

GLANMIRE PARISH



22nd July 2018

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Joseph's Church	St Michael's Church
Monday - Friday 10.00 am	
Saturday Vigil 6 pm Sunday 9.00, 10.30; 12.00	Sunday 10.00 am

St Joseph's Church Adoration Mon night $8.30~\mathrm{pm}-9.30~\mathrm{pm}$. Fri $10\mathrm{am}-10~\mathrm{pm}$ St Michael's Church Thursday $10~\mathrm{am}-\mathrm{Noon}$

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Parish office open Tues Wed & Thurs. 10 am to 1 pm.

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Altar of the Chair

Today's Gospel presents Jesus as the Good Shepherd for people who were like sheep without a shepherd. At St Peter's Basilica in Rome, the role of Pope as a teaching shepherd is depicted very powerfully in art. At the very back of the basilica, there is one of the most famous pieces in art history, done by the great sculptor Bernini. It's called the "Altar of the Chair," and it was so beautiful and influential that art historians say it was the start of the Baroque era. It was Pope Alexander VII who commissioned Bernini to build a sumptuous monument which would give prominence to the ancient wooden chair believed to have been used by St Peter. Bernini built a throne in gilded bronze richly ornamented with bas-reliefs, in which the chair was

enclosed: two pieces of furniture, one within the other. At the top of the altar, there is the brilliant translucent image of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove surrounded by angels. The Holy Spirit is descending upon a huge bronze chair which houses what in the 16th century was believed to be the actual chair on which St Peter sat to teach the people of Rome. Peter's chair is a symbol of the teaching authority of the Church and particularly of the Popes, the successors of St Peter, who are Christ's vicars on earth. The most formal teachings of the Church are called "ex cathedra," meaning literally "from the chair." Underneath the chair there are four bishops who are all famous teaching saints in the early Church—Athanasius, John Chrysostom, Augustine, and Ambrose—who are depicted referring to and spiritually upholding the teaching authority of the Church and papacy. But the element that is most relevant to today's Scriptures is found sculpted into the backrest of the Chair. It's a depiction of Peter feeding Christ's sheep. It's a reference to the end of St John's Gospel, when Jesus asked Peter three times, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter replied that he did. And Jesus responded, "Feed my lambs," "tend my sheep," and "feed my sheep." Peter's obedience in caring for Christ's sheep is seen above all, therefore, in his teaching of Christ's truth. Every year on February 22, the Church celebrates the feast of the Chair of St Peter, to commemorate St Peter's teaching in Rome.

Remembrance Mass will be held in Ballyluchra Graveyard on Monday 30th July at 7.30 pm.

2nd Collection next weekend for the World Meeting of Families.

Off. 14th July	St Joseph's	€1,015	St Michael's	€159	Total €1,174
Dioc. Needs	St Joseph's	€ 588	St Michael's	€105	Total € 693

On Line Theology Course: Study theology by distance learning, attend Saturday lectures in Tallaght or from your own home – why not join us in the autumn? Register by September 25th. Tel. (01) 4048124 enquiries @priory institute.com

Day of Recollection Saturday 28th July at St Benedict's Priory, The Mount, Cobh.

9 am Holy Mass and Adoration. 1st talk at 11 am. Day ends at 3.30 pm. Lunch provided. To book your place please contact: Mother Prioress (021)4811354

The Irish Cancer Society needs an extra 30 drivers for our Volunteer Driver Service in Cork city and Co. Cork to drive cancer patients to and from their chemotherapy appointments. If you would like to volunteer, please call Laura on 01 2310 594, email transport@irishcancer.ie for an application form.