

St Michael's Parish, Blackrock, Cork

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25/05/2025

6th Sunday of Easter

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

1187

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



Recently Deceased Julie Phelan Ringmahon Court May the light of God surround her forever.



Holy Communion 2025



This Sunday, we welcome the First Holy Communion children and their families who have received the Sacrament over the last three weekends. This is the concluding Do This in Memory Mass which commenced last October. This year, families have had a very good experience of these Masses and of our community praying together in the church. Thanks to the parents who have helped arrange the Masses as well as the schools for supporting arrangements.

Most importantly, the children have really enjoyed the Do This in Memory programme coming to realise that the Sacraments are parish and community celebrations.

Fr. Michael

085 8735905 frmichael@corkandross.org

First Holy Communion – Congratulations and every blessing to the Second-Class girls from Scoil Ursula & St. Michael’s NS who celebrated the Sacrament of First Holy Communion this weekend. Second Class children from Scoil na Croise Naofa celebrated First Holy Communion in Holy Cross and we pray God’s blessing on them all.

Lourdes Pilgrimage from Ballinlough Parish and our Family of Parishes as part of the Cork and Ross Diocesan Pilgrimage 19th - 24th September 2025. Direct flights from Cork. Staying in the Saint Sauveur Hotel. Cost 995 euro per person. For general enquiries 085-2525040

St. Michael’s Cemetery Annual Remembrance Mass on Wednesday 25th June @ 7.30pm.

Icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa – this has been erected in Holy Cross in recent days in preparation for the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Polish Chaplaincy in Cork and Ross on this Sunday 25th May @ 3pm. The frame surrounding the image is similarly designed to the church tabernacle, altar and ambo in Holy Cross.

99th Cork Eucharistic Procession on Sunday 22nd June @ 3pm. - Blackrock and Mahon Parishes will be take part this year.

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

A brief introduction on Sunday's readings

First Reading Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 Today we wonder how much of tradition to hold on to and how much to let go of. This happened too in the early Church. The key principle is attractive and useful today: lets not make things harder for those who wish to join us! Second Reading Apoc 21:10-14, 22-23 Many of us know the song, Jerusalem, Jerusalem, lift up your heart and sing. It was inspired in part by today's reading. The writer presents an imaginary New Jerusalem, glittering with symbol and significance. Gospel John 14:23-29 Wouldn't it be wonderful to know true, deep and lasting peace? This is the very gift spoken of in today's Gospel, a gift of the Risen Lord to all who receive his Holy Spirit.

The Papers Say.....

Tablet (1). Pope Leo XIV 'Formed in Peru' -- The missionary bishop. (2) Pope Leo's in-tray -- What will he do about Opus Dei? (3) You can hear the voice of Augustine in Pope Leo's first homily after his election. (4). Austin Ivereigh: -- A Pope of Communion: The first Pope from the United States has made it clear that he will build on the 'precious legacy' he inherited from Francis -- but it is clear too that his style if leadership will be very different. Sacred Heart Messenger. (1). The Sacred Heart Novena. (2) What St. Louis Martin teaches fathers. (3) Fr. Jim Maher SJ: The Camino, Spiritual but not Religious? (4). Leadership in a new way of Ministry Irish Catholic. (1). Fr. Shay Cullen: The kind of faith Pope Leo XIV needs to end child abuse and injustice. (2). BredaO'Brien: A famous prayer to St. Michael. -- There are two equal and opposite into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. (3)Graiguecullen parish commissions 15 teenage Eucharistic ministers. (4)Relentness Ministry -- Priests can have a reluctance or fear of speaking about their mental health.

Support the Catholic press and keep in touch with the Church Buy and read a Catholic publication weekly



Thinking about the Diocesan Priesthood? There is a "Come and See" afternoon for men aged between 18 and 40 who may be thinking about Priesthood for the Diocese of Cork and Ross. It will take place from 2-5pm on Sunday May 25th in Mardyke House, Cork City (T12 W8RP). The afternoon will include time for prayer, reflection, discussion and a social dimension. For more information email vocations@corkandross.org

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

Sunday Cuppa continues in the Parish Centre after 11 am mass on 1st June for tea and bikkies and more chat! Cheaper than the Village 'cos it's free!! Everyone welcome - Ah go on!



