



**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 18th 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: **Mary O'Leary**, Willow Park, sadly missed by her loving family, sons Niall and Bryan, daughter Carol. **Delia Geary**, Grange Park, Beloved wife of the late Maurice and dear sister of the late Esther and Maurice. **George Holland**, Rochestown, best friend and loving partner of Carol cherished father of Deborah, Melissa and Damien. *May they rest in peace. Ar dheis lámh Dé go raibh siad.*

**LENS OF THE GOSPEL**

**• First Sunday of Lent • 18 February 2024**

*'Jesus he is about to start his public ministry. Mark tells us this was preceded by a deep inner struggle when his resolve to take on his God-given mission was tested. Recall important decisions in your own life. Were they accompanied by struggle and doubt? Who were the angels who supported you at that time? Give thanks for them. Such periods of anxiety may seem like wilderness experiences at the time. Later, with hindsight, we may see them as being good for us. Perhaps, like Jesus, you recall a time when the Spirit of God led you into the wilderness to be tested and after the experience you had a clearer sense of your own identity or your purpose in life. Repent and believe the good news was the heart of the message of Jesus. It was not a call to penance but to a change of heart, a change of attitude, leading to a change in behaviour. The kingdom of God is a kingdom of right relationships: with God, with one another, with creation, with ourselves. It is a change that leads to a fuller life. When have you found that a change in your attitude towards God, others, yourself, or the world around you, has led you to a more fulfilled or more fruitful life? There is an immediacy about the call of Jesus: 'the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near'. Recall when you had a realisation that NOW was the moment of opportunity – for a change in your life, for a spiritual renewal, or a time to give a wholehearted yes to life. At this moment to what do you believe you are invited to say 'yes'? ' Intercom.*

**NEWS DESK**

**Finance:** The Offertory Collection last Sunday: St. Columba's: €2439. St. Patrick's: €1405.

**2nd Collection: Lourdes:** St. Columba's: €2047. St. Patrick's: €1225. *Many Thanks for your generosity.*

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FRIDAY'S: 10.30am - 11.30 pm.** Parish Centre (First Friday in Church: 10.30am - 12.45pm).

**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION IN ST. COLUMBA'S PARISH CENTRE.** Each Thursday morning after 10.00am Mass. It lasts just about half an hour. *You will be most welcome.* Come along and give it a try. Contact: Parish Office 021 4894128.

**NOTICES**

**FINDING HOPE IN A HOPELESS WORLD - LENT 2024:** This is a seven-week programme for Parish groups or individuals which will be available on the Diocesan website ([www.corkandross.org](http://www.corkandross.org)) from Ash Wednesday (February 14th). This programme explores how we can still be people of faith and hope in today's world. It includes a series of reflections, Scripture readings and prayers, and a guide on how to use this resource in your Parish/Family of Parishes.

**THE MASS AND NOVENA PRAYERS** in honour of **Matt Talbot** will begin on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30p.m. in the **Way of the Cross Church Togher** and will continue each Monday in Lent. In our Novena we pray for individuals and families who are suffering because of addiction, but also for those who are dealing with crosses or challenges of any kind. The Novena can be viewed online at [www.churchservices.tv/togher](http://www.churchservices.tv/togher). The next meeting and A.G.M. of Cork: Wed 21st February at 8pm in the Wilton Parish Centre.

**CORK FLOWER AND GARDEN CLUB** will hold its first meeting of 2024 on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb. at 7.30pm in their new venue Douglas GAA Club, Douglas West, T12 N2TH. Nora Gallagher A.O.I.F.A will give a demonstration with the theme **'Spring into Life'**. *New members and visitors are welcome.*

**CORK ALZHEIMERS CAFÉ** a safe place for people with Alzheimers and other dementias, their carers, family and friends, along with social and health professionals to meet. Last Friday of each month 11-12.30 pm in St Finbarrs Hospital, Douglas Road. Light refreshments provided free of charge. All welcome. Fri 23rd Feb. - Next meeting.  
[bettycogan@hotmail.com](mailto:bettycogan@hotmail.com) - <https://www.facebook.com/Cork-Alzheimer-Cafe-136469209819937/>

**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.

**ST. MARY'S POPES QUAY, CORK** "Go Deeper this Spring" evening Courses: **Being Christian under the Emperors: Fr. John M Cunningham O.P, March 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 2024.** [www.dominicanscork.ie/emperors](http://www.dominicanscork.ie/emperors)  
**St. Paul the Apostle: Fr. Terence Crotty O.P. April 22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>.** [www.cominicanscork.ie/stpaul](http://www.cominicanscork.ie/stpaul) Venue: St. Mary's Popes Quay. Time: 7.30pm, each evening. Cost €70 per course. For more info: [dominicanscork@gmail.com](mailto:dominicanscork@gmail.com) (9am – 5pm).

**THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTION.** For the Terminally Ill: *We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.* **Intercom**

**FORMS OF FRIDAY PENANCE DURING LENT.** The following are suggested as ways of fulfilling Friday penance: •Abstaining from meat or some other food; •Abstaining from alcoholic drink or smoking; •Making a special effort at involvement in family prayer; •Making a special effort to participate in Mass on Fridays; •Visiting the Blessed Sacrament; •Making the Stations of the Cross; •Fasting from all food for a longer period than usual and perhaps giving what is saved to the needy; •Helping the poor, sick, old or lonely. From the statement on Friday Penance. **Intercom**