

St Michael's Parish, Blackrock, Cork

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21/09/2025

25th Sunday Ordinary Time

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

1306

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

Weddings
Congratulations to
Megan Pardy, Blackrock & Jamie O'Driscoll, Skibbereen who were married in our church on Saturday 13th September.

Baptisms
Ciarán Gerard Cardillo
Maeve Elize Walters
James Steven Walters
Liam David Seidel O'Rourke
Fódhla Mary Lehane
Colm Bernard Henry
Oisín Padraic Henry
Welcome to the Christian Family.

Parish Life –
Emerging from the diocesan meeting in Rochestown Park Hotel last Sunday afternoon where representatives from parishes, faith communities, chaplaincies and religious communities gathered to chart the way ahead more generally, the need to nurture parish ministries was clear. This was always the case and is more immediate and urgent than ever before. In our parish and Family of Parishes, if you feel that you can help or contribute, please let us know. We all want our parish and parishes to have a sustainable future and pass on faith as best we can to the next generation. Fr. Michael

Alpha Programme – will begin on Wednesday 24th September @ 7.30pm in SMA Blackrock Road. There are flyers on the tables in the church about this.

Gougane Sunday – 28th September – during this Jubilee Year of Hope it is possible for people to gain an indulgence through participation

SMA Annual Novena – will take place in St. Joseph's Church Wilton from Tuesday 23rd – Wednesday 1st October due to the current closure of the SMA Church, Blackrock Road. A different SMA priest will lead the Mass each evening at 7.30pm with various visiting choirs each evening as well.

Cork Women's Mini Marathon – Sunday 21st September – Blackrock Road (Village – Park Avenue) will be closed from 12.45pm – 2.30pm)

Annual Remembrance Mass - for all those who have died in our parish over the last year will be celebrated on Monday 3rd November @ 7pm.

Priesthood Education Fund Annual Collection – will be taken up as a second collection after Communion this weekend.

The SMA Parish Newsletter is here in St. Michael's while the SMA church remains closed temporarily following recent damage to the church ceiling there.
Fr. Michael
085 8735905
frmichael@corkandross.org

A brief introduction on Sunday's readings
First reading Amos 8:4-7
Our short reading today should ring bells. It was written at a time of artificially rapid economic expansion, when a few became rich and the poor were exploited. People even “adjusted” the weights and measures to cheat at the market.
Second reading 1 Timothy 2:1-8
Why should we pray for everyone? Because God wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth.
Gospel Luke 16:1-13
The parable of the crafty steward was as disturbing in the first century as it ought to be today! It may help to remember that original parable may have ended with the praise of the steward (v.8a). The other sayings are really later reflections on roughly the same theme, in the light of early Christian experience.

The Papers Say.....
Irish Catholic. (1) Martina Purdy: Charlie Kirk and the deadly divide in our culture (see also David Quinn). (2) Padre Pio for our time -- the enduring fire of the beloved saint (3) Mary Kenny: Pope Leo's Irish trauma shouldn't inhibit the wearing of the collar (see also Garry O'Sullivan's notebook (4). The nuns who came home -- three sisters defy age, locks and orders
Tablet of 13/9. (1) Religious freedom -- Ukraine's underground church (2). Born in Bethlehem -- A small Sheffield-based charity has begun a quiet revolution in the care of the dying in Palestine's West Bank. (3). Finding the inner teacher -- Pope Leo's three-step guide to becoming a Catholic school. (4). Sudan -- Hundreds dead as floods bury villagers under rubble

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

VOCATIONS AFTERNOON with the Poor Clare Sisters, Cork Saturday September 27th 2 - 4 pm
If you are considering a religious vocation, feel free to contact us anytime: vocationspoorclarescork@gmail.com or write to us: Poor Clare Monastery, College Road, Cork. www.poorclarescork.ie

Breast Cancer Awareness Month
takes place October 1st-31st.
For further information, please log onto www.breastcancerireland.com.

