

St Michael's Parish, Blackrock

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19/07/2026

16th Sunday Ordinary Time

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



Deceased
Siobhán Galvin. Church Road, Blackrock.
Rest in Peace



Baptisms
Levi O'Reilly.
Clodagh Rose Purcell.
Coillte Finbarr Corkery.
Jamie Thomas Merker Noonan.
Isabelle Julia Dineen.
Welcome to the Christian Family.



faílte -
While many families are on holidays these weeks, it's also notable that we have many visitors as well. It's great to meet people at weekend Masses who take time to introduce themselves before or after Mass. The most important thing is that people feel welcome to Mass and to our church. It's also nice to hear accounts from people after they return from holidays of their experience of Mass in another country or in another part of Ireland. Celebrations and places can differ but the gathering of people around the altar remains the same. We are privileged to be able to gather in any church to celebrate God's love of each one of us. It's also so important that children can experience the Mass too in different settings and in different places. At this time of the year, we pray God's safety for people travelling and in the water. May we live each day in gratitude for the beauty of our world especially the beautiful weather this year. Fr. Michael



Altar Servers – The team is growing. Well done to the children. Sincere thanks to parents who have encouraged and supported their children to participate. Everyone is delighted to see the altar servers in the church and it encourages all of us.

Parables Tour with Fr. Mike Schmitz for Young Adults - Young adults from the Diocese of Cork and Ross are warmly invited to travel to Dublin for the Parables Tour with Fr. Mike Schmitz on Monday, 20th July. The cost of the trip is €70, which includes return bus transport, your ticket for the Parables Tour and a meal. The group will also attend a special Mass in Dublin, where Fr. Mike Schmitz will preach. Places are limited. To reserve a place, please email youthministry@corkandross.org.

Diocesan Purposes Collection – This Weekend. The Diocese of Cork and Ross provides vital support to our parishes in many areas, including Education, Religious Faith Formation in schools, Mission and Ministry, Youth Ministry, Safeguarding, and Stewardship and Governance. We also offer guidance in practical matters such as Data Protection, Finance, and Property. The next Diocesan Quarterly Collection will take place next weekend. Your generosity at that time will be greatly appreciated.

Fr. Michael

085 8735905 frmichael@corkandross.org

A brief introduction on Sunday's readings

First reading Wisdom 12:13,16-19
Today's first reading is a meditation— quite philosophical—on what God is like. As you listen, see if it resonates with your own experience of God as compassionate mystery and as patient creator. Both the power of God and God's mercy come to expression here.
Second reading Romans 8:26-27
There are only two sentences in this remembered and loved reading from Romans chapter 8. Paul can say a tremendous amount in very few words and yet speak to the experience of believers or any time or place.
Gospel Matthew 13:24-43
Today we hear yet another parable of the kingdom from Matthew, a parable it is easy to underestimate. At the time of writing, some in the church wanted to purify it by getting rid of the unworthy members—a temptation at any age.

The Papers Say.....
Messenger. (1). The Invisible Ministry of Pope Francis. (1)Fr. Brendan McManus SJ: As reliable as a Volkswagen. (3) Pope's intention for August -- For Evangelisation in the City. (4). Fr. Peter McVerry SJ: Ireland's Budget Surplus
Tablet of 11/7. (1). 'Every child is a mystery to be discovered'. When Pope Leo meets bishops in October to discuss Pope Francis's exhortation on 'Love in the family' might the Church's position on fertility treatments be discussed? (2)Michael Duggan: Writer Kate O'Brien -- Loyal daughter of a lost Ireland. (3). Switzerland -- Six SSPX bishops excommunicated. More than 700 priests 'are also in schism'
Tablet of 18/7 (1). Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe OP: Remembering Tibhirine. -- Seeking peace in a time of violence. (2). Peter Stanford: Ann Widdecombe, Good company, For the Catholic convert and combative former Tory MP turned Reform politician, friendship did not follow party lines. (3) Spanish state and bishops in ethics row
Irish Catholic. (1). Breda O'Brien: Pope Leo and migration rights -- a matter of balance. (2). Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union -- CEC and OMECE expressing Church's concerns and perspectives (3). Questions of Faith? How do I know if I'm excommunicated due to my past support of the SSPX. (4). Eanna Mackey: A grain of rice -- Limerick and Galway collide in hurling's showpiece

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL
This month's collection came to €2250
Many thanks for your generous support.

