

Mass Times

Sundays: 9 am & 11 am
Saturday Vigil: 6.00 pm
Tuesday & Friday: 9.30 am
Fr. Michael Keohane Co-PP



Recently Deceased

Catherine (Kay) Smith. Barnstead. Blackrock.
 May the light of God surround her forever.



A Quiet Place -

In the gospel this weekend, Jesus leads the disciples to rest both physically and spiritually. He guides them to eat from His table, listen to His words and sustain them to keep going.



Jesus goes on to 'teach the people at length'. It was more about his extended presence to them and his care for them. It was not a matter of waving at them from a distance but actually being totally present to them. This is the heart of the Eucharist for us. Jesus Christ is totally present to us to feed us, sustain us and teach us at length.

It is truly a special moment when we gather around the table each time. Let Jesus Christ bring you to a place of rest and renewal. Let yourself be cared for by the Good Shepherd. Let the words of Jesus reach you in your 'quiet place' this morning and rest for a while in the company of Jesus Christ and of one another.

Holy Cross Church Carpark - as part of the Mahon Street Renewal Scheme works are ongoing on the enlargement of Holy Cross Church Carpark. Once these are complete, further works will be completed to widen the pathway on approach to the main church door from Avenue de Rennes to facilitate funerals in particular.

Diocesan Needs Collection - this weekend as you leave after Mass. The last such collection in April raised €51,584 throughout the Diocese. The purpose of this collection is to fund diocesan services to support parishes with a wide range of services.

Fr. Michael

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FIRST FRIDAY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT On Friday 2nd August 2024

There are sheets on the tables in the Church where Parishioners can indicate the times most suitable for them to be present. We would like that there would be at least 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.



A brief introduction on Sunday's readings

First reading Jeremiah 23:1-6
 This passage was written when the political leadership failed abjectly, leading to a catastrophic collapse of institutions. As we hear the message of condemnation, perhaps we need to be open as well to the message of hope.

Second reading Ephesians 2:13-18
 The separation mentioned in this reading was originally the division between Jews and non-Jews. Listen carefully and you will hear the seeds of a new vision of humanity, "whose common father is the same."

Gospel Mark 6:30-34
 Anyone in a caring role will understand this story. Do carers need to care for themselves? Yes, of course. At the same time, the cry of those in need is insistent and penetrating.

The Papers Say.....

Irish Catholic. (1). David Quinn: When is it ok to refuse someone Communion (See also 'Cork Communion wars' and an interview with Fr. Gabriel Burke) (2). Kaya Jones, from Fame to Faith. (3). Polish Ambassador Arkady Rzegocki: Poetry and art in the face of barbarism. (4). Fr. Billy Sean: Blessed Carlo Acutis —. The first millennial saint

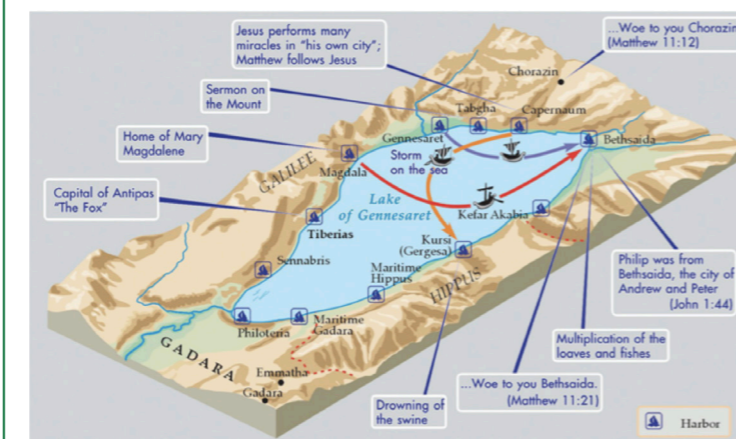
Tablet of 13/7. (1). On pilgrimage. — Polishing the rock of Massabielle. (2). Trump vs the United States. — 'With fear for our democracy, I dissent'. (3). India. — Clergy and bishops reach compromise on liturgy. (4). Dublin Rally for Life calls for abortion reform.