Observations Our first reading today in instructive: it tells the story of the so-called Council of Jerusalem. It helps us with synodality itself and there are lessons to be learned from the account in the Acts.

They paid attention to experience — what was actually taking place. In particular, they noticed where the Holy Spirt was simply ahead of them. The story of Cornelius in Acts 10:1-11:18 serves as a powerful illustration. They also listened to all sides — they heard each other out, so to speak. The Word of God was also important: they read the Scriptures and found there an eventual openness to the other, the outsider, especially to the Gentiles. Finally, they made their decisions, registered in today's first reading. The letter sent around is repays close reading. They decided to impose no burdens — with some compromises. It was hard for Jews to eat non-kosher food. Would the Gentiles mind making allowance for the sake of full table fellowship? Those of Jewish background were already compromising so a little generosity from the other side would be appreciated!

Reflections 1. Jesus seeks to reassure his followers in the face of his imminent death. Although he will be leaving them he promises them the gift of the Spirit. How have you been aware of the gift of the Spirit of God in your life? 2. Remember times of separation from a loved one through change of residence or other circumstances. How has the love between you been a support after the separation? 3. To his followers Jesus, promises 'we will come and make our home with them'. Our God is not a distant God but one who lives in us. What has helped you to be aware of the closeness of God to you? 4. 'Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid'. When you have been anxious, who have been the Jesus people for you who were able to calm your anxiety. How did they do this? For whom have you been one who calmed anxiety?

PRAYER Great and loving Father, your will for us in Jesus is the peace the world cannot give; your abiding gift is the Advocate he promised. Calm all troubled hearts, dispel every fear. Keep us steadfast in love and faithful to your word, that we may always be your dwelling place. Grant this through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

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 30th May - Next Meeting Art with Gillian & Inga from Crawford Art Gallery

FIRST FRIDAY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Rosary and Benediction will commence at 4pm. each First Friday. There are time sheets on the tables in the Church where Parishioners can indicate the times most suitable for them to Attend. We would like, if possible, if there could be 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

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

Thought for the day There is a move afoot to replace church teaching on the just war with a more proactive doctrine of just peace. As Paul VI observed long ago, peace is much more than the absence of war. In a world riven by conflict, peace is a matter of discipleship and, at the personal level, a matter of deliberate choice even in the everyday conflicts of our ordinary lives. The prayer for peace goes well beyond praying for individualistic freedom from stress.

Prayer O God, though the human race is divided by dissension and discord, yet we know that by testing us you change our hearts to prepare them for reconciliation. Even more, by your Spirit you move human hearts that enemies may speak to each other again, adversaries may join hands, and peoples seek to meet together. Amen. K O'Mahony OSA

Entrance – Hail Queen of Heaven

Hail, Queen of heav'n, the ocean Star: Guide of the wand'rer here below, Thrown on life's surge, we claim thy care; Save us from peril and from woe. Mother of Christ, Star of the Sea, Pray for the wand'rer, pray for me.

O gentle, chaste, and spotless Maid, We sinners make our prayers through thee; Remind thy Son that He has paid The price of our iniquity. Virgin most pure, Star of the sea, Pray for the sinner, pray for me.

Recessional – Bring Flowers of the Rarest

Bring flowers of the rarest Bring blossoms the fairest From garden and woodland and hillside and dale; Our full hearts are swelling, our glad voices telling The praise of the loveliest flower of the vale

[Chorus] O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today Queen of the Angels, And Queen of the May O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today Queen of the Angels, And Queen of the May

Their lady, they name thee Their mistress, proclaim thee Ah, grant that thy children on earth be as true As long as the bowers are radiant with flowers As long as the azure shall keep its bright hue (Chorus)

Year of Prayer, Listening and Discernment: Continuing the Journey

“Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.” (1 Samuel 3:10) The Diocesan Year of Prayer, Listening and Discernment continues to unfold. We are deeply grateful to all who took part in the recent sessions within our Families of Parishes. Your prayer, presence, and reflections have enriched this process. Over the coming weeks, the responses received are being carefully and prayerfully reviewed. This next stage—of reflection and discernment—will help determine the steps we are called to take together as a Diocese. We ask for your continued prayer that this next phase may be shaped by the wisdom of the Holy Spirit and a shared desire to respond to the call of Christ in our time.