertake one charity cycle for the homeless — the **Peter McVerry Cycle**. This year, there is a new circular route around the Dublin and Wicklow mountains. Please do consider making a donation.

www.idonate.ie/fundraiser/Wexford2023Kieran

Personal update: an eye problem is preventing me from cycling at the moment. It is possible to do the distance privately at another time, which is my intention.

It doesn't mean you can't donate!!! Thanks, Kieran



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 11- 12.30 pm in St Finbarrs Hospital, Douglas Road.

Light refreshments provided free of charge. All welcome.

Friday 25th August the next meeting.



ROAD CLOSURE SUNDAY 20TH. AUGUST, 2023.

St. Finbarr's A.C. annual 10 mile road race takes place on **Sunday 20th. August 2023** with gun time 9.30am.

This year the race is being rerouted onto the Blackrock Road due to works taking place on the Marina.

There is a road closure in place on the Blackrock Road from just above the turn off to Beaumont from 09.45 – 10.30am on the morning.

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

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Church Gate collection will take place on **Week ending 2nd/3rd September 2023**
Your support as always is greatly appreciated.

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

Thought for the day

In today's Gospel, Jesus changes his mind! How is that possible? Twice in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus limits his ministry to the "lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Matt 10:6; 15:24). In today's story, however, a very feisty woman, clearly not a daughter of Abraham, with her urgency and her witty retort, brings Jesus to recognise the needs of those beyond the ethnic confines of the Jewish people. They are ordinary human beings too, just as much in need of the Good News of the Kingdom as anyone else.

Prayer

We believe and we know, O God, that you love the human race, without making any distinction of persons or rank. Inspire us to see you in everyone we meet, for all are your children and you are the father of us all.

K O'Mahony OSA

Reflections

1. Having met with rejection from the Pharisees Jesus goes towards Gentile territory and encounters faith in an unexpected place, in the Canaanite woman. His mission had previously been to his own people. This adds a new dimension to his mission. Have you had occasions when a chance encounter set your life off in a new direction?

2. The Canaanite woman was not concerned for herself but for her daughter. Recall people you have known who have been committed to a noble cause.

3. The initial reaction of Jesus to the woman was one of rejection but her persistence won a response from him. When have you found that persistence was needed to gain what you sought? What did that experience teach you?

4. Who are the "Canaanite women" who call out for attention today—people in church or state whose needs are not being attended to?

PRAYER

God of the nations, to your table all are invited and in your family no one is a stranger.

Satisfy the hunger of those gathered in this house of prayer, and mercifully extend to all the people on earth the joy of salvation and faith.

Grant 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.



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

