

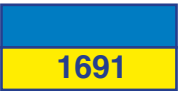
St Michael's Parish, Blackrock

Email : parish@stmichaelsblackrock.ie Website: www.stmichaelsblackrock.ie Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmichaelsblackrock | Parish Mobile No. (086) 813 6877

11/10/2026

28th 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 Sean O'Connell, Beaumont Rest in Peace



Priests Retreat 2026 – Over the last few days, I joined many other priests from different parishes and chaplaincy appointments for our annual retreat. As in previous years, we were blessed with lovely weather and a special time to meet, to pray and to encourage one another. While priests in parish appointments are now stretched across several parishes and with many commitments, we shared a joyful sense of service and gratitude to be able to serve people in our ministry. Invariably, priests mention their gratitude to people in parishes for their kindness and personal support. I always say that people ‘lift us up’ and keep us going in our ministry and in life. So we prayed for people in parishes in gratitude. I was delighted to be able to do this and am always grateful for your prayers, kindness and generosity. Our retreat this year was guided by Br. Richard Hendrick OFM. Cap. His words were inspirational. Br. Richard is well known as an author and retreat giver.



St. Michael, pray for us. - Fr. Michael

First Friday Visits – please let us know if a family member or neighbour is unable to attend Mass and would appreciate a visit to receive Holy Communion in their home. November Novena for the Dead: Monday 2nd - Tuesday 10th November. There will be Mass each weekday @ 9.30am during the Novena.

Blessing of the Graves – in St. Michael's Cemetery on Sunday 8th November @ 3pm.

November Novena Envelopes - available from the church from this weekend.

Family of Parishes Meeting - Wednesday 28th October @ 7pm in Blackrock Parish Centre. Representatives from the four parishes in our Family of Parishes will meet to further deepen the strong working relationship between the parishes.

Diocesan Needs Quarterly Collection this weekend. This collection allows for vital supports to your parish in many areas, including Education, Religious Faith Formation in schools, Mission and Ministry, Youth Ministry, Safeguarding, and Stewardship and Governance as well as guidance in practical matters such as Data Protection, Finance and Property.

Fr. Michael 085 8735905 frmichael@corkandross.org

A brief introduction on Sunday's readings First Reading (Isaiah 25:6–10a): The prophet Isaiah visualizes a future ultimate salvation as a magnificent banquet of rich foods and fine wines prepared by God for all peoples, where death will be destroyed forever and tears wiped away. Second Reading (Philippians 4:12–14, 19–20): St. Paul expresses his deep contentment and strength through Christ in any life circumstance—whether living in abundance or in hunger—reassuring the community that God will supply all their needs. Gospel (Matthew 22:1–14): Jesus tells the parable of the royal wedding feast. When the original invited guests refuse to come, the king invites everyone from the streets—both bad and good—filling the hall. It concludes with a warning that accepting the invitation requires a genuine transformation, symbolized by wearing the proper "wedding garment".

The Papers Say.....

Irish Catholic. (1). Fr. Billy Swan: St. Carlo Acutis and our call to be saints. (2). Eilis Mulroney: The contrast between the carefully managed Oireachtas hearing and the deeply personal stories heard across the road from Leinster House could hardly have been greater. (3). Young legionaries of Mary emphasise importance of youth's zeal for the Church of today. (4). Mary Kenny: Christa Pike and the death penalty. (5)Nuala O'Loan: What is happening in Drumcree is about so much more than a walk down the road. Sacred Heart Messenger: Fr. Brendan McManus SJ: The Art of Active Listening. (2). Pope's Intention for November: For the proper use of Wealth. (3). Fr. Bernard Cotter: Building a Parish Funeral Team. (4). Bishop Martin Hayes: Our Crisis is Our Opportunity. Tablet of 3/10. (1). Is the tide turning? Is France about to resume its place as the 'Eldest Daughter' of the Church? Or will 'laicite'prevail'? (2). Pilgrim among pilgrims —. Pope Leo touches the heart of France. (3). Letters. — Women already act as deacons. (4). Memorial to J.R.R. Tolkien to be unveiled in WestMinster Abbey. Tablet of 19/9. Hildegard of Bingen's world. — The Church is catching up with A twelfth -century Benedictine nun's vision of the interdependence of humanity and Creation And she was a composer too!! (2). Ethics in conflict. — Just war in the age of AI

BALLINLOUGH MEN'S RETIREMENT CLUB meets every Wednesday afternoon from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.(resuming on 2nd. Sept after summer break) in Ballinlough Community Centre. The members enjoy an afternoon of Short Mat Bowls (Bowls supplied by the club) in an atmosphere of fun and camaraderie. New members are welcome: our Membership comes from the general Cork City area. Contact Number: 085 1615 360.

