

St Michael's Parish, Blackrock, Cork

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23/11/2025

Christ the King

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



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



Baptisms Bobby Daniel Connolly. Tom Michael Delaney. Holly Mary-Margaret O'Donnell. Welcome to the Christian Family.



Praying Together In the coming weeks, we will gradually introduce a number of small changes as to when we stand and when we kneel during the celebration of the Mass. Bishop Fintan Gavin has said that 'during our Year of Prayer, Listening and Discernment, people shared a desire for a deeper and more united experience of worship during the Sunday Eucharist. In responding to this desire, we're introducing the use of common postures at Mass, as outlined in the Missal, starting on the First Sunday of Advent. It is hoped that this will help make people feel even more welcome and at home in whatever church in our diocese that they attend the celebration of the Eucharist'



Here in our Family of Parishes, these adjustments will be introduced gradually and I am certain that we will comfortably adapt to these in our own time. - Fr. Michael

Do This in Memory Mass – there was a lovely atmosphere at this Mass last weekend. There was a great attendance of families and an evident willingness to participate. Thanks to all involved and we look forward to the next Do This in Memory Mass on Saturday 6th December @ 6pm.

Confirmation Enrolment Mass – will take place next Saturday 29th November @ 6pm.

Mission Appeal – Fr. Wilhad Shayo from the Rosminian Fathers has been in touch to thank people for their welcome and generosity last Sunday at 9am & 11am Masses. €2,251.50 was received in donations.

Forever Loved, Forever Cherished – Special Remembrance Service for babies and infants lost during pregnancy or at birth will take place in the Church of the Resurrection, Farranree (T23 NV97) on Friday 28th November @ 7pm.

#HaveYourSay about your Catholic School For Attention of Parents of children attending Primary Schools or have yet to start. The Department of Education is currently conducting a Primary School Survey that will determine the future provision of Primary Schools and crucially could lead to lasting changes in your school. In simple, direct terms, you are being asked if you want your school to stay a Catholic school or if you want that to change. Don't leave it to others, have your say before 16 December 2025. See - www.gov.ie/en/departement-of-education/campaigns/primary-school-survey

Fr. Michael 085 8735905 frmichael@corkandross.org

A brief introduction on Sunday's readings First reading 2 Samuel 5:1-3 Recognising and choosing a leader is always important. David is the iconic king and the story is told today because Jesus' roots go to back to David himself. Second reading Colossians 1:12-20 For the feast, we hear an astonishing hymn or poem from Colossians. Why astonishing? When you recall that Jesus was a poor Galilean prophet, put to death by the Romans as a criminal, it is breathtaking what is said of him here! Gospel Luke 23:35-43 Jesus is a king is this story—but from a human point of view a very unusual king, who rules from the cross and whose gift is forgiveness and life eternal.

The Papers Say..... Tablet of 15/11. (1). Austin Ivereigh: Leo's way (1) -- Pope Leo's road map for the Church. Leo's election showed that the Francis era is not a chapter that can now be shelved, as some had hoped. (2). Thomas Bancroft: Leo's way (2). -- In his first teaching document, Pope Leo insisted that putting the poor first is a social and political as well as a personal task. (3). Archbishop of Marseille: 'Ensure new Catholics are not seduced by identity politics'. (4) Sarah MacDonald: Trafficking of humans has reached new level of evil.

Tablet of 8/11. (1). The cost of conscience -- In an age of populism and polarization , St. John Henry Newman is a reminder that if politics and public life are to meet the greatest challenges of our age they must be guided by conscience. (2). Hope from below. -- Liberation theology, which emerged in Latin America in the 1970's, has been given renewed vigour by the papacies of Francis and Leo with a new emphasis on Synodality, women, indigenous people, and the cry of Mother Earth Sacred Heart Messenger. (1) Christmas Novena with Fr. John Cullen. (2). Fr. Bernard Cotter: Christmas Family Customs. (3) Let Advent be Advent. Irish Catholic. (1). From the Iron Curtain to Gaza. -- The Tyrone woman carrying hope to the World's most persecuted Christians. (2). David Quinn: Harris has raised an inconvenient truth for the Irish woke left. (3). Denominational or multi-denominational? Government seeks view on faith and education. (4). Bishop Coll calls for a Church committed to mission. 'We need to re-present the faith and be a renewed Church that goes out to meet people'. (5). Brendan O'Regan TV/Radio: Divine Sparks on RTE Radio One. -- A full hour for God, science and to evaluate relics.

Advent Reflection Day On Saturday, November 29th join the Office for Mission and Ministry from 10.00am to 3.30pm in Frankfield and Grange Parish Centre for a peaceful Advent Reflection Day. "Waiting in Hope: Listening for God's promise through the Word" invites you to step away from the busyness of the season and enter a time of prayer, reflection, and renewed trust in God's promises. Places are limited so booking is essential by contacting us at https://tinyurl.com/mission-ministry or by phoning 021-7355517.

Advent Lectio Divina The Office for Mission and Ministry will be offering three online Lectio Divina sessions for Advent on Wednesday, December 3rd, 10th and 17th from 7.30pm to 8.30pm. These will be an opportunity to pause, pray with Scripture, and prepare for the coming of Christ. These online sessions are open to everyone. With limited places available, registration is essential. Contact us via www.tinyurl.com/

Gentle reminder!! For those attending with young children, there is a Family Room available at the top left inside the church. Thanks.



