



**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 4th Feb '24**

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

 **DouglasRochestownParish**

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

**DEATHS**

The deaths took place of the following: **Ted Fitzgerald**, Douglas Lawn, dearly loved husband of Patricia, loving father of Trevor, Noelle, Sean, Gerald, Grace and Raymond. **Frederick Brennan**, dearly beloved husband of Monica, much loved dad of Caroline, Paschal, Ursula, Freda, Raymond and Frederick Jnr, Calderwood. *Ar dheis lámh Dé go raibh siad. May they rest in peace.*

**LENS OF THE GOSPEL**

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 • 4 February 2024**

*'This passage tells three stories to illustrate the various dimensions of the life and ministry of Jesus. There is food for thought in each of them. The first story (vv. 29-31) is one of healing. You might reflect on times when you were sick in body, mind or spirit and someone was a 'Jesus person' to you, someone who 'took you by the hand and lifted you up'. Remember them with gratitude. Have there been times also when you did this for others? The second story (vv. 32-34) adds another dimension. People are freed from demons. Have you had the experience of being freed from demons that imprisoned you: fear, anxiety, guilt, low self-esteem, addictions, bitterness, etc.? What was it like for you to get that freedom? Who were the 'Jesus people' who helped to free you?*

*The third story (vv. 35-39) has a number of different elements we can consider:*

*a) Jesus goes off to a desert place to pray. After a hectic day he felt the need for quiet to ground himself once more. In the busyness of life how do you keep in touch with what is going on inside yourself? How do you keep in touch with God? Where do you find your 'deserted place'? What difference does it make for you when you do succeed in taking time out?*

*b) Jesus shows himself as a person seeking to break new ground. The disciples want him to continue ministry where he is. He wants to move on. What has been your experience of breaking new ground, moving beyond your comfort zone, or trying something you had not tried before? When has this had a life-giving effect for you? ' Intercom.*

**NEWS DESK**

**Finance:** The Offertory Collection last Sunday: St. Columba's: €2764. St. Patrick's: €1395. Many Thanks for your generosity.

- **Mon 5 Feb '24 - ST. BRIGID'S DAY - Public Holiday.**
- **St. Vincent de Paul Church door Collection this weekend.**
- **LECTIO DIVINA** - Continues Monday @ 2pm . Not Bible Study, but rather praying with and listening to God's Word. Venue: St. Columba's Parish Centre, Douglas.

**NOTICES**

**LOURDES CORK AND ROSS DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE, 20<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> SEP '24.** 5 nights full board from: €899pps Ex Cork . Pilgrim Booking available from Joe Walsh Tours Tel: 01-2410800. BOOKING OF THE OFFICIAL SICK / ASSISTED SECTION Tel: 085 25 25 040 Email: [lourdes@corkandross.org](mailto:lourdes@corkandross.org)

**HELPERS, NURSES AND CARE ASSISTANTS NEEDED 085 25 25 040.**

**SYCAMORE SERIES** - In response to a call from young adults to be better formed in their Catholic Faith, UCC Chaplaincy, the Presentation Brothers, and the Diocese of Cork and Ross have come together to host a Sycamore Series. The Sycamore Series is an informal course for those aged 18-35 helping people to deepen their understanding and knowledge of the Catholic faith. Each session involves a short film and time for discussion with a meal also included. *Everyone is welcome.*

Start date Wednesday January 31st 2024, 6:00pm to 8:00pm at Presentation Brothers' Mardyke House, Cork T12 W8RP. The course runs for **10 consecutive weeks with a break for Easter.**

The course is free, but places are limited. Please email: [chaplaincy@ucc.ie](mailto:chaplaincy@ucc.ie) or ring 021 490 2459.

**ANAM CARA CORK**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding it's monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on **Wednesday 7th February at 7:15pm** in the Maryborough Hotel, Maryborough Hill, Douglas, T12 XR12. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. We also offer an online service. For more info call 01 4045378.

**YOUTH 2000 ST. VALENTINE'S BALL** - Our annual fundraising ball takes place in Cork on **Saturday 10th February 2024.** The event is open to anyone over 18. Tickets cost €68 and can be purchased on eventbrite. The evening will commence with the celebration of Holy Mass by the Bishop of Cork and Ross, Fintan Gavin at 4.00pm at St Patrick's Church, Rochestown followed by the ball nearby in the Rochestown Park Hotel. See [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie) for more information.

**CORK EVENT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE – FAITH, FRIENDSHIP, FUN CONNECT 4**, a diocesan event for young people (18-35 years) is taking place in UCC on **Sunday 18 February.** The dynamic Catholic American presenter, **Monsignor James Shea**, will be the keynote speaker. There will be Mass, Adoration and the opportunity for confession. Lunch is part of the day. Fee €10. More information at [corkandross.org](http://corkandross.org) Register on eventbrite.ie

**BALLINLOUGH MEN'S RETIREMENT CLUB:** Enjoy a game of Short Mat Bowls - bowls supplied by the club - in an atmosphere of fun and camaraderie **every Wednesday 2.00pm to 4.00pm** in Ballinlough Community Centre. New members welcome - Contact number 085 1615360.

**BANDS OF THE DEFENCE FORCES IN CONCERT - Friday 23 Feb '24 2 8pm City Hall Cork.** Featuring: Bands of the Defence Forces. **Guest Artiste: Niamh O'Sullivan, Mezzo Soprano.** Ticket available: Merchants Quay Shopping Centre, Sat 17 Feb – Fri 23 Feb.  
 Cash Sales (no Credit/Debit Cards) €10, €20, €30 in Aid of Defence Forces Benevolent Fund