

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

John O'Leary, Skehard Road

Rest in Peace



Baptisms

Erin Nora Fitzgerald.

Welcome to the Christian Family.



The Marina -

The Marina is beautiful during these summer days. So many people come to enjoy the walks there and surrounding areas. This year in particular, we are blessed with magnificent mornings and beautiful evening times. These are special times. So many people drop in to the church for a quiet prayer or to light a shrine candle. The church is an oasis of quiet and reflection when our heads can be so full of worries. If you are one of those people dropping into the church and have picked up the parish newsletter to read, you are especially welcome. There are many ways for us to pray with or without words. The church gives us the opportunity for both. May your presence or short visit to the church bring you comfort and stillness May the Lord accompany you and your family in your life. St. Michael, pray for us. Fr. Michael

Catholic Papers and Literature - we are fortunate to have a good selection of Catholic papers available in the church each weekend. This is appreciated by many people as good Catholic literature keeps us in touch with the wider church and faith development in a rapidly changing landscape.

Children's Adoration - Friday 7th August from 2pm - 2.30pm in St. Michael's, Blackrock. (please note the earlier time during the school holidays)

First Friday Visits to the Sick and Housebound - A number of people have been in touch to let us know of a family member who would welcome a visit to receive the Blessed Sacrament in their home. This is so important for people who came to the church all of their lives and now can do so no longer. If you know of a neighbour or family member who needs a visit just let us know

Cork Light Orchestra Concert - in the church on Friday 21st August @ 5.30pm as part of the Blackrock Village Festival

Fr. Michael

085 8735905 frmichael@corkandross.org

A brief introduction on Sunday's readings

First reading

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

At the start of his reign, Solomon is in the position to ask anything of God. What would you do in that situation? Solomon—renowned for his wisdom— prays wisely!

Second reading

Romans 8:28-30

A brief few lines from Paul manage to say a great deal. It is not that we always see this to be true immediately, but with time and reflection, we can see the fingerprints of God.

Gospel

Matthew 13:44-52

How would you recognise what you really wanted, in your heart of hearts, out of life? Probably not by listening to your words (the ideal) but by noticing your works, what you actually do (the real). Something similar may be said of these parables.

The Papers Say.....

Irish Catholic.

(1) Fr. Billy Swan: St. Joachim & Anne and evangelising our grand-children. (2). David Quinn: How Amnesty International completely lost its way. 'To think that this used to be an organisation that championed dissent from received views. Today, it demonises those who dissent from such view'. (3). Archbishop Ganswein; active repentance and conversion needed among the Society of St Pius X. (4). climate anxiety, Gen Zers and the future of the planet

(5) Fr. Kieran O'Mahony OSA: Hearers of the Word.

Tablet 25/07 : 1 The Languages of Jesus.

Galilee was a multilingual area, adjoining provinces where other local languages and dialects were spoken, such as Syria in the north, Samaria in the south, and the nearby 10 cities (the Decapolis), where Greek culture predominated. David Crystal

2. God is always at work in our lives in ways we may never realise until all is revealed. 13 July 2026 by Alban McCoy

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.

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.

Sunday Cuppa continues in the Parish Centre after 11 am mass on 2nd August for tea, bikkies and more chat!

Cheaper than the village - it's free!

Everyone welcome - Ah go on!

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Church Gate collection will take place on

Week ending 2nd August

Your support as always is greatly appreciated.

THERE WILL BE ONLY 1 COLLECTION ON THE SVP WEEKEND

Observations

Today's Gospel about the treasure in the field and the pearl of great price invites us to a double reflection. What do I really desire, deep down? Ultimately, we are all searching for something more, on a quest for God. Would I be prepared to give my all, as we see in today's Gospel. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says: For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:21) The best way to know "where my treasure is" is not to contemplate my ideals, usually unassailably noble, but to examine my practical use of time and energy. To what do I actually devote my best self? That's were my treasure is.

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.

STAY SAFE IN THE HOT WEATHER

STAY HYDRATED

Drink plenty of fluids, especially iced water, even if you don't feel thirsty

LEARN

Educate yourself on heat-related illnesses to learn how to recognise and prevent them and know when to seek help

CLOTHING

Wear light, loose-fitted clothing

BEAT THE HEAT

LISTEN TO YOUR BODY

Pay attention to how you feel. If you start to feel sick or very hot, stop what you're doing and go somewhere cool.

KEEP COOL

Stay in airconditioned rooms, consider the use of portable fans and cooling vests

TIME ACTIVITIES

Try to schedule outdoor activities during cooler parts of the day and take breaks in the shade to cool down

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.

Thought for the day

Our conviction is that God loves us wholly, in the double sense that he loves us fully and completely and his desire is that grace should touch every dimension of our lives. Anyone who has made the discovery of faith, like the merchant in search of fine pearls, will know what is meant: it is so wonderful that it leads to a discipleship costing not less than everything. It can be daunting, of course, but it leads to life in abundance (Jn 10:10).

Prayer

God of the covenant, faithful and true, you offer us both love and a way of living. As we embrace your love for each of us, help us so to live that we may fully alive with your Good News.

K O'Mahony OSA

Reflections

1. Have you ever found yourself saying "that was worth it" after giving up something (time, pleasure, money, etc.)? What was the treasure that made the sacrifice worthwhile?

2. The "kingdom of heaven" is when God is really the ruler in our life. What treasures have you obtained when you allow God to be at the centre of your life?

3. In life, we gather a lot of things, some good and some bad. The wise person in the kingdom of heaven, knows how to sit down and make decisions on what to keep and what to discard. When have you undertaken that kind of discernment? What have you discarded? What have you retained?

PRAYER

God of eternal wisdom, you alone impart the gift of right judgement. Grant us an understanding ear, that we may value wisely the treasure of your kingdom and gladly forgo all lesser gifts to possess that kingdom's incomparable joy. 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.

COULD JESUS BE ANY MORE CONFUSING?

HOW'S THIS.....

JESUS HAS GIVEN UP EVERYTHING FOR THE SAKE OF CREATION WHICH YOU AND I ARE PART.

THAT'S PRETTY GOOD!!

Gentle reminder!!

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

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