

Mass Times

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



Baptism

Fiadh Shannon Lewer.
Freddie James Lewer.

Welcome to the Christian Family.



Recently Deceased

Tony O'Leary, Blackrock
Margaret Holland, McGrath Park
Tim (T.J.) O'Sullivan, Clover Hill Estate
 May the light of God surround them forever



Remembrance

We are coming to the end of our Novena for the Faithful Departed this weekend. The recent overcast weather has been typical of this time of the year. However, we were blessed with a surprise and beautiful afternoon on Sunday last when at least 1500 people attended the Blessing of the Graves in St. Michael's Cemetery. It was extraordinary to see so many people and families present and it was a privilege to bless the graves along with Mons. Gearoid Dullea, Fr. Joh Denvir SMA, Fr. Jerome Amounou-Sassou SMA and Fr. Rafal Zielonka.

On last Monday evening the church was nearly full to capacity for our Annual Remembrance Mass for those who have died during the past year. Again, it was a poignant and prayerful gathering. Indeed during the past week four Funerals have been celebrated in St. Michael's and Holy Cross Churches. While there is sadness there is also a great strength in prayer and the gathering of people to support bereaved families. Invariably families are overwhelmed with the thoughtfulness and kindness of neighbours and friends.

May all those who have died now rest in the peace of the Lord. They have gone no further than to God and that is very near.

Fr. Michael
frmichael@corkandross.org

Family of Parishes - **Children's Adoration on First Friday** of each month from 3-3.30pm in St Michael's Church, Blackrock. Join us for guided meditation, songs and time with Jesus. Children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. For more information contact: Katie (087 7798175)

A **Christian Meditation Group** has been formed in our parish and Family of Parishes. Details of arrangements will be available here soon.

Unfolding the Word

An Invitation to everyone in our family of parishes

'Unfolding the Word' provides a simple and accessible approach that helps people come together in their family of parishes to explore the Word of God and become more familiar with the life and values of Christ and of Christian living. Each session consists of sharing on a Bible passage, prayer and of course, a cuppa and chat. Why not join us in the parish room, Holy Cross Church, Mahon for the four Thursday nights of **November (7th, 14th, 21st, 28th) from 7.30-9.00 pm.** All welcome.

A brief introduction on Sunday's readings

First Reading 1 Kings 17:1-16
 Elijah was a real historical figure, who lived in the ninth century BC and was significant in his day. As often happens, legendary stories are used to capture the power and importance of the heroes of old. What do you think the writer is trying to get across?

Second Reading Hebrews 9:24-28
 What is the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross? The writer of Hebrews contrasts the repeated sacrifices of the Temple with the once-and-for-all offering of Jesus' faithfulness.

Gospel Mark 12:38-44
 In this culture, to be a widow meant to be without support and protection, very poor and vulnerable. And yet, this is precisely the figure Jesus picks out for special praise and commendation.

The Papers Say.....

Tablet of 2/11. (1) Austin Ivereigh: The Church at a turning point -- After three years of listening and discernment, the Synod on Synodality has ended with a final document and the promise of processes and structures that will transform how the Church listens, discerns and decides. (2). Relearning the language of the heart. -- Pope Francis' latest encyclical is a beautiful and enthralling combination of all the themes of his papacy

Tablet of 26/10. (1). Medjugorje is in limbo -- There is rejoicing that the the Vatican has recognised the spiritual fruits of the alleged apparitions of Mary in a small town in Bosnia Herzegovina, but confusion over whether her messages can now be treated as genuine (2). Church and State in Russia -- Putin's culture wars

Messenger. (1) Fr. Gerard Condon: What will become of us? (2). Re:Link (The Resource for Junior Certificate Religious Studies). -- The United Nations and Gender Inequality
Irish Catholic. (1). Sainthood cause set to open for Derry born 'youth inspiring' Sr. Clare Crockett. (2). David Quinn: Voters in a volatile mood ahead of General Election. (3). Leader of US bishops says laity critical to implementing synod. (4). Tyrone GAA All-Star: Trust in Faith in difficult times.

Second Collection for **Diocesan Youth Ministry** this weekend to support many new initiatives to reach out and support young adults in their faith lives.