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

Mater Dei Academy – Cork's Independent Catholic Secondary School for boys and girls hosts an Open Evening on Thursday 9th October @ 7pm.
Register at www.materdeiacademy.ie or call 021 2021229

Cork Scripture Group would like to invite anyone who is interested in Scripture to join us for the following course.
“They will call him Emmanuel which means God with us.”
Exploring Matthew's Gospel
4 Monday nights (29 Sept, 6, 13, 20 Oct) from 7.30-9.30 p.m. in Scala, Blackrock. Presenters: Fr Seamus O'Connell, Marian Mortell, Lorna Downey, Phil Mortell
Workshop on “Emerging Churches of the first 90 years: The example of Matthew with Kieran O’Mahony OSA (Tarsus Scripture School) in Sacred Heart Hall, Western Road from 10.00- 1.00 p.m. on Sat 18 Oct. Cost €50. Workshop only: €10.
To book a place please email corkscripturegroup@gmail.com

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL
September collection came to €2240
Many thanks for your generous continued support.

The gospel parable and its following sayings bristle with questions and a good deal of ink has been spilt explaining this text. What's it about? The right use of material goods? How to face the parousia? Is the “Lord” really Jesus? Does it praise dishonesty? What is “dishonest wealth”, the mammon of injustice? Proclaimed properly, it should certainly puzzle those who hear it today.

Reflections
1. As often with the parables of Jesus, this one is intended to shock in order to make us think. Jesus is not praising the injustice of the servant, but his purposefulness in preparing for the future. In your experience what difference does it make when you are purposeful and energetic instead of lethargic?
2. It was his master's call to account that galvanised the servant into action. What have been the experiences, or people, that have galvanised you into action when you had been somewhat halfhearted in your efforts?
3. Who have been the people whose energy, drive and astuteness have been an inspiration to you in how to handle difficult situations?
4. “No servant can be the slave of two masters”. When have you experienced the truth of this statement?

PRAYER
God our saviour, you call us into your service. Make us wise and resourceful: children of the light who continue your work in this world with untiring concern for integrity and justice. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.



Collection for fund which supports seminarians and deacons
The annual collection for the Priesthood Education Fund will take place across the Diocese on the weekend of 20th / 21st September. This fund plays a vital role in supporting the formation and ongoing education of those serving in priestly and diaconal ministry. Currently one seminarian returned to his studies for the priesthood in St Patrick's College, Maynooth last week and another candidate is pursuing formation for the Permanent Diaconate. A discernment group for men considering diocesan priesthood also began recently and will continue during the year ahead. In addition the fund also supports the ongoing training and education of priests in the Diocese. We are deeply aware of the financial challenges many individuals and families face at this time. Nevertheless, we kindly ask you to support this important collection as generously as possible. Your continued support in promoting vocations is sincerely appreciated.

Ballinlough Men's Retirement Club meets every Wednesday afternoon from 2 – 4pm resuming on Wed. 3rd September in Ballinlough Community Centre. Members enjoy an afternoon of short mat bowls (bowls supplied by the club) in an atmosphere of fun and camaraderie.
New members welcome. Contact: 085 1615360.

Thought for the day
The banking crisis is only one example of a wider “honesty deficit” in public life. Even people working for charities are sometimes found, unfortunately, to be lacking in integrity. As a result, the story of dishonest management will not lack contemporary echoes. It also means that the shock of story—the manager continues to fix the books for his own benefit—is just as much a shock today as it would have been in first-century Palestine. If that were not enough, the ironic teaching drawn in v. 9 borders on the sarcastic, not to say caustic. No missing the meaning, in any case! But what is the meaning? It can't be simply copy that distressing example of the manager. To act, not to delay, seems to be at the centre.
Prayer
I truly believe and I know, God of our hearts, that you love and desire all that I am. May your great love penetrate even the darkest parts of my life that I may know true conversion of heart and love you with my whole self.
K O'Mahony OSA

ENTRANCE Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here. Come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear. In him no sin is found. We stand on holy ground. Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around; He burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned. How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of Light! Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place; He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace. No work too hard for him; in faith receive from him. Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

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.

A comic strip featuring a character named 'THIS GUY' who is a crook, and a character named 'HUI!' who is a scholar. The comic strip is titled 'I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY JESUS LIKES THIS GUY. HE'S A CROOK!' and 'SOME SCHOLARS BELIEVE HE WAS ACTUALLY CUTTING OUT HIS OWN PROFIT FOR THE SAKE OF HIS RELATIONSHIPS.' The comic strip is signed 'WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG' and 'LUKE 16:1-13'.

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 26th September - Next Meeting