

PARISHES NEWSLETTER

Skibbereen and Rath & the Islands

Parishes website – www.skibbereenandrath.ie

Priests: Skibbereen and Rath and the Islands Parishes: Fr Michael Kelleher, Adm. 028 22878, Fr Evin O'Brien 028 22877

Office: 028 22828, E-mail: skibbereenparish@gmail.com-Office Hours: Tues. Wed, from 10am to 12.

Please contact Margaret in advance by leaving a message - on 028 22828 or email skibbereenparish@gmail.com and she will respond to your request during office hours.

Notifications of anniversaries: Please place these in the Sacristy letter box.

Child Safeguarding: Contact Telephone: (00353) 0 28 22828 (Parish Office)

Skibbereen - Jacinta Crowley, Theresa Hickey, Eileen Ryan; **Rath** - Maura Collins, Dee Griffiths, Siobhan O'Brien.

Parish Pastoral Assemblies: Contact Telephone: 028 22828 (Parish Office)

Skibbereen: - Chair; Anita Henderson; Vice Chairperson: Dolores Ruane; Secretary –Clare Gallagher.

Rath and the Islands: - Chair – Maeve Devlin; Secretary – Annette Cadogan.

Parish Newsletter and website notices - Please note newsletter editorial email skibrathisnews@gmail.com Notices for insertion should be concise (about 30 words) and may contain information about non-commercial matters. Written notices may be sent to the Parish Office not later than Wednesday evening for inclusion in the following week's newsletter. Please see the Parishes website for full guidelines: www.skibbereenandrath.ie

Covid 19 restrictions now apply and public Masses are discontinued for the present. Live streaming of daily Masses from Sacred Heart Church, Rath is available at www.skibbereenandrath.ie

Saturday 20th March - 4th Week of Lent

7.30pm Rath –Frank Doran, Convent Hill & Residential Care Centre, Months Mind

Skibbereen – Larry Butler, Galleyhead Lighthouse

Sunday 21st March - Fifth Sunday of Lent

10.15am Rath - Fiona Scully, Creagh & London

Skibbereen –Jim McCullagh, Mill Rd,
Eileen and Cornelius Harrington, Gortnaclohy

Monday 22nd March - 5th Week of Lent

10.15am Rath – Mary O'Donovan, Bawnfunne, Leap
Skibbereen- Carmel & James McGann, Skibbereen and London

Tuesday 23rd March - St Turibus of Mongrovejo, bishop

10.15am Rath- Donal O'Regan

Skibbereen - Michael O'Mahony

Wednesday 24th March - St Macartan, bishop

10.15am Rath- Micheál Daly

Skibbereen – Charles Hegarty, Gortnaclohy Heights

Thursday 25th THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

10.15am Rath - Kevin Barry, Durrus

Skibbereen - Margaret Bohane, Drishanebeg

Friday 26th March – 5th Week of Lent

10.15am Rath - Doreen Moloney

Skibbereen - Maire O'Driscoll, Florida and Kielskonagh

Saturday 27th March - 5thWeek of Lent

7.30pm- Rath - Hanna & Charlie Davis, Home Rule Terrace

Skibbereen – James and Mary O'Brien, 17 Home Rule Terrace

Sunday 28th PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

10.15am Rath - Mary & Charlie Davis, Ballylynch

Skibbereen –Patrick Bohane, Drishanebeg,
Janey Murphy, Reengaroga

Online Mass Intentions: Mass Intentions booked in Skibbereen will be offered during the Rath Daily Mass

Feasts this week

23rd: St Turibius, 1538-1606, was a layman when he was appointed archbishop of Lima, Peru by King Philip II. He combated all the abuses of the conquerors in Peru and built up the Church there

24th: Saint Macartan grew up in the southern part of Ireland, somewhere in Munster. Before his conversion to Christianity by Patrick, the future saint was known by the name Aidus/Aedh, the son of Caerthen (son of the Rowan Tree).

Hearing of Patrick's teaching, Aidus traveled from his home to hear him preach in Armagh, leaving behind his wife and child. He first met Patrick at Drumlease, near Dromahair, County Leitrim. Here Macartan was baptized and soon became one of Patrick's official missionary staff. He was spoken of as Patrick's "champion" or "strong man". We are told that when the great Apostle was worn out by his work that Macartan supported his faltering steps over rough roads, marshes and rivers by carrying him. Macartan was initially ordained to the role of presbyter (priest) while Patrick was still living, possibly by Patrick himself. He was the "staff of Patrick" in the Irish patron saint's declining years. On one occasion after carrying Patrick over a river, an exhausted Macartan expressed a wish that he might be relieved from further travel and allowed settle down in charge of some church close-by his beloved master where he could spend the evening of his life in peace. Patrick, full of sympathy for his faithful companion and friend, agreed that he should establish a monastery in Clogher, and finish out his life there. A monastery was established near the ancient royal fort of Rathmore on the outskirts of the town and one of Ireland's oldest bishoprics was established. To commemorate the occasion Patrick gave Macartan his staff and a number of precious relics contained in a shrine known to tradition as the Domhnach Airgid.

Mac Cairthinn of Clogher - Wikipedia

25th: The Annunciation of the Lord. 'Giving her consent to God's word, Mary becomes the mother of Jesus. Espousing the divine will for salvation wholeheartedly, without a single sin to restrain her, she gave herself entirely to the person and to the work of her Son; she did so in order to serve the mystery of redemption with him and dependent on him, by God's grace'

An Act of Spiritual Communion - My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

Marriages: At least 3 months' notice; Please contact one of the priests or the office for further information.