Medjugorje May 28th, 7 nights. €949 pps half board in Hotel Leone. €100 DISCOUNT if paid by 15th November. €50 discount if deposit paid by 15th Jan. Spritual Director: Fr. Ted Sheehan. Limited places. All travelling with group entered in to group only draw to WIN cost of pilgrimage (excl single supplement). Group Leader Sean O'Shaughnessy 0862959380

Forever Loved, Forever Cherished - Special Remembrance Service

Farranree Parish will host a special Remembrance Service for Children lost during pregnancy or at birth at 7.00 p.m. on Friday evening, 29th November 2024, in the Church of the Resurrection, Farranree [T23 NV97]. Anyone or any family who has experienced the heartache of losing a child during pregnancy or at birth, no matter how long ago that loss may have occurred, are welcome to join us in remembering your precious child and honouring them in ritual and in prayer.

Observations

In the month of October, we were praying for the Synod in Rome, which closed on the last Sunday of October. On the four Sundays of the Synod, we had a special Opening Prayer as well as prayers of the faithful. Here in Dublin, a one-page newsletter was distributed in parishes and churches to keep people informed and to raise our awareness of what was going on. In other words, an effort was put in to keep us all abreast of what is happening.

We can ask a blunt question: what was this all about, was it worthwhile and will it make any difference? The Final Document proposes a series of changes which, if implemented, will change radically how we are as a community of faith. I'll pick out three as a kind of taster. Firstly, all present agreed that the question of women in the diaconate is "open". It is not enough but it is certainly in the right directly. Secondly, all present called for a church marked by participation, transparency and evaluation. All we do should be regularly evaluated — it even mentions explicitly evaluating the ministry of bishops. Thirdly, it calls for changes in canon law so that gatherings such as parish councils are no longer merely consultative but have genuine authority. It might sound like an internal churchy thing but in reality it a step against the closed culture of clericalism. Again, if properly implemented, these are in their perhaps understated way quite revolutionary proposals and a worthy continuation of the reforms of the Second Vatican Council.

Reflections

1. The scribes are presented as ostentatious and devious, acting more out of self-interest than the love of God or people. There can be a element of self-interest in each of us. Perhaps there have been times when you have been disturbed by glimpsing in yourself 'other motives' in your doing good. Recall when you were awakened to this fact. Where was the good news for you in these experiences?
 2. In material terms what the widow had to offer was very little. Recall when you felt yourself called to give and gave even though you apparently had very little. Perhaps you have had the experience of finding that what you thought was little and insignificant meant a great deal to another person. Recall some of those moments.
 3. The widow 'gave everything she had, all she had to live on'. In doing so she placed herself in a very vulnerable position, trusting that things would work out. Have you ever found that what seemed a generous but reckless giving of yourself proved life-giving for yourself and others?

PRAYER

God, our provider you are the orphan's hope and the widow's bread. Strengthen our faith, that with simplicity of heart we may come to trust in you alone and hold back nothing in serving you. 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.

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Church Gate collection last weekend came to €1950
 Many thanks for your generous continued support.

Thought for the day

Money can easily distort our attitudes and values. It is tempting to react more warmly to those who give more generously—we all do it. It is easy to overlook the motive behind giving and focus, not on the giver, but on the gift. We do have the expression that it's the thought that counts. Usually, though, such proverbial wisdom is employed to help me/us be consoled when some expectation was not realised. Thus, this apparently consolatory thought acknowledges the tendency to the opposite, the attraction to the gift as such!! The Lord, however, reads our hearts.

Prayer

Lift us up, O Lord, that we may always value what really matters, the heart and not the appearances, the giver and not the gift. When we give, help us remember that you love the cheerful giver, giving from the heart.

K O'Mahony OSA

ENTRANCE - Amazing Grace

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
 That saved a wretch like me
 I once was lost, but now I'm found
 Was blind but now I see

Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
 And grace my fears relieved
 How precious did that grace appear
 The hour I first believed

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
 I have already come
 This grace that brought me safe thus far
 And grace will lead me home

RECESSIONAL - Christ be beside me

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
 Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
 Christ be within me, Christ be below me,
 Christ be above me, never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
 Christ all around me, shield in the strife.
 Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
 Christ in my rising, light of my heart.

Christ be in all hearts thinking about me,
 Christ be on all tongues telling of me.
 Christ be the vision in eyes that see me,
 In ears that hear me Christ ever be.

CONNECT 5 – an invitation to young adults (18 to 35 years): - Do you want to know more about your faith? There will be a special event for young adults in Devere Hall in UCC on Sunday November 17th, CONNECT 5. It begins at 9.30am and Katie Ascough (Founder of 'Called to More'), and Fr Columba Jordan CFR will present at this event. The theme is 'In a troubled world, Dare to Hope'. There will be Mass, quiet time for prayer, confessions, and lunch will be provided. There is a €10 registration fee, search Eventbrite.ie for CONNECT 5 or scan the QR code on posters and flyers.

Mass cards are available in the sacristy after every mass both at weekend and weekdays.