

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

Frank James Dolan.

Welcome to the Christian Family.



Recently Deceased

Dr Gerard Buckley, Ballintemple

Geraldine Gabriel, Blackrock

Rest in Peace



Young People & Families –

Over the last two years we have worked towards building up the participation and involvement of young people and families at weekend Masses and in the life of the parish. We have worked closely with our parish schools nurturing the long-standing relationships of family, school and parish. These things just don't happen so we have worked together to involve families through the First Communion and Confirmation preparation programmes, childrens' adoration on the First Friday of each month and expanding the altar server team. The attendance at the Confirmation Ceremony of Light on last Saturday evening was excellent and was evidence of the willingness of families to be involved giving a sense of a true parish community.



We will soon commence training for new Ministers of the Word and Eucharist which is a further opportunity for young people to be involved alongside our parishioners. If you would like to suggest someone for these ministries, please let me know.

Fr. Michael

New Ministers of the Word & Eucharist – training for new ministers in Mahon parish and our Family of Parishes will take place in Blackrock Parish Centre on 10th & 19th March provided by the Office of Mission & Ministry in the Diocese.

Ash Wednesday – 18th February – Mass and Blessing of Ashes @ 9.30am.

Trócaire Lenten Appeal 2026 - Trócaire Boxes available in the church.

Do This in Memory Mass – next Saturday 14th February @ 6pm.

34th World Day of the Sick 2026 - On next Tuesday 10th February we will celebrate the Sacrament of Healing and Anointing at 9.30am Mass in the church.

World Day of the Sick – Celebration of the blessing and anointing of the sick will take place on Sunday 15th February @ 12.15pm Mass in Holy Cross Church.

Fr. Michael

085 8735905

frmichael@corkandross.org

A brief introduction on Sunday's readings

First reading

Isaiah 58:7-10

It is easy to fall into the trap of thinking that once we have said our prayers and been to church, we've done our bit. Isaiah puts us straight.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

What is the foundation of our faith? Not the wonderful persuasive oratory of anyone, even St Paul himself! What then? Our very own experience of the power of God and his Holy Spirit in our lives. We may need to reclaim this today for ourselves.

Gospel

Matthew 5:13-16

We are used to thinking of Jesus as the light of the world — but so are we! The question is: how do we ourselves bear this light today and give witness to our faith?

The Papers Say.....

Irish Catholic. (1) Fr. Kieran O'Mahony OSA: *Lectio Divina -- Let your light shine before others so that they may give glory to your Father.*

(2). Mary Kenny: When the Irish Catholic is more liberal than the Irish Times. (3). David Quinn: The most public supernatural event of the 20th. Century. (4) Laoise de Brun: Censorship and the bias of the Irish media -- With trans and other contested areas of policy, journalists behave more like activists than reporters. (5). Nuala O'Loan: Assisted suicide and the dogma that autonomy is everything. (6). Fr. Billy Swan: The compass of Vatican II.

Tablet of 17/1. (1). Archbishop Eamon Martin discerns an emerging emphasis on faith among young. (2) Synodality and mission chosen as topics for deepest scrutiny as Cardinals gather in Rome for annual consistories.

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

Please note the change of Parish email address :

parish@stmichaelsblackrock.ie

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

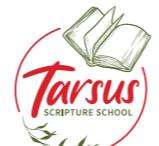
Fr. Michael has generously offered the poor box near the exit as a collection point for SVP.

If you wish to contribute any time, it would be appreciated.



Gentle reminder!!

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



TARSUS SCRIPTURE SCHOOL LENT 2026

For the coming season of Lent, we are offering a short course which explores the Gospel readings for this liturgical year. Over six pre-recorded inputs, Jessie Rogers, Séan Goan, and Kieran O'Mahony will introduce these texts, provide a commentary, and explore how they help us reflect on the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In addition to these presentations, there will also be two live webinars: a conversation with the presenters about their topics, and a meditative reading of Scripture. There is also a parish option. For all registration go to TSS/Lent

The Second Collection on 7th/8th. February 2026 is for Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage.

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

The Good News and being salt and light

The good news, the Gospel, is rich. Perhaps these few steps may help: it is the discovery that God is love — that kind of spontaneous, totally natural and unthinking love of a father or mother for a new-born child. That might be hard to feel or even to be convinced of, but that is how it is. We believe this extraordinary love has been disclosed in Jesus — in his teaching, his actions, his person, his death and resurrection. It leads to a profound sense of joy in believing — a conviction that life is a great adventure, worth living to the full and, importantly, that nothing is ever lost. In other words, evangelisation is predicated upon the full Christian proclamation, in all its arresting richness.

Once we do take the step to personal faith, or, in the words of St Paul, once we allow ourselves to be overwhelmed by the love of God, it is no longer really possible to keep the good news, the euanganlion, to ourselves. It is so good, it has to be shared.

Reflections

1. Jesus uses the image of salt as something that makes food tasty. Without it food can be tasteless. Who are the people who give zest to your life and make it enjoyable? For whom have you done this? When have you been particularly aware of your potential in this regard?

2. The second image is that of light. Who have been a light for you, particularly in moments of darkness? For whom have you been a light? Recall these experiences and give thanks.

3. The images of salt and light can also be applied to communities to which we belong, a family, a parish, or other group. Thinking of the groups of which you are a member, how can the potential be enhanced to enrich the lives of members and offer them a guiding light?

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you have called your church to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Give us vigorous faith and a love that is genuine, so that all may see our works and give you the glory. We make our prayer through Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.



Totus Tuus 2026 Fatima Pilgrimage

The Totus Tuus annual pilgrimage to Fatima will take place from 28th August to 4th September. Learn about the Fatima Message, the Rosary, the First Saturdays, the lives of the three visionaries, and visit the tomb and home of Blessed Alexandrina Da Costa, who lived solely on the Eucharist for 13 years. The cost is €915 which includes, flights, half board accommodation, airport transfers, day trip to Balasar, trip to Valinhos and Adjustrel, trip to the Irish Dominican Sisters' Convent. There are places available to fly from Cork Airport, and also from Dublin Airport. Limited places are available. For more information call Damien on 087 20 49 048

BAPTISMS:

Please contact the parish office.

MARRIAGES:

Minimum 3 months notice required by Church and State.

Pre-marriage course required.

Thought for the day

We can easily see how Jesus should be the light of the world. Even though the words are familiar, we are perhaps unaccustomed to reflecting on ourselves as the light of the world and salt of the earth. This is an act of profound trust in us by God. Jesus has faith in us to be bearers of his Good News in our time. How are we to be that? Not first by our words or even by our deeds. We are the light and salt on account of who we are as disciples. As the Gospel text puts it, a city built on a hilltop cannot be hidden. We cannot help being seen as his disciples, for that is who we are.

Prayer

Jesus, we believe that you are the light of the world and that you call us to bear your light to the world. Help us to be authentic disciples of yours, not drawing attention to ourselves, but to you, the source of our light and life.

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 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: Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee etc.

LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT...
I DO THE GOOD WORKS AND GOD GETS THE CREDIT?



Anam Cara, the organisation that supports

bereaved parents, will hold its monthly

Parent Support Evening on Tuesday

17th February 2026 at 7.30pm in the

Fernhill House Hotel, Clonakilty.

This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was. You do not need to register in advance. To find out more call 01 4045378 or email info@anamcara.ie

