

### FAMILY OF PARISHES CHRISTMAS SERVICES (24/25 DECEMBER)

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES: Union Hall 5pm; Glandore 6pm; Skibbereen 6.30 pm; Kilcoe 7pm; Leap 7.30 pm; Rath Parish Church 8pm; Skibbereen (Cathedral) 9pm

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES: Sherkin 9 am; Rath Parish Church 9.30 am; Glandore, Kilcoe, Oileán Cléire 10 am; Skibbereen (Cathedral) 11 am; Castlehaven, Lisheen 11.30 am; Leap 12 noon.

#### CHURCH OF IRELAND

CHRISTMAS EVE: Family Crib Service 4pm & Eucharist 1130 pm, Abbeystrewry.  
CHRISTMAS DAY EUCHARIST: 9 am Castletownshend, 10am Baltimore, 11 am Abbeystrewry.

#### METHODIST CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE: Reflective service with refreshments 7.30 pm Skibbereen (P81 V184)

### THIS WEEK

**WED 18: ST FLANNAN**, Abbot and patron of Killaloe diocese (Clare & North Tipperary)

**SAT 21: ST PETER CANISIUS**, Jesuit who, with courtesy, promoted the Catholic revival after the Council of Trent.

• *International Meditation Day (UN)*

#### ☆ POINTS TO PONDER ☆

“God has created all human beings equal in rights, duties and dignity, and has called them to live together as brothers and sisters.”

— JOINT DECLARATION OF POPE FRANCIS AND THE GRAND IMAM ALMAD AL-TAYYEB AT ABU DHABI 2019

“Peace begins with a smile.”

—MOTHER TERESA (St Teresa of Calcutta)

#### FINANCE CORNER (8 DECEMBER)

Aughadown: €715 Castlehaven: €680

Rath & the Islands: €675 Skibbereen: €1,505.

#### CLERGY

- Fr Kevin O'Regan Co-PP, Skibbereen (MODERATOR). PHONE: 028 22878
- Fr Terry O'Brien, MSC Co-PP, Leap EMAIL: [kilmacabeaparisish@gmail.com](mailto:kilmacabeaparisish@gmail.com)
- Fr Bernard Cotter Co-PP, Union Hall TEXT OR WHATSAPP: 087 901 0627
- Fr Evin O'Brien CC Skibbereen PHONE 028-22877

#### USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

**Alcoholics Anonymous**, in West Cork phone 087 611 4946.

**Pieta House** Crisis helpline 1800 247 247 or text HELP to 51444.

**St Vincent de Paul**, Skibbereen, Contact Number: **087 918 2698**

**Samaritans** Phone 116 123 free.

**Southdoc** Phone 0818 355 999

**Women against Violence** Helpline 1800 203 136: [westcorkbeacon.ie](http://westcorkbeacon.ie)

#### FAMILY OF PARISHES OFFICE

TO BOOK MASSES, ARRANGE WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS, ANNIVERSARIES, ETC.  
CONTACT THE PARISHES' OFFICE, 1 NORTH ST, SKIBBEREEN ON **028-22828**.

Open Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays: 10 am -1 pm.

**[CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS: Monday 23 December, 1pm to Thursday 2 January, 10 am.]**

EMAIL [stciaranasFOP@gmail.com](mailto:stciaranasFOP@gmail.com)



COMMUNITY OF  
**St. Ciarán and  
All Saints**

**St Ciarán & All Saints**  
FAMILY OF PARISHES

# NEWSLETTER

*(for the parishes of Aughadown, Castlehaven & Myross,  
Kilmacabea, Rath & The Islands, and Skibbereen)*

SUNDAY 15 DEC 2024THIRD ADVENTVOL 3: NO 16

## LISTEN TO YOUR HEART

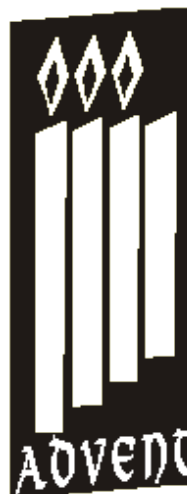
I met a man during the week who asked me: "Why do I need to go to Confession when I can tell my sins to God and be forgiven?" I answered that it was a very good thing for him to tell his sins to God — because our divine Lord, who gave himself on Calvary to take away the sins of the world, offers us his love in a special way in the sacrament.