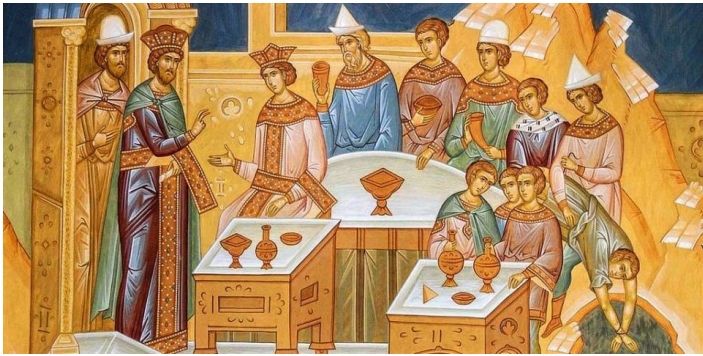
Annual Remembrance Mass - for all those who have died from our parish over the last year will be celebrated on Monday 2nd November @ 7pm. They have gone no further than to God and God is very near.

Christian Meditation Group – A group of people from our Family of Parishes continue to meet on each Friday morning at 10.15am in the Parish Centre. After a short introduction there is 20 minutes of silent prayer/meditation concluding with the Our Father. We welcome you to join us. Contact 087 6477841 for details.

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL This month's collection came to €2670 Many thanks for your generous support.

Reflections 1. Scripture often speaks of the kingdom of God as a banquet. It is not meant to be taken only as referring to life after death but it also shows how God wants us to be in our relationships with one another in this life. The image of people being at a meal where everyone is happy and welcome and where all hunger and thirst is satisfied gets across the idea that God loves, accepts and welcomes us and wants us to make that experience available to one another. Think of times in your life when you have had “banquet” experiences and when you have felt accepted and loved? 2. The host enlists the help of his servants to invite people to the banquet. We are commissioned by the Lord to invite people to the banquet of the kingdom, to the fullness of life—as parents, teachers, friends, etc. What has it been like for you to play a part in leading others to a fuller life? 3. There are many ways in which we can reflect on the guests invited, e.g. a) The ones invited first all found excuses to refuse the invitation. How do you feel when someone turns down an invitation you offer? Have there been times when you have found excuses to refuse an invitation from the Lord, or from others? What effect did this have in your life, or on others? b) The second round of invitations went out to “everyone in the streets, good and bad.” What is it like for you to receive an invitation, particularly when you do not consider yourself worthy of that invitation? c) Notice that the banquet of the kingdom is an inclusive one. When have you given an open, inclusive invitation to others? 4. As in the parable last week there is a message about being alert to invitations that offer a fuller life and the danger of losing out if we neglect to respond to such invitations. Perhaps there have been opportunities offered to you that you missed, and now regret. Think also of the blessings you received because you seized the moment and took an opportunity that presented itself. 5. The second parable puts the focus on how we respond to invitations. Some invitations are ones that challenge us to change, to conversion, to put on a ‘wedding garment’. What has been your experience of changing in response to an invitation you received? PRAYER

God of all goodness and kindness, you invite all peoples to the banquet and offer them a feast beyond compare. Give us your saving grace to keep unstained the robe of our baptism until that day when you welcome us to heaven's joyful table.



Editors note: The incorrect reflections were printed last week. Apologies, and the relevant ones appear now.

Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents in West Cork, will be hosting a grief cafe for bereaved parents on Thursday 20th October from 7.30pm - 9pm in the Skibbereen Community & Family Resource Centre. This is a free event. The grief cafe is a space where bereaved parents can come together, to talk, listen and to remember the child they lost. The aim our grief cafe in West Cork is to supplement our existing meetings and increasing access to as many people as possible, This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age of their child, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was. 01 4045378 or email info@anamcara.ie

Thought for the day In the parables of Jesus, wedding feasts are mentioned from time to time. The original parable may have ended with the words “invite everyone you can find to the wedding.”The detail of the troops—highly unlikely as an actual part of a wedding invitation(!)—realistically portrays the later destruction of Jerusalem, which Christians did indeed look back upon as punishment precisely for that rejection. The final verse is difficult for us today on a spiritual level. However, it is meant to provoke (re)conversion in a possibly (!) complacent church.

Prayer Lord, we know that you love us and invite us to the wedding feast of the Lamb. Help us to respond to your love that we may be followers of your Son not only in name but also in fact. Kieran O'Mahony OSA

ENTRANCE – Hail Queen of Heaven Hail, Queen of heav'n, the ocean Star: Guide of the wand'rer here below, Thrown on life's surge, we claim thy care; Save us from peril and from woe. Mother of Christ, Star of the Sea, Pray for the wand'rer, pray for me.

O gentle, chaste, and spotless Maid, We sinners make our prayers through thee; Remind thy Son that He has paid The price of our iniquity. Virgin most pure, Star of the sea, Pray for the sinner, pray for me.

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.

Comhaltas na Dúglaise are celebrating 75 years of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Eireann with an all star concert of traditional Irish music, song, dance, story telling and invited guests in the Nano Nagle Hall, Ballyphehane on Friday October 16th at 7.00.pm Tickets adults €10, children €5 available from members, eventbrite and on the door.

