

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 7th January 2024

Wherever there is water, there is life. Jesus' baptism in the Jordan marked the beginning of his life's work, his taking on the fullness of humanity. Our baptism is the source of our Christian vocation.

MASSES

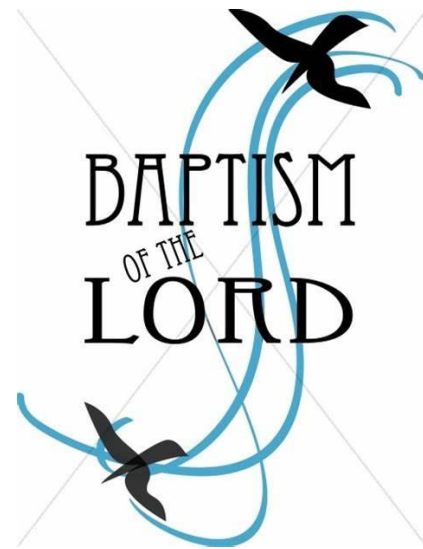
Vigil Saturdays: 6pm
Sundays: 9am & 11am
Weekdays: Monday to Saturday 10am

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 10.30am and 5.30pm

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Ballinlough, Blackrock, Blackrock Road, Mahon Family of Parishes

Representatives from the Office of Mission and Ministry in the Diocese will speak at all Masses across the four parishes during February. In preparation for this we will pray at all Masses during January asking God's blessing so that Parish Councils will be formed in a spirit of prayer and discernment to specifically serve the prayer and faith lives of the parishes. This will not be rushed and will be a more synodal way of discernment, prayer and eventually Parish Council formation.

Deaths

We remember in our prayers Michael Barry, Browningstown Park East, may he rest in peace.
Our sympathies to his family, friends, and neighbors.

DIOCESAN NEEDS

Second collection at all Masses next weekend 13th/14th January.

PRAYER GROUP returns to the Pastoral Centre on Thursday 11th January 2024 at 8pm. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, discussion of the following Sunday's readings and Taiže music.



The Prayer Intentions of The Holy Father Entrusted to The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network for the Year 2024

JANUARY

FOR THE GIFT OF DIVERSITY IN THE CHURCH

We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms with the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.

Two Alpha Training Days – 27th January & 3rd February 2024

Following on from our highly successful Alpha Information afternoon, the Office for Mission and Ministry are hosting two Alpha training day for Parishes/Families of Parishes.

Saturday 27th January 2024 – Cork City (Blackrock Parish Centre)

Saturday 3rd February 2024 West Cork (Clonakilty Parish Centre)

Both Training days begin at 10am and finish at 3.30pm

Alpha helps people not just know about the person, Jesus, but to come to know him, and into a relationship with him. Alpha also brings new life and energy back into the parish community because people form friendships, experience Christian community, and experience God in a new and life-giving way through Alpha.

A Picture of Peace

There once was a King who offered a prize to the artist who would paint the best picture of peace. Many artists tried. The King looked at all the pictures, but there were only two he really liked. One picture was of a calm lake. The lake was a perfect mirror, peaceful towering mountains were all around it. Overhead a blue sky with white clouds, a perfect picture of peace.



The other picture had mountains, too. But these were rugged and bare. Above was an angry sky from which rain fell. Down the side of the mountain tumbled a foaming waterfall. This did not look peaceful at all. But when the King looked, he saw behind the waterfall a tiny bush growing in a crack in the rock. In the bush a mother bird had built her nest. There, amid the rush of angry water, sat the mother bird on her nest in perfect peace.

The King chooses the second picture. 'Because' explained the King, 'peace does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble, or hard work. Peace means to be in the midst of all those things and still be calm in your heart.'