On Easter Sunday evening, he appeared to the apostles and gave them the power to ‘forgive’ and ‘retain’ sins. They were to proclaim God’s infinite mercy for sinners, while making sure that people are truly sorry, especially for the more serious sins, like murder and adultery. It is not necessary to go to confession for the little sins that we easily commit. When we are sorry for them, it is enough to say, “Sorry, Lord!”

Still, the sacrament retains its value even for these everyday sins. It is good to examine our conscience from time to time, asking ourselves how we are behaving in the light of the commandments. All the commandments are summed up in two, to love God with all our heart and to love our neighbour as ourself. We could profit by ‘an examination of heart’, listening to what our heart is saying to us about the quality of our love.

Fr Michael Curran MSC Leap [[curranmsc@gmail.com](mailto:curranmsc@gmail.com)]

*Fr Curran leads the Penitential Service this Monday at 7.30 pm in Skibbereen (Cathedral)*





**Contact numbers: Parish Office 028 22828.**

**Priest on duty/emergency 086 785 2262.**

**Submitting items for inclusion in the parish newsletter –**

Please email Skibbereen Parish Office:

[skibbereeparish@gmail.com](mailto:skibbereeparish@gmail.com) no later than 5pm Tuesday.

### **Mass Intentions from Saturday 14.12.2024**

- Saturday – 6.30pm** Josephine Palmer, Ringaskiddy and John Breen, Market Street.  
Kathleen O'Donovan, Mardyke.
- Sunday - 11am** Nora Leonard, Assumption Place.  
James and Bridget Keane, Mardyke Street.  
Michael Lucitt, Mill Road, Month's Mind.
- Monday – 9.30am** Billy Lombard, Assumption Place.
- Tuesday - 9.30am** Kitty and Patrick Hodnett, Goleen
- Wednesday - 9.30am** People of the Family of Parishes
- Thursday - 9.30am** The Burns family, North Street.
- Friday – 9.30am** John Long, Lissalohorig.
- Saturday – 6.30pm** Kitty and Hans Rahr, Mardyke and US Joseph O'Sullivan, Cork and Castletownbere, recently deceased.
- Sunday - 11am** Michael and Eily Walsh, Reenmurragha.  
Daniel and Mary O'Regan, Lisalohorig and Joan and John Ryan, Skeagh.  
Michael O'Sullivan, Month's Mind.

We extend our sympathies to the family of Michael O'Rourke, Cork Road, Skibbereen and Dunmanway, who died recently.

**Weekday Masses Monday to Friday at 9.30am. The Rosary** is prayed before Mass each morning. (**The Rosary on Thursday** is said for the special intention of vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood).

**Confessions on Saturday 10am to 11am.**

**Confessions** will be heard **after morning Mass on Tuesday 17, Wednesday 18, Thursday 19 and Friday 20** December and on **Saturday 21 December** from 10am to 12 noon.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Monday & Friday from 10am until 6pm both days. All welcome.**

**Christmas offering envelopes are now available.**

**Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards** are available in the Parish office.

**The Christmas Remembrance Book** is available in the cathedral. All names in the book will be remembered at our Christmas masses.

**Hospitality Morning**, in the Presbytery, on Wednesday after the 9.30am Mass. Please note that the hospitality morning **will not** take place on Wednesday 25 December and Wednesday 01 January 2025 but will **resume on Wednesday 08 January 2025.**

**Please note** that the Cathedral will be **closed** after the **9.30am Mass on Wednesday 18 December** to facilitate the setting up of the stage for the Phil Coulter concert on that night.

