



**BAPTISMS:** Please contact the parish office.  
**MARRIAGES:** Minimum 3 months notice required by Church and State.  
Pre-marriage course required.

### Mass Times

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



### Baptism

**Amelia Grace Archibald.**  
**Archie David Fitton.**  
**Callum Kevin O'Mahony.**  
Welcome to the Christian Family.



### Happy Easter

Despite the showery and cold weather of the past week, we have celebrated a wonderful Holy Week. We have journeyed from the Upper Room and Garden of Gethsemane on Holy Thursday, faithfully followed the route of the Passion and death of Jesus through the streets of Jerusalem and Golgotha on Good Friday to the moment of the Resurrection of Jesus on Holy Saturday and the Empty Tomb.



Today we celebrate Easter and like the disciples and others in the scriptures in the coming days, we will meet the Risen Jesus. We may struggle to recognise the Risen Jesus in the ongoing troubles and worries of our own lives and of our families as well as the unspeakable suffering of war in so many places this year. However, we believe the proclamation that 'He is not here, He has risen'. We will experience these words when hope prevails and truth wins out.

May you and your families experience the Risen Jesus this Easter. This is our hope and our joy. Have a blessed and Holy Easter this year.

*Fr. Michael*

[frmichael@corkandross.org](mailto:frmichael@corkandross.org)

### FIRST FRIDAY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT On Friday 5th April 2024

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.



### First Holy Communions 2024

Sat. 27th April Scoil Barra Naofa Buachaillí  
Sat. 11th May Scoil na Croise Naofa (Holy Cross Church)  
Sat. 18th May Scoil Barra Naofa Cailiní  
Sat. 25th May Scoil Ursula & St. Michael's  
Sat. 25th May Gaelscoil Mhachan (Holy Cross Church)

### A brief introduction on Sunday's readings

**First reading Acts 10:34, 37-43**  
Belief in the resurrection is not at all static or neutral, as we listen to Peter drawing out the consequences of Easter faith.

**Second reading Colossians 3:1-4**  
The attentive hearer will notice an alarming claim: we have all died! What can that mean and how do we live our new reality?

**Gospel John 20:1-9 (10-18)**  
How can we today believe in the Risen Lord? It is a matter of faith and hope, of course, but even more importantly a matter of love.

### The Papers Say.....

**Irish Catholic.** (1). Elia. Mulroy: A tale of two Simons. (2)Nuala O'Loan: The vicious hounding of the Princess of Wales. (3). Ronan Mullen: Success over integrity has become of the game in Irish politics. (4) Michael Kelly: Free speech is under threat. -- Catholics should be very scared (5). Fr. Martin Delaney: Irish missionary who was shot twice at close range.

**Tablet.** (1). A Gaza Diary. -- With his wife and their children, a Catholic aid worker has lived inside the compound in Gaza for the past six months. Extracts from his reports and interviews tell a story of increasing fear, desperation and resolve. (2) Always at the table. -- Were women at the Last Supper? (3). Israel/Palestine -- Two-state solution may not be the answer, says Cardinal Filoni.

*Happy Easter from the communications team.*

### Day of Talks and Christian Meditation -

with Fr. Donagh O Shea O.P. on Saturday 6th April 2024 in Sacred Heart Missionaries Hall, Western Rd. Cork. Registration 9.30 a.m. Beginning at 10.00 am concluding with Mass at 1.00p.m. Tea/coffee provided at 11.00am. Donations €10.

**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 29th March - Next meeting [bettycogan@hotmail.com](mailto:bettycogan@hotmail.com)



**Christ is Risen, He is Truly Risen! Alleluia!**

**Sunday Cuppa continues in the Parish Centre after 11 am mass on 7th April for tea and refreshments and more chat! Cheaper than the Village!! Everyone welcome!**



### Observations

#### Easter Sunday 2024

*A very happy Easter to all!*

The email is a day earlier than usual on account of the daily notes for Holy Week.

Today, our proclamation is the triumph of the love of God — a love which has brought Jesus, the Son of God, into the heart of being human, becoming "obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross," to speak to us words of love from within our being human.

As we stand before the Easter proclamation, we may well wonder if we could ever make the leap of faith and trust, in a rich and radical way. Actually, the real challenge is slightly different: not so much can I believe the doctrine of the resurrection but rather can I trust in God who so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son. Or in different words, can I open my heart and simply allow myself to be loved, to such an extraordinary degree? Can I hear that resounding "Yes" spoken to me, to us all?

Easter faith is as much a movement of the heart as anything else.

### Reflections

1. The disciples are in a state of shock after their traumatic loss. Jesus, the one in whom they had placed so much hope, has been murdered and buried. Then, before they have time to recover they get another shock. The body of Jesus is missing. Have you had experiences in which one tragedy or crisis follows quickly after another? What was that like for you? How did you cope? Who, or what, sustained you?

2. Mary and Peter, and the other disciple, came and discovered that the tomb was empty. In this text no explanation is given. They are left in a state of bewilderment 'for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead'. Have you been in situations, faced with events you cannot explain, possibly events that have dashed your hopes in another person, or in God? What has that been like for you?

3. Yet in spite of the lack of explanation, the beloved disciple 'saw and believed'. Have there been times when others have done something that you could not understand, and which they could not explain at the time, and yet you believed that all was not as it seemed; times when you decided to trust in spite of the evidence? Have there been times when others have shown this kind of faith in you, when you were not able to offer satisfactory explanations, and all you could say was 'trust me'?

4. Have there been times in your relationship with God when you have felt that you were faced with an empty tomb, and still you believed? What have you learned about life, about love, from such experiences?

**Trocaire Boxes** – Please return to the Church very soon. Trocaire envelopes are also available in the church if you wish to contribute in that way.

Our next *Do This in Memory Mass* will be celebrated on Saturday 13th April @ 6pm.

**Meals on Wheels** need a driver for every second Thursday. Full training will be given. Ring Eleanor 087 9741355 or Anne 087 9569236

**Easter Dues Envelopes** have been delivered to homes and sincere thanks to so many people who have returned these during Holy Week. It's also possible to contribute Easter Dues via the parish website [www.stmichaelsblackrock.ie/donate/](http://www.stmichaelsblackrock.ie/donate/)

**Anam Cara Cork**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding it's monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on **Wednesday 3rd April at 7:15pm in the Maryborough Hotel, Maryborough Hill, Douglas, T12 XR12.** This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. We also offer an online service. For more info call 01 4045378



### Thought for the day

Traditionally, we have found it easier to think of the cross as the measure of God's love for us. Perhaps, because of the focus on the cross, we find it more difficult to think of the resurrection as also the love of God, even "all the more so"! The originality of the Fourth Gospel says it all: the disciple Jesus loved, the head cloth recalling Lazarus (see how much he loved him) and, not least, the great figure of Mary Magdalene (Mary!). In summary, Jesus died and rose again for love of us.

### Prayer

*Loving God, you love us more than we can imagine or take in. Help us to allow ourselves to be so loved by you, that your love may penetrate our hearts, our lives and our loves. We ask this through Jesus, who died and rose for love of us and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.*

*K O'Mahony OSA*

### 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.

### BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Church Gate collection will take place on **Week ending 6/7 April 2024**  
Your support as always is greatly appreciated.