

St Michael's Parish, Blackrock, Cork

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04/05/2025

3rd Sunday of Easter

WEEKLY MASS LEAFLET UPDATES: Email to : parish@stmichaelsblackrock.ie

1166

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 Baptisms are held on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month at 4pm. Fr. Michael Keohane Co-PP



Baptism Eliza-May Ann Kiely Cassidy. Theodore "Teddy" John Cassidy-Cullinane. Frédéric Joseph Chesne. Joshua Peter Clifford. Isabel Mary Doyle. Finley James Webb. Welcome to the Christian Family.



Recently Deceased Mary O'Mahony, Blackrock Brenda Synnott Kingsbury, Mahon May the light of God surround them forever.



Our Holy Father

Your prayers for the Cardinals who convene in Rome these days in preparation for the Conclave are truly important. Over the last two weeks following the death of Pope Francis, we have been reminded of how important our Holy Father is to all of us. Not unlike families, when someone dies, we reflect on their lives and on the little things that we remember and cherish. We have recalled the gestures and sayings of Pope Francis. He spoke continuously of God's mercy and reached out to all.



As we pray for a new Holy Father, may we be blessed with a courageous and kind person who will proclaim the beauty and power of faith in an increasingly secular context.

Fr. Michael 085 8735905 frmichael@corkandross.org

Cork and Ross Jubilee Youth Pilgrimage to Rome 2025 – our parish contributed €1230 to this pilgrimage last weekend. The organisers have been in touch to thank you sincerely for your generosity and warm welcome. Thank you.



First Holy Communions - Comhghairdeas - to the Second Class children from Gaelscoil Mhachan who celebrated the Sacrament of First Holy Communion in Holy Cross this weekend. We will continue to celebrate the First Holy Communions in the coming weeks as well as looking forward to welcoming the children and their families to 11am Mass on Sunday 25th May next.

Christ is risen! Alleluia! He is truly risen! Alleluia!

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL March Church Gate collection will take place on Week ending 4 May 2025 Your support as always is greatly appreciated. THERE WILL BE ONLY 1 COLLECTION ON THE SVP WEEKEND

A brief introduction on Sunday's readings

First Reading Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41 When we are under pressure for our faith, one of two things can happen. We can collapse before the pressure or we can grow in courage and faith. Second Reading Revelation 5:11-14 Our reading today takes us symbolically to the worship of the Lamb of God, Jesus, in heaven. Notice that the Lamb still bears the marks of the one slain (a better translation than "slaughtered"). The Risen Lord carries with him into resurrection his identity as one who has suffered as we do and so is able to help us, who suffer and are tempted. Gospel John 21:1-19 Today we have a rich sequence of stories, including the somewhat insistent restoration of Peter. In the end, the writer goes back to the fundamental call of Jesus: Follow me. We too encounter the Risen Lord; we too are in need of restoration; we too need to be reminded of Jesus' invitation to follow him.

The Papers Say.....

Tablet (Pope Francis Commemorative Issue). (1). His biographer Austin Ivereigh reflects on how a professional relationship developed into a strong friendship with the first Jesuit leader of the Catholic Church. (2). Mary McAleese: Francis' perplexing legacy (3). Former Archbishop Rowan Williams: Faithful witness in an age of disruption. (4). Edward Kessler: Francis and the Jewish people (5) Catherine Pepinster: The Pope from the ends of the Earth.

Irish Catholic. (1). Mary Kenny: Virginia Giuffre. -- A sad morality tale of our time. (2). Rosary, renewal, and resistance. -- The Irish Society for Christian Civilisation is dedicated to defending the moral and spiritual foundation of society, Chai Brady hears. (3). David Quinn: 'New Age' weddings hit record highs while marriages hit record low. (4). Inside the Conclave. -- Meet the 133 Cardinal Electors. (5). Fr. Barry White: Pope Francis demonstrated that canon law is not a static set of rules but a living expression of the Church's mission.

Cork Ecumenical Bible Week

Cork Ecumenical Bible Week is organized by a group from the Church of Ireland, Methodist and Catholic communities in Cork. Everyone is welcome to join us for two evenings of reflection and discussion on Scripture. Sunday 11th May at 7.00 pm. Cork Methodist Church, Ardfallen, Ballinlough. Rev Eugene Griffin (Kinsale Union of Parishes): 'Singing the Scriptures: How our hymns tell the story of God' Thurs 15th May at 7.00 pm. Crypt, Church of the Descent of the Holy Spirit, Dennehy's Cross Marian and Phil Mortell (Cork Scripture Group): 'Unfolding the Story of the Resurrection in Luke's Gospel'



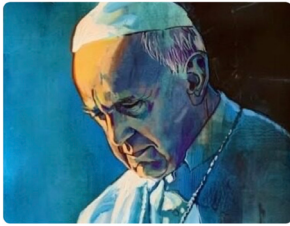
Sunday Cuppa continues in the Parish Centre after 11 am mass on 4th May for tea and bikkies and more chat! Cheaper than the Village 'cos it's free!! Everyone welcome - Ah go on!



