

Mass Times

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



Baptism

Jack Jeremiah Brian Cashman.
Christopher James Jackson.
Kassie Ann Nevin.
 Welcome to the Christian Family.

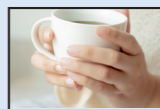


Recently Deceased

Eugene O'Neill, Maryborough Ridge,
 Formerly Silverdale.
 May the light of God surround him forever.



Sunday Cuppa continues in the Parish Centre after 11 am mass on 4th August for tea and refreshments and more chat! Cheaper than the Village!! Everyone welcome!



BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Church Gate collection will take place on **Week ending 3/4 August 2024**
 Your support as always is greatly appreciated.

Reflection

When we see how the ancient Israelites 'put God to the test', as the Psalms remind us, we see something of ourselves. The children of God demanded signs and this exasperated Moses. 'You do this', they challenged Yahweh, 'and we will believe, we will follow you.' They demanded food in the desert and God provided. As today's responsorial psalm puts it:

'He rained down manna for their food, and gave them bread from heaven.

*Mere men ate the bread of angels.
 He sent them abundance of food.
 He brought them to his holy land,
 to the mountain which his right hand had won.'*

But in today's Gospel Christ reminds us that the Father's nourishment goes far beyond bodily food. His is a spiritual, life-giving sustenance, and it is him, through the Son, who will provide it to us and bring us to the heavenly banquet that is eternal peace and happiness.

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

Feast of the Assumption –

Thursday 15th August – Mass @ 9.30am in St. Michael's.

A brief introduction on Sunday's readings

First reading Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15
 The story of the manna—a very human story with miraculous features—is part of the background to today's Gospel. The key line is really in the very last sentence.

Second reading Ephesians 4:17, 20-24
 What difference does it make to be believer in God and a disciple of Christ? Today's reading—short and direct—may help us focus.

Gospel John 6:24-35
 The very centre of this Gospel puts it up to us today: "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." (John 6:29)

The Papers Say.....

Irish Catholic. (1). Tanaiste meets sports legends in Nairobi who are legends for justice too. —Bro. C0lm O'Connell and former Cork hurler Fr. Sean Barry. (2). Vatican approves 'spiritual experience' connected to Trinity shrine of Maccio in Italy. (3) Listening from the mountaintop —. How God calls to Ireland's declining monastic community. (4). Hate Speech Bill could have dire consequences for Irish democracy. (5). David Quinn: The Olympics opening ceremony that divided the world.

Tablet of 27/7. (1). Is Synodality failing? Work not in progress. (2). Fr. Gabriel Dolan: Kenya at a crossroads. - The African voice of Gen Z. (3) Like Paul McCartney, Taylor Swift, Stormzy and other storytellers, Pope John Paul 11, Had the gift of brevity. (4). Eucharistic Revival attracts thousands to Indianapolis.

Sacred Heart Messenger. (1). Extract from address given by Bishop Fintan Gavin at the inaugural 'Intentional Young Adult Ministry' gathering in July. (2). Fr. John Cullen: Elder versus older (3). Celebrating funerals in the absence of a priest. (4). Arvo Part. — Composer and Christian.



Observations

¡Buen camino!

As you know, there is an ancient pilgrim walk across the north of Spain called the Camino de Santiago. One of its many attractions is the variety of people you meet on the way. Pilgrims have different motives: faith, culture, fitness, holiday and so on. Occasionally, you meet people on the walk who are facing a major decision or perhaps a crisis and they just need a decent amount of time away and alone to mull things over. These people are at a crossroads and are trying to read their own hearts — in order to discern what do they really desire deep down. This question stands are the heart of today's Gospel: "what must we do to do the works of God?"

This is a very good question and a deep one. It takes the question what do I want out of life to a deeper level, a level of faith. Not so much what do I want or even what do I desire but what does God desire of me? Perhaps we don't often think of it that way... what are God's hopes for me? What kind of person does God wish me to become? It is also important not to rush in with an answer but to stay with the question for as long as it takes. It may seem strange, but we don't easily or quickly read our own hearts.

The Pilgrim's Prayer for the Camino de Santiago

God, you brought your servant Abraham out of the land of the Chaldeans, protecting him in his wanderings; you guided the Hebrew people across the desert: we ask that you watch over us, your servants, as we walk in the love of your name to Santiago de Compostela.

Be for us our companion on the walk,
 Our guide at the crossroads,
 Our breath in our weariness,
 Our protection in danger,
 Our albergue on the Camino,
 Our shade in the heat,
 Our light in the darkness,
 Our consolation in our discouragements,
 And our strength in our intentions.

So that with your guidance we may arrive safe and sound at the end of the Road and enriched with grace and virtue we return safely to our homes filled with joy. 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 and register to receive the emails.

Thought for the day

Physical hunger is unmistakable and urgent. The deeper hungers of the heart are also urgent but can take a while to recognise. Deep down, for what do I really hunger and thirst?

Prayer

You alone can satisfy the hungry heart, Lord God, and may we make ours the words of the Gospel, "Sir, give us this bread always." Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

K O'Mahony OSA

POINTERS FOR PRAYER

1. Jesus distinguishes between food that gives quick satisfaction and food that gives lasting nourishment. It is a mark of wisdom to be able to say 'no' to enticing but delusory attractions in order to choose things of lasting value. From your life experience what advice would you give to another about where things of lasting value are to be found?

2. Jesus reminds his listeners that God is the source of all good things. What difference does it make in your life when you are aware that life, the world, everything you have is gift, and you live in a spirit of gratitude?

3. The work of God is that we believe in the one whom God has sent. In what ways has your faith in Jesus enriched and changed your life? How has Jesus satisfied your hungers or quenched your thirsts? Is it the idea that we are loved by God?

4. As Jesus came down from heaven to give life to the world, so each one of us is here to be a source of life to others. Think of people who have been a source of life to you, and give thanks for them. For whom have you also been a source of life?

PRAYER

Lord, giver of lasting life, satisfy our hunger through Christ, the Bread of Life, and quench our thirst with your gift of belief that we may no longer work for food that perishes, but believe in the One whom you have sent. We make our prayer through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Peter McVerry Trust

For years, I've undertaken one charity cycle each year for the homeless. This year, there is no official McVerry or Wexford Cycle. However, homelessness is still a huge issue and the McVerry Trust still needs our support.

Accordingly, this year, I undertake to cycle **100km in September**. If you would like to lend your support, then click on www.tarsus.ie and follow the link
 Thanks
 Kieran OSA