The feast of Christ the King was first celebrated in 1925, one 100 years ago. It was a time of upheaval: the catastrophe of WWI, four great empires had collapsed, the world was in chaos. Only a few years later, the Wall Street Crash sent seismic tremors across the globe. Unpalatable and extreme alternatives were presenting themselves as solutions, such as European fascism and Soviet communism, neither destined to last but each causing incalculable harm.

The then bishop of Rome, Pius XI, desired to remind people that the Christian faith proclaims a very different vision and a very different way of living: "...Jesus Christ reigns over the minds of individuals by his teachings, in their hearts by His love, in each one's life by the living according to His law and the imitating of His example."

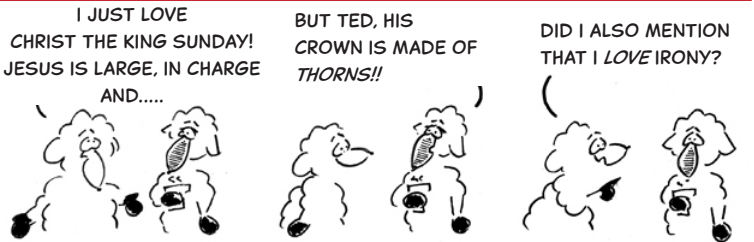
Reflections 1. Today's feast puts before us Jesus who never used power to his own advantage. Whom have you known who used power for the benefit of others rather than for their own self-interest? When have you used power in this way? 2. The power of God is shown in an unexpected way in the Crucifixion, not in a wonderful display of spectacular dominance, but in Jesus sharing our human weakness. When has the honesty of another sharing his/her human vulnerability with you had a powerful effect? When has your honesty in that way had a positive effect on another? 3. Jesus is an example of someone in apparent helplessness. It was his trust in the love of God with him that helped him through. It was only later with the hindsight of the resurrection that the moment of helplessness could be seen as one in which the power of God was present. Have you had experiences on which you can look back now and see that the power of God was at work in your moments of helplessness? 4. The scene also puts before us the liberating power of forgiveness. The forgiveness of Jesus brought new life to the criminal hanging on the cross with him. When have you found that forgiveness given, or received, was a source of new life for yourself or for others?

PRAYER God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you gave us your Son, the beloved one who was rejected, the Saviour who appeared defeated. Yet the mystery of his kingship illumines our lives. Show us in his death the victory that crowns the ages, and in his broken body the love that unites heaven and earth. 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

Online Advent Retreat. The Priory Institute is delighted to offer a FREE OF CHARGE Advent retreat Visit our website prioryinstitute.com to register/find out more.

Choral Christmas Cheer Sunday 30th November St. Michael's Church, Blackrock, 7.30 pm The Willcollane Singers, Carrigaline Gospel Choir, River Rhythms Community Choir,City Hall Singers,CADA Performing Arts, St Michael's NS, Blackrock Soloists: Mary Hegarty, Andrew Lane & Siomha Marrion Tickets: €26 - Available at corkchoral.ie

Templehill Cemetery Rosary and Blessing of Graves: Will take place on Sunday 23rd November at 3:00 pm.



Thought for the day In A. A. Milne, we read the following scrap of dialogue: "What day is it?" It's today," squeaked Piglet. " My favourite day," said Pooh. Today has to be our favourite day because it is the only day we'll ever have. As St Augustine alarmingly noticed, the past is over, the future is not yet and the present, fleeting moment is the future becoming the past. And yet, this flying time is our "today of salvation," a day like no other, not to be repeated. See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! (2 Corinthians 6:2) The pulse of life is the heartbeat of God. Prayer In this present moment, Lord, help us to put our fingers on the pulse of life, living fully life in abundance. Amen. K O'Mahony OSA

ENTRANCE – How Great Thou Art Oh Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds Thy hands have made I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed. CHORUS: Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee: How great Thou art, how great Thou art. Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee: How great Thou art, how great Thou art.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart; Then I shall bow, in humble adoration, And then proclaim, my God, how great Thou art. CHORUS Recessional - Hail Redeemer King Divine Hail Redeemer, King divine! Priest and Lamb, the throne is thine; King, whose reign shall never cease, Prince of everlasting peace.

Chorus: Angels, saints and nations sing : "Praise be Jesus Christ our King; Lord of life, earth, sky and sea, King of love on Calvary!" Eucharistic King, what love draws thee daily from above, clad in signs of bread and wine : feed us, lead us, keep us thine! Chorus:



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 28th November- Next Meeting Christmas Party - Festive activities



This year the Holy Cross (Mahon) 'Bring and Sing' Christmas Carol Ceremony will be held in Holy Cross Church (Mahon) on Tuesday 9th December, 2025 at 7.30 p.m. and it will consist of Readings on the Christmas Story, Reflections and Carols/Hymns. Those attending are invited to bring along some item of foodstuffs (e.g. tea, coffee, biscuits, toiletries). These gifts will be given to the local Vincent de Paul Society for distribution to the poorer families in our parish.