Tablet of 6/7. (1). Dementia and Alzheimer's. — When dealing with someone with dementia, love means making tough decisions and accepting the reality of the situation. (2). Holy Land. — Peace in Palestine must be a priority. (3). Ukraine. — priests walk free thanks to Holy See.

corcaigh abu —



We are all looking forward to the All-Ireland Final this weekend. Best wishes and prayers assured to the Cork team especially Alan Connolly, Robbie Cotter and Wayne Sherlock involved.



BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL
 Church Gate collection last weekend came to €2680
 Many thanks for your generous continued support.

Observations

The Sabbath — a gift of the Jewish people
 Some years ago, an Irish-American writer called Thomas Cahill wrote a short book called *The Gift of the Jews*, with the engaging subtitle, *How a Tribe of Desert Nomads Changed the Way Everyone Thinks and Feels*. When you think about, the Ten Commandments, the Bible, even Christianity itself — all these come from the ancient Israelites, the Jewish people. Cahill picked out one gift which has travelled well beyond the limits of religious faith: the weekend, starting with the Sabbath, a day of rest. Such a day of rest was unknown in antiquity.

Thomas Cahill was right: a great gift of the Jewish tradition to the whole world has been the Sabbath, the weekend and the extended Sabbath of holidays. Ours is a Sabbath-keeping God, who invites us to rest in him. In the words of today's Gospel, "You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while." Shabbat shalom to us all!

The last **Diocesan Needs Quarterly Collection** in April 2024 amounted to €51,584 throughout the Diocese, which is much appreciated.

The next quarterly collection will take place on this weekend of 20th / 21st July 2024.

This quarterly collection allows the Diocese to provide important ongoing supports to parishes in many areas from Education, School Religious Advisory, Mission & Ministry, Youth Ministry, Governance such as Data Protection, Safeguarding and Finance as well as the related staff costs and ongoing utilities. People continue to be very generous to these quarterly collections over the years, for which the Diocese is most grateful. Your support to next weekend's collection would be greatly appreciated.



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.

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 26th July- Next meeting
Summer Party - Music with Denis Johnson

Thought for the day

Our current culture of distraction seems to privilege busyness (the modern heresy of "activism"). It is, of course, an illusion to confuse hyperactivity with productivity or, even worse, administration with ministry. When people involved in ministry go on retreat, the first two days are often spent sleeping—itsself instructive! It is often only when we stop that we realise how much we are in need of rest and refreshment. While there is always more to be done, we have to choose how to use our time. An approach of "selective neglect" is not without its value, as recommended in The Joy of the Gospel.

Prayer

God of life and abundance, you call us to be bearers of the living and joy-filled Gospel. Help us to recognise our own need of time with you and refreshment in spirit. Amen! Let it be!

K O'Mahony OSA

POINTERS FOR PRAYER

1. The apostles reported to Jesus all that they had done and taught. Perhaps you have had the experience of being able to check in with somebody and share an experience. What was that like for you?
2. Jesus saw that the apostles needed to rest and eat. What has been your experience of finding a restful place after a busy day? What kind of nourishment have you found necessary in order to live with energy and enthusiasm? What have these insights taught you about life?
3. When Jesus saw the crowd, he recognised their need and reached out to them. Who has been a Jesus person for you, someone who recognised your need and reached out to you? For whom have you been a Jesus person in that way?
4. It sometimes can be difficult to strike a balance between responding to the needs of others and meeting our need for rest and nourishment. What has helped you to keep the balance right?

PRAYER

Compassionate God, from far and near you gather your Church into one. Safeguard the unity of your flock through the teaching of Christ the Shepherd that all your scattered children may find in him the guidance and nourishment that they seek. 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.

Pioneer Total Abstinence Association of the Sacred Heart - Pilgrimage to Knock Sunday 21 July 2024:

The Pioneer Pilgrimage to Knock will take place on Sunday 21 July. Mass at 3pm will be followed by Eucharistic Blessing and Procession to the Shrine. Pioneers along with friends and relations of people who are living "one day at a time" with addiction are welcome.

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