**The Cathedral will re-open** on Thursday morning 19 December for the **9.30am Mass.**

**Congratulations to Skibbereen Community School** for their wonderful carol service on 12 December.

**Medjugorje Pilgrimage 28 May 2025.** Last chance to avail of €100.00 discount if fully paid by 20 December. Cost €849.00 pps with discount (€949.00 thereafter). **Group Leader Sean O'Shaughnessy 0862959390.** Still a few seats available. Tour Operator Joe Walsh Tours.



**Parish Office**, Skibbereen - 028/22828 – Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri – 10am to 1pm.

**Priest on Duty/Emergency** – 086/7852262

### Mass Intentions

#### **Sunday 15th December – Third Sunday of Advent**

**9.30am** Rath – Gerald Grace, Ballymacrown

Bernadette O'Connor

Mary & Paddy Holland, South Rath

**10.00am** Cape Clear - Michael & Josephine Brosnan

**Monday 16th December 10.15am** Rath – Mary & Barry Devlin

**Wednesday 18th December 10.15am** Rath – Neasa Ní Annracháin (Hourihane) Ó

Briain, Howth and Skibbereen

**Friday 20th December 10.15am** Rath

**Saturday 21st December**

**4.45pm** Sherkin

**Sunday 22nd December – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**9.30am** Rath – Kieran & Hester Cotter, Baltimore & Cape Clear

Jackie Carey, Ballymacrown – 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

Annie Bohane, Drumadoon

Michael Martin Walsh, Bunalun, Skibbereen

**10.00am** Cape Clear - Ciaran G O'Drisceoil

**Weekday Masses** – Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 10.15am.

**Recently deceased:** We extend our condolences to the family of Gene O'Neill, Oldcourt. May he rest in peace.

**Christmas Confessions:** Penitential Service for our Family of Parishes will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Skibbereen at 7.30pm.

**Confessions in Rath during the week before Christmas** - Monday 16<sup>th</sup> and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December following the 10.15am morning Masses.

**Christmas Offering Envelopes:** The Christmas Offering envelopes are available at the porches of the Church. These offerings go towards the income of our Priests. We thank you for your support.

### Christmas Mass Times –

Christmas Eve - Tuesday 24th December – Rath 8.00pm with carols from 7.30pm

Christmas Day – Wednesday 25th December

Sherkin - 9.00am

Rath - 9.30am – with carols from 9.15am

Oileán Chláire - 10.00am

**Christmas Book of Remembrance:** The book for remembering your deceased loved ones is available at the side altar rail. You are invited to write the names of your deceased family members, neighbours, and friends in this book of remembrance. This book will then be placed on the altar for our Christmas Masses.

**Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards** are now available in the Parish Office, Skibbereen – Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri – 10am to 1pm.

**Parish Office Christmas Schedule:** The Parish Office will close on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December and will reopen on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January at 10.00am.

### Report on December Parish Pastoral Council Meeting:

The meeting took place on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 and the following was discussed:

1. Provisional date for the next Family Mass is Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025.
2. Feedback on Bishop Fintan's meeting 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024, where it was highlighted that there are presently 59 Cork & Ross priests (under 75) with assistance from order priests, this is increased to 70 priests serving in the diocese. By 2030 there will only be 37 Cork & Ross priests - which means 2 priests per Family of Parishes. Three gatherings of all Parish Pastoral Councils and Finance Committees within the Family of Parishes will be held to discuss the following questions:
  - How can we make baptism the gateway into our life in the community?
  - How can we help our young people to encounter Christ and energise the faith community?
  - At local level how can we encourage young people to participate in our communities?

Proposed dates for these meetings for St Ciaran's Family of Parishes is February 2025.

3. From January 2025 Baptism's in Rath will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month at 2.30pm. In Skibbereen Baptisms will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at 4pm.

**Adoration of Blessed Sacrament** continues every Monday and Friday from 10am to 6pm both days in St Patrick's Cathedral, Skibbereen. All are welcome