



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

**Douglas/Rochestown**  
**Parish**

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



**Sunday Mass**  
 Sat Vigil 6.00pm  
 Sun 9.30am & 11.00am

**Sunday 14th Jan '24**

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

 **DouglasRochestownParish**

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

**BAPTISMS**

*We welcome to the Christian community the following who were baptised recently:*

**Jessica Margot Nora Gaffney**, daughter of Eavan & Anthony, Rochestown.  
**Hanna May Cody O'Regan**, daughter of Sarah Jane & Dermot, Castlelyons.

**DEATHS**

The deaths took place of the following: **Carmel Galvin**, Douglas & Bere Island, dearly beloved wife of the late Michael and loving mother of Barry, Eileen, Marie and the late Michael (Mick).  
*May she rest in peace. Ar dheis lámh Dé go raibh siad.*

**NEWS DESK**

**Finance:** The Offertory Collection last Sunday: St. Columba's: €2183. St. Patrick's: €1760. *Many Thanks for your generosity.*

**ST. COLUMBA'S CHOIR - New Year, New start! Why not join our church choir? Rehearsals on Tuesday nights at 7.30pm in St Columbas with 11am Mass on Sundays.**

**NOTICES**

**MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE 2024, Direct flights from Cork to Mostar, 29<sup>th</sup> May - 5<sup>th</sup> June '24.**  
**€795** - Price increase to €845 after 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb '24. Full religious sprogrammed operated by Marian Pilgirmages Medjugorge Team. For more inofrmation please contact: Angela Gowing 087 6140076.

**FEAST DAYS WEEK COMMENCING 15 JAN '24**

**MON 15 JAN - ST. ITA**, Virgin. Ita was born in County Waterford of noble and Christian parents. Early on she set her mind on serving Christ in religious life. She founded a monastery in Killeedy, County Limerick, which attracted a variety of young people. She was given the title 'foster-mother of the saints of Ireland'. She died in 570. Ita, also known as Deirdre and Mida (Mo-Ída) is the patroness of Munster. Next to Brigid, she is the foremost woman saint in Ireland. Although of the royal family of the Déise, Ita is associated with with the parish of Killeedy (Cill Íde = Ita's church) in south-west Co Limerick. Originally from the Déise Ita (originally called Deirdre) belonged to the royal family of the Déise (present-day Co Waterford). Her father was not a Christian and made an arranged marriage for her with a young nobleman. But from an early age she wanted to consecrate herself to God and serve him in another location. In her youth, Ita dreams that an angel gives her three precious stones. So struck is she by the significance this, she awakens to puzzle over the symbolism. Thankfully, inspiration is at hand in the form of another celestial visitor who explains in a vision, that throughout her earthly life, Ita will experience dreams and visitations. The stones in the dream signify the gifts of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit to whom she dedicated her life.

**WED 17 JAN - ST. ANTHONY ABBOT**, was born in Upper Egypt in 251 to wealthy Christian parents, who died when he was about eighteen. Hearing in church the saying of Jesus in Mt 19:21: "If you wish to be perfect, then sell what you have and give it to the poor and come follow me", he did just that. He first made provision for the care of his younger sister with a community of nuns and then himself became a disciple to a local hermit. Gardening and the weaving of palm mats became his way of life and his discipline. For Anthony the real desert was his own personality, where facing his interior demons and overcoming them was victory. According to Athanasius, the devil afflicted Anthony with boredom, laziness, and sexual images; these he overcame by discipline and prayer. When the devil saw Anthony's intense ascetic life and devotion, he was envious and beat him mercilessly, leaving him unconscious. Anthony's friends from the local village came and found him in this condition, carried him to a church where he recovered.

**SAT 20 JAN - SS FABIAN AND SEBASTIAN, MARTYRS.** Fabian, bishop of Rome, died as one of the first victims of the persecution under the emperor Decius in 250. In spite of being "a layman and a stranger" (Eusebius) became bishop of Rome in 236. Reorganised the Church in Rome. Called by his contemporary, Saint Cyprian, "a man incomparable in the holiness of his life and the glory of his witness." Sebastian died perhaps in the late third century. Nothing of his life is known for certain. Tradition says he was a soldier who was martyred after sustaining other Christians in their trials. Venerated in Rome since the fourth century. They are honoured together since their names are linked together in the Calendar of Filocalus of 354, which gives the commemoration dates of past popes and martyrs. They are also named together as companions in the Litany of the Saints.

**LENS OF THE GOSPEL**

**Second Sunday in Ordinary**  
**Time - 14 January 2024**

*'John pointed the disciples towards Jesus as the one they should follow. Remember the people in your life who have pointed you in a new and life-giving direction? Perhaps in some cases this may have involved directing you away from your association with them, e.g., leaving home, changing jobs, etc. Where do you live? Jesus did not respond to the question by giving the disciples his address. He invited them to come and experience where and how he lived. Discipleship is a lived experience. What experiences have helped you to learn how Jesus lived, and what he was looking for in life? How has this attracted you to follow him? What is your experience of gathering in small groups to learn to live like Jesus by listening to the gospel together? Where two or three are gathered in his name, Jesus is there with them. What group experiences have helped your faith to grow? Andrew did not keep the good news to himself but also invited his brother to join him in following Jesus. What is your experience of receiving, or giving, an invitation to join in some worthwhile venture? '*  
**Intercom.**

**POPE FRANCIS QUOTE:**  
*"Although the life of a person is in a land full of thorns and weeds, there is always a space in which the good seed can grow. You have to trust God." "Let us pray for peace: peace in the world and in each of our hearts." "God's love calls us to move beyond fear".*