Observations

Thanks be to God for a life fully lived! Alleluia!

The death of Pope Francis has touched us all — after a life fully lived, lived fully from the inside out. We are experiencing a blend of sadness and gratitude — sadness that a really good pastor and guide has been taken from us; gratitude that he was with us for twelve years and we are all the beneficiaries.



When we look to faith leaders, we are hoping for certain qualities:

Firstly, a person of authentic faith and prayer. Secondly, someone who genuinely cares for those in his/her charge. Thirdly, someone who can "read" and "name" the times in which we live. Fourthly, someone who can manage the humdrum task of practical administration.

In the bishop of Rome, we were blessed to have a pastor who excelled in all four dimensions. In particular, Pope Francis was able to name the times in which we live: inequality, migration, war and climate change. He brought to these immense challenges an attitude of compassion and a single vision of dialogue, conversation, "hearing each other out", until a consensus might emerge. Such dialogue matters for church (synodality), but even more widely for the world of politics at large. Eventually, all protagonists and antagonists must sit down together. The alternatives are violence, force, bullying, innocent death and destruction. Nobody in their right mind wants such things!

"Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their own fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are born to help each other, no matter how difficult it is. Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you." Pope Francis

An insightful and uplifting documentary has been re-uploaded to Netflix and you may like to see it: Pope Francis: A man of his word K O'Mahony OSA

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

Supporting Mission and Ministry in Our Diocese:

The annual collection for the Office for Mission and Ministry will take place on the weekend of May 10th and 11th. The office plays a vital role in supporting our priests, parishes and Families of Parishes in helping people grow in faith and live as missionary disciples. It offers formation for Parish Pastoral Councils, Baptism and Funeral teams, Ministers of the Word and Eucharist, and ministries involved in parish life. It also provides resources to support prayer, catechesis, and evangelisation. Your generosity in the past has helped this work to grow and reach more people. Thank you for your continued support.

Välkommen!

Cork International Choral Festival Sacred Trail - We welcome Stockholms Musikgymnasium Youth Choir 2025 from Sweden to St Michael's to sing at our liturgy today.



Thought for the day

In our ordinary world, words such as compassion, forgiveness and reconciliation convey an essential, if difficult and at the same time joyful, human task. In our world of faith, we add other words, such as mercy and grace, which make us conscious of the freegift, unalloyed, with no conditions attached. Our role is not to "retain the sins of any" precisely so that they may know, at our hands, true forgiveness. In our Gospel, Peter is not reproached; rather he is set free. That is love, the only commandment.

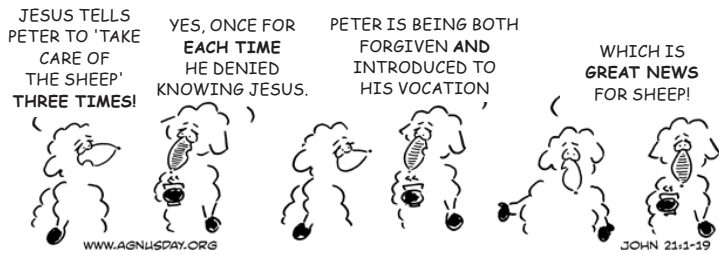
Prayer Lord Jesus, help us all to hear your invitation, "Do you love me?" and set our hearts free to practice forgiveness.

K O'Mahony OSA

Reflections

- 1. The disciples spend a fruitless night fishing and catching nothing. Things change dramatically when Jesus appears and invites them to try again. Remember those who came to you and encouraged you to try again when you felt discouraged. Perhaps on some of these occasions the results were beyond your expectations.
- 2. The story can serve as a reminder that sometimes we are wasting our time if we try to work on our own without the Lord's help. When have you found that your work or life was more fruitful when you acknowledged that you needed God's help and you spoke to God about your need?
- 3. Peter is given the chance to be fully reconciled with his Master after his denial during the Passion. Remember those who have given you an opportunity for reconciliation after you had hurt them or let them down. What was it like for you to be given this chance? To whom have you offered the possibility of reconciliation?

PRAYER God of life, in your risen Son, you reveal your abiding presence among us, and summon those reborn in baptism to lives of worship and service. Fill this assembly with reverence as we come before you in prayer. Grant us courage and zeal in bearing witness before the world to your Son, Jesus Christ, the first-born from the dead, for ever and ever. Amen.



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

Anam Cara Cork, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold it's monthly Face to Face Parent Support Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 7th May at 7.30pm in the Maryborough Hotel, Maryborough Hill, Douglas, T12 XR12. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age of your child, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was. You do not need to register in advance. We also offer an online support group meeting. To find out more call 01 4045378 or email info@anamcara.ie

