



Parish of St. John the Baptist, Blackrock.

Parish Newsletter 21st /22nd May, 2022.

Website: www.sjb.ie

Masses available on webcam

Priests:

Fr Peter O'Connor. P.P. 01 2882104
Fr. Eddie Conway 01 2882248

Parish Office:

Hours 10.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m. Monday to Friday.
Tel: 288 2104

Times of Mass:

Sunday Vigil (Saturday) 6.30 p.m.
10.00 a.m.
12 noon

Weekdays: 1.05 p.m.
Saturday 6.30 p.m. Vigil.

Confessions

On request.

Baptisms: First Sunday of each month and Third Saturday.

Marriages: By arrangement, three months' notice required to Parish in which you reside.

When entering the Church, please wear **face masks, social distance, and use the hand sanitizers.**

The Church is cleaned at regular intervals to make it a safer environment for all.
Thank You.

Our Archbishop has asked for the following prayer to be made available in our churches during these weeks of discernment in our Diocese. Copies are available on the table at the back of the Church.

Building Hope

The Building Hope Prayer

Pilgrim God, we give you thanks and praise.

You constantly journey with us
even in our darkness and doubts.

We seek your way of loving kindness
to walk together as one family.

Open our eyes to recognise you
in the faces of one another,
in the breaking of bread
and in the splendour of creation.

May the risen Christ sow seeds of hope
and new life deep within us.

May our hearts and minds be filled with your Word,
bringing forth truth, justice and peace

May the Holy Spirit working in
and through us do much more
than we can dare to imagine
as we live out our baptismal calling
in humble and loving service.

We make this our prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Scoil Lorcáin Confirmation

We congratulate the children of Scoil Lorcáin, who received the Sacrament of Confirmation in our Parish Church last Thursday. We thank the teachers and parents who prepared the children for this big occasion in their lives.

Month of May – Our Lady Seat of Wisdom

The month of May is dedicated to our Lady. In St. John the Baptist parish we remember in our prayers all our faith community who are partaking in school and third level examinations, and parishioners who are making important decisions at this time. We share this prayer below with you, and you may like to share it with others in turn.

Our Lady Most Gracious,
Pray for us as we go about our daily lives.
That we may work hard, be kind, and always do our best.
That we keep safe, as we grow in your love and care.
That we believe in ourselves, achieve our potential,
and aspire to be the best we can be.
Help us to follow the example of your Son, Jesus,
as we learn to understand more about the wonderful world
which God has created for us.
Amen.



OUR LADY'S ALTAR

St. Charles de Foucauld

Last Sunday Pope Francis beatified the French martyr St. Charles de Foucauld in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. St. Charles prayer has great devotion in Ireland. Here are a few facts about his life and his prayer that attracts so many. Charles was born in Strasbourg in 1858 and was orphaned by the age of six. By his late teens, he drifted away from the faith and became agnostic. He attended a Jesuit school from which he was expelled for being lazy and troublesome. He then joined the military—a career which took him to Algeria and Morocco in North Africa. Despite his agnosticism, he felt dissatisfied and was known to pray the honest cry of the heart: "O God, if you exist, make yourself known to me." Following the advice and direction of a spiritual mentor, Charles de Foucauld wrestled with his doubts and was led to faith in God as a loving Father. In a letter, he described it this way: "As soon as I believed that there was a God, I understood that I could do nothing other than to live for him" (Letter to Henry de Castries, August 14, 1901).

After his conversion, Charles entered a Trappist monastery and from there went to Nazareth in the Holy Land, where he desired to imitate the hidden life of Jesus. In 1901, Charles was ordained a priest, and shortly afterwards, he returned to the border area of Morocco and Algeria where he tried to model a nomadic form of the contemplative life. In the desert, he lived in a spirit of simplicity and fraternity among the poor, including both Christians and Muslims. In fact, "Fraternity" was the name he gave to the hermitage that he established in the area, hoping that others would be attracted to this form of community living and join him. He once wrote, "I must be everything to everyone. I must laugh with those who laugh, cry with those who cry, to lead them all to Jesus."

On December 1, 1916, Charles de Foucauld was killed by desert bandits. He was beatified on November 13, 2005, and will be canonized as a martyr-saint of the Church next month. His best-known prayer is his Prayer of Abandonment, which captures his spirit of simplicity and humble trust in God. It is important to note that it was not written at the end of his life but during his years as a Trappist monk.

**Father, I abandon myself into your hands, do with me what you will.
Whatever you may do, I thank you: I am ready for all, I accept all.
Let only your will be done in me and in all your creatures.
I wish no more than this, O Lord. Into your hands, I commend my soul;
I offer it to you with all the love of my heart;
For I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself:
To surrender myself into your hands without reserve and with boundless confidence.
For you are my Father.'**