Baptisms by appointment: each Saturday at 4.00pm (Cathedral) or on Sunday in Rath following 10.15am Mass.

Forms available in Office (Skibbereen) & Sacristy. (Rath) Office: 028 22828

Rosary: each Tuesday evening at 8.00pm at the Grotto, Cork Rd.

Priest on Duty this week:FrMichael
Emergency only
086-7852262.

As the Dáil rushes Euthanasia Bill, bishops promote Day for Life; *By Katie Ascough - 26 September, 2020*

Late sitting on abortion legislation in Dáil Eireann in 2018. According to the Pro Life Campaign, in a remarkably quick series of events, Gino Kenny TD announced this week that his *Dying with Dignity Bill* has been selected for a Second Stage debate and vote next Thursday 1 October. This bill is a radical piece of legislation that will enable anyone who has a terminal illness to be euthanised and the person does not need to be near the end of their life to do so. For example, it would be completely legal for a person with early stage dementia, or early stage heart disease to end their lives after receiving their diagnosis.

A contribution to the debate was made this week by a Canadian medical doctor who wrote to the *Irish Times* informing readers of the dramatic situation in Canada with regards to assisted suicide there. The number of people dying in this way has risen by 455 per cent in just four years, to 5,631 deaths in 2019. It remains the case that palliative care doctors are overwhelmingly opposed to the legalisation of euthanasia/assisted suicide, and their voices need to be heard in this debate. For information on this particular campaign, you can sign up for updates from Hope Ireland. You can also click here to watch and share a new video from Hope Ireland on the impact of a euthanasia regime for the most vulnerable members of society.

At the same time, the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference has started promoting the annual Day for Life. This day is celebrated annually by the Catholic Church in Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales. It is a day dedicated to raising awareness of the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. This year's Day for Life will be celebrated in Ireland on Sunday 4 October and will focus on the theme "Choose Life".

There were 6,666 abortions in the Republic of Ireland in 2019 and over 200,000 in Great Britain. Irish bishops say that we, the Catholic Church, have a message of hope and a story of love; together, we can promote a culture of life.

We grieve the loss of life due to abortion, the bishops say, and we seek a change of minds and hearts about the innate dignity of the child in the womb and the care of pregnant women. Pope Francis writes, "The gift of a new child, entrusted by the Lord to a father and a mother, begins with acceptance, continues with lifelong protection and has as its final goal the joy of eternal life ... For God allows parents to choose the name by which He himself will call their child for all eternity" (*Amoris Laetitia* – *The Joy of Love*, 166).

To access prayers and resources for this year's Day for Life, you can visit the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference website by visiting here. www.catholicbishops.ie
More on Twitter @catholicireland



Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Holy Week begins on this Sunday, which joins the foretelling of Christ's regal triumph and the proclamation of the Passion. The connection between both aspects of the paschal mystery should be shown and explained in the celebration and catechesis of this day. The commemoration of the entrance of the Lord into Jerusalem is celebrated with a solemn procession which may take place only once, before the Mass which has the largest attendance, even if this should be the evening of Saturday or Sunday. In this procession the faithful carry palm or other branches. The priest and the ministers, also carrying branches, precede the people. The palms or branches are blessed so that they can be carried in the procession. The palms should be taken home, where they will serve as a reminder of the victory of Christ which they celebrated in the procession. Pastors should make every effort to ensure that this procession in honour of Christ the King be so prepared and celebrated that it is of great spiritual significance in the life of the faithful.

The Proclamation of the Passion

The Passion narrative occupies a special place. It should be sung or read in the traditional way, that is, by three persons who take the part of Christ, the narrator, and the people. The Passion is proclaimed by deacons or priests, or by lay readers; in the latter case the part of Christ should be reserved to the priest. The proclamation of the Passion should be without candles and incense, the greeting and the Sign of the Cross on the book are omitted. For the spiritual good of the faithful the Passion should be proclaimed in its entirety, and the readings which precede it should not be omitted. After the Passion has been proclaimed, a homily is to be given.

Recently Deceased

Angela Sheehy, Creagh, Baltimore

Colm Crowley, Inchinagatogh, Skibbereen

God of loving kindness, listen favourably to our prayer: strengthen our belief that your Son has risen from the dead and our hope that your servant will also rise again

Mass from Rath Church will be streamed live from Sunday to Friday at 10.15am, and Saturday at 7.30pm from www.skibbereenandrath.ie

St VINCENT DE PAUL. CONTACT NUMBER; 087 9182698

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS —TEL; 087 6114946

Suicide Prevention Helpline 1800 742 745: a free phone helpline opens daily from 6.00pm — 10.00pm for people who are feeling suicidal or equally for a family member or friend who is concerned about someone.

Living Links —supporting the relatives and other survivors of suicide: Tom Corcoran 085 2445575, tomcorcoran@westcorklivinglinks.ie

West Cork Women against Violence Helpline: 1800203136

West Cork Carers Support Group: The Round Tower, Main Street, Bantry, Tel; 02753848. Are you looking after a dependant family member, neighbour or friend? Check for support, courses and advice.

Crisis or Unplanned Pregnancy Support and Counselling; CURA – 1850622626; www.cura.ie

South Doc: 1850 335 999