

### Mass Times

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



### Baptism

**Winston Oisín Burton Feeney.**  
**Tadhg Shay Coelho O'Mahony.**  
 Welcome to the Christian Family.



### Weddings

Congratulations to  
**Aoife Lordan and Dane Murphy** who were married in our Church on 12th. June, 2024.  
 Fr. Michael Keohane officiated.



Congratulations to **Lavinia Murphy and Mark Sheehan** who were married in our Church on 20th. July, 2024.  
 Fr. Jamie Twohig SAC officiated.

Sincere thanks for your generosity to the weekly offertory collections and scheduled church repairs collections in Blackrock Parish. Many thanks also to those who continue to support the parish via the donate button on the parish website and via standing order as well as occasional once-off donations.



It's your deep loyalty to the parish that keeps the church and its environs looking so well. We are all very proud of it and those who ensure that it's maintained so well.

May the Lord continue to bless your generosity and kindness.

Fr. Michael  
 085 8735905  
 frmichael@corkandross.org

**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 in early August, 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.

**Sunday Cuppa continues in the Parish Centre after 11 am mass on 4th August for tea and refreshments and more chat!**  
**Cheaper than the Village!!**  
*Everyone welcome!*



### A brief introduction on Sunday's readings

**First reading 2 Kings 4:42-44**  
 Anyone who has been anxious about having enough food for those around the table will understand this brief tale. What do you think is the point of the story? Could it be that at the Lord's hands we receive not only enough but more than enough, such is the love of God?  
**Second reading Ephesians 4:1-6**  
 How can Christians, with so much in common, still be divided? As you listen to this reading, notice the number of times "one" comes up ... one body, one spirit and so on.  
**Gospel John 6:1-15**  
 In John's Gospel, everything is a bit different. Where do you think the emphasis falls in this story? On the miracle or on the person of Jesus? The clue is in the last couple of sentences.

### The Papers Say.....

**Tablet of 20/7.** (1). Letters Pages. — The battle over the Tridentine Mass. (2). Spain. — Church sings praises of Catholic football coach and sporting heroes. (3). French politics. — The current political crisis in France has no precedent in the history of the Republic. (4). Austin Iverigh: Synod on Synodality. — An adviser to the Synod in Rome this October argues that if its vision is translated into action it would mark an extraordinary shift in the culture of the Church.  
**Irish Catholic.** (1). Four articles on the US political scene including 'The hard choices facing Catholics in US presidential election' ( David Quinn). (2). Bishop says star athlete is an 'evangeliser' and role model for youth. She has said that her Miraculous Medal is her most important and favourite medal. (3). Mary Kenny: Desperate responses to dire birth rates in Finland. (4). Why has Dublin's Muslim population grown so fast?



### 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.



### 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.

### Observations

#### Missing God...

Dennis O'Driscoll was a poet from Tipperary who died in 2012. He can be penetrating and entertaining. He worked as civil servant and described himself as "Lord of the Files"...

His poem Missing God references our Gospel today. Even the word "missing" can be heard in different registers. Missing might simply mean that God has somehow "gone missing." It could also be feeling the absence, in the sense that we are missing him. Finally, it could mean missing the mark, not aiming right and somehow failing to hit the bullseye. Further on in the poem, O'Driscoll has a startling image of our life without God as a wheel skidding in snow.

#### Missing God

*His grace is no longer called for  
 Before meals: farmed fish multiply  
 without His intercession.  
 Bread production rises through  
 disease-resistant grains devised  
 scientifically to mitigate His faults.*

*Yet, though we rebelled against Him  
 like adolescents, uplifted to see  
 an oppressive father banished -  
 a bearded hermit - to the desert,  
 we confess to missing Him at times.*

....  
*Miss Him when the TV scientist  
 explains the cosmos through equations,  
 leaving our planet to revolve on its axis  
 aimlessly, a wheel skidding in snow.*

We hear the poem today in a triple context: the ongoing challenge to belief in God, our hunger for a deeper



### TABGHA MOSAIC

During the fifth century, a large monastery and a church decorated with exquisite mosaic floors was built on the site of the Loaves and Fishes in Tabgha, Sea of Galilee. You will notice that the mosaic only contains four loaves, instead of five. The artist did this intentionally. The location of the mosaic (beneath the altar of the church) is the key to its interpretation. The '5th' loaf is now upon the altar, to be broken, multiplied, and distributed in the Eucharist.

If you would like to receive a weekly commentary on the Weekly Scripture Readings, both in AUDIO, VIDEO and in PDF, please log on to [www.tarsus.ie](http://www.tarsus.ie) and register to receive the emails.

### Thought for the day

The multiplication of the loaves generates many levels of meaning, often deeply spiritual. At a more ordinary level, we see an anonymous boy with the bread and fish making available what little he had for the Lord to make use of them. Placing ourselves at his disposal, offering whatever gifts we have is all that is asked of each of us.

#### Prayer

*Lord Jesus, we know that you see potential where we see limits. All we have and are is your gift in the first place. Help us to place ourselves and your gifts at your disposal for the service of the Kingdom.*

K O'Mahony OSA

### POINTERS FOR PRAYER

- At the heart of this story we are told that Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks and distributed them. In our day this reminds us of the Eucharist, the bread of life with which Jesus feeds us. By sharing the bread and wine in the Eucharist we symbolise our unity with one another and with God. Can you recall a particular Eucharist that was especially nourishing for you. What was it that made it different?
- Take, give thanks, distribute. The actions of Jesus also suggest an attitude to time, gifts and living. We take what we are given, give thanks, and use what we have. Have you found that having a grateful heart for what you have been given has made it easier for you to share with others?
- From what seemed meagre and inadequate resources many were fed. When have you found that when you gratefully use what little resources you have the results are beyond your expectations?
- Jesus chose to involve those around him in feeding the people. Have there been times when you have experienced benefits from calling on those around you to use their gifts to help with a task?

#### PRAYER

*O God, you open wide your hand, giving us food in due season. Out of your neverfailing abundance, satisfy the hungers of body and soul and lead all peoples of the earth to the feast of the world to come. We make our prayer through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.*



### 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

### BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Church Gate collection will take place on  
**Week ending 3/4 August 2024**  
 Your support as always is greatly appreciated.