

POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR JAN. 2025

— for the right to an education

“Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.”

THIS WEEK

SUN 12 JAN, FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD: For the Church of the East, this is another ‘epiphany’, with the revelation of Jesus as the Beloved Son of the Father after his baptism in the Jordan river.

WED 15, ST ITA. A great variety of young people were attracted to her monastery in Killeedy, which earned her the title of “foster-mother of the saints of Ireland”. Died AD 570.

FRI 17, ST ANTHONY THE GREAT, a Christian monk from Egypt, is called the ‘father of monasticism’.

SUN 19, CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK begins today (19 to 25 Jan. 2025).

☆ **POINTS TO PONDER** ☆

“The one who removed the mountain began by carrying away small stones.”
— CHINESE PROVERB

FAMILY OF PARISHES OFFICE: To book masses, arrange weddings, baptisms, anniversaries, etc. contact the Parishes’ Office, 1 North St, Skibbereen: Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri: 10 am -1 pm. [CLOSED BANK HOLIDAYS]
• Phone 028-22828 • Email stciaranasFOP@gmail.com •

FINANCE CORNER (5 JANUARY)

Aughadown: €775
Castlehaven: €635
Development Fund: €715
Kilmacabea €630
Maintenance Fund: €585
Rath & the Islands: €535
Skibbereen: €1,070.

CLERGY

- Fr Kevin O’Regan Co-PP
(MODERATOR) PHONE: 028 22878
- Fr Terry O’Brien MSC,
Co-PP, Leap
kilmacabeaparish@gmail.com
- Fr Bernard Cotter Co-PP
Castlehaven (Union Hall)
TEXT/WHATSAPP: 087 901 0627
- Fr Evin O’Brien CC
Skibbereen, PHONE 028 22877

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Alcoholics Anonymous in West Cork: 087 611 4946.
Pieta House Crisis helpline 1800 247 247;
Or text **HELP** to 51444.
St Vincent de Paul, Skibbereen: 087 918 2698
Samaritans: 116 123 free.
Women against Violence Helpline 1800 203



St Ciarán & All Saints
FAMILY OF PARISHES

NEWSLETTER

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

SUNDAY 12 JAN 2025 BAPTISM OF THE LORD VOL 3: 18

IS BAPTISM WORTH CELEBRATING?

When my children were baptised, we went along to the church with immediate family and godparents. The ceremony was over in 15 minutes, we left and that was it. The parish had a new member, and nobody knew except us. Looking back now, it was a bit of an anti-climax.

I now see that the celebration of Baptism is changing, and I think how lovely it is. Two or three families now gather and celebrate this wonderful sacrament together. This