Catholic Papers – available in the church weekly. Thank you for your support particularly throughout the summer months when our routines can change somewhat.

SECOND COLLECTION W/E 18th /19th. JULY.
DIOCESAN NEEDS.

Youth 2000 Summer Festival | 13th–16th August
Calling all young people aged 16–35! Join us at the Youth 2000 Summer Festival in Newbridge College, Co. Kildare. This is a donation-only event, with free buses available across the country and all meals included.
Expect inspiring talks and workshops, Mass, music, prayer, and plenty of opportunities to chill out and meet other young Catholics. Whether you are new to the faith or looking to be refreshed, all are welcome.
To register or find out more, visit youth2000.ie or follow @ Youth2000Ireland.

Observations
The Economist magazine, which works in entirely secular categories, once described the Catholic Church has the largest NGO in the world. Probably, they are right. It is also one of the most centralised organisations in the world. It's always risky, not to say dangerous, when such a highly autocratic body begins to feel the need for profound change. And the need for change has been registered worldwide by the synodal consultation. People — all of us together — seem to have realised that we cannot simply carry on as before. This is true at the level of organisation and ministry and also at the level of certain applications of the gospel to living today.
The synodal exploration threw up contrasting expectations on what we may call the neuralgic issues. For example, the question of decentralisation itself is anathema to many people and a welcome revolution to others. The question of women in the church and women in ministry has produced divisions: is the exclusion of women from ordained ministry part of God's plan or a cultural hang-over of the time of patriarchy? The desire for the church to be more welcoming and tolerant in relation to certain oppressed groups in society has also triggered contrasting opinions.

Cork & Ross Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes | September 18th to 24th
The Cork and Ross Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from the 18th to the 24th this year under the patronage of Bishop Fintan Gavin. Flights are from Cork Airport direct to Lourdes Airport. Choice of hotels are available from €939. Call Joe Walsh Tours on 01 2410 800 to book a place. For any general enquiries email or call Mary on lourdes@corkandross.org or 085 2525 040.



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.



Thought for the day
Again today we have two versions of the one parable, the original and a later church interpretation or reception. Communities of faith are always “mixed,” in that some people are fully engaged, some are half-hearted and many, perhaps most, are somewhere in between. What to do? The temptation to go for a radical, purified church has been a recurring one across history. The teaching of this parable is let things alone—it is not for us to judge. It could be (we hope!) that less committed believers may change and a welcoming, compassionate approach may enable that to happen.
Prayer
Jesus, your compassion to all inspires us today to recognise our own need of your grace. Help us work on the plank in our own eyes before we dare to recognise, much less to offer to remove, a splinter in our neighbour's eye.
K O'Mahony OSA

Reflections
1. The owner of the field who allowed the wheat and the darnel to grow together is a reminder to us to be patient with ourselves and with others when we see everything is not right. Sometimes a preoccupation with the negative (the darnel) can blind us to seeing the positive in our own lives and in the lives of others. When have you found that a willingness to live with the messiness of the present created the conditions for future growth?
2. Have you ever found that it was through accepting the darnel that you learned important lessons for life, e.g., learning by making mistakes, or asking stupid questions, or taking foolish risks?
3. The parables of the mustard seed and the leaven are reminders that seemingly insignificant things can have very positive results. Have you ever been surprised by the benefit to yourself or others of a kind gesture, a small initiative, or a word of encouragement?

PRAYER
O God, patient and forbearing, you alone know fully the goodness of what you have made. Strengthen our spirit when we are slow and temper our zeal when we are rash, that in your own good time you may produce in us a rich harvest from the seed you have sown and tended.
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.

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



PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS
There are 2 Defibrillators located in the Parish, one in the village & one outside Murphy's Circle K Petrol Station. The code to operate both is 2017