



**St. Columba's Church  
Douglas**  
021-489 4128 (Office)  
087-261 7143

**Sunday Mass**  
Sat Vigil 6 pm  
Sun 9.30am & 11.00

am  
 [DouglasRochestownParish](https://www.facebook.com/DouglasRochestownParish)

## Douglas/ Rochestown Parish

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

[www.douglasrochestownparish.ie](http://www.douglasrochestownparish.ie)

**St. Patrick's  
Church  
Rochestown**  
021-489 6797  
(Office)

**Sunday Mass**  
Sun 11.00am &  
12.30pm



### DEATHS

The deaths took place of the following: **Denis Keeshan**, Calderwood, **Michael O'Sullivan**, Shamrock Lawn, beloved husband of the late Frances, loving father of Ciara and Maeve. **Dermot (Derry Murphy)**, Douglas, beloved husband of Kathleen, loving father of Harriett, Mai, Harold (Harry), Jackie and the late Dermot. **Eamonn Draper**, dearly loved brother of Kitty & Una and the late Connie Draper. **Liam Hogan**, Rochestown, beloved husband of recently deceased Phyllis and much loved dad of Fiona and Sarah, May they rest in peace. Ar dheis lámh Dé go raibh siad.

**Finance:** Finance The Offertory Collection Sunday 24 Dec: **St. Columba's :€2,441, St. Patrick's : €1391.** Many Thanks for your generosity

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** IN PARISH CENTRE EVERY FRIDAY, 10.30AM – 11.30AM. EXCEPT First Friday in Church 10.30am – 12.45 pm. ( when funeral in church, then adoration in Parish Centre)

### NEWS DESK

**Alpha at the Cathedral:** - The Family of Parishes of Blackpool; The Glen & Ballyvolane, South Parish, Ss Peter and Paul's, St. Patrick's, Sundays Well, and The Cathedral are hosting Alpha in the Cathedral of St. Mary and St. Anne (North Cathedral) Alpha is an opportunity for anyone, anywhere, to freely explore their unique questions about life, faith, and God. It is a series of interactive sessions exploring the Christian faith run over eleven weeks. The sessions have three key elements: food, talk and discussion. Our sessions include food because it's a great way to build community and get to know each other. The talks are designed to engage and inspire conversation on big issues around faith. The discussion is probably the most important part of any Alpha: it is the chance to share thoughts/ideas on the topic in an honest, friendly, and open environment, and simply discuss it in a small group.

Alpha will be run on Wednesday evenings from 7:30pm to 9:15pm in the Cathedral of St. Mary and St. Anne (North Cathedral) beginning 10 January to 20 March 2024 (with a Holy Spirit Day on Saturday, February 24th, 2024)

Please contact the Office for Mission and Ministry for more information and to register your interest: <https://corkandross.org/alpha-registration>

#### Alpha Training Day - 27 Jan: -

1. Cork City (Blackrock Parish Centre) on Saturday 27 January 2024  
Commencing at 10:00am and finishing at 3:30pm

### NOTICES

**Medjugorje Pilgrimage from Cork Airport Group Leader Jim Keogh 5th June 2024, Aer Lingus.** For further information and details please contact Jim Keogh 021 4885371 you will be most welcome. Please note €100 off per person for bookings paid in full before 15 November 2023! N.B. Our places are strictly limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. See also Notice in Notice Board Church Porch.

#### Pope Francis Quote

Realities are greater than ideas' "Our world is too vast, varied, and complex ever to be fully known and categorized. The human mind can never exhaust its richness, even with the aid of the most advanced algorithms. Such algorithms do not offer guaranteed predictions of the future, but only statistical approximations.

### LENS OF THE GOSPEL

#### The Baptism of the Lord 7 Jan '24

The baptism of Jesus was an extraordinary religious experience for him. Something happened that was a major step forward for Jesus in coming to know that he was the beloved Son of God. We all have events in our lives that are milestones along the road of discovering who we are. What have been these milestones for you?

'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.' Bring to mind experiences in which you knew you were the beloved (of God or of another person) and that the one who loved you was well pleased.

Remember these experiences with gratitude, knowing that the only proper response to love received is thankfulness. Perhaps you have also given that experience to another.

It is easy to lament the growing secularisation in the world today, but the Spirit of God who spoke loudly to the world in the Christ-event is active today. How can we be open to the new things the Spirit is saying to the church today?

**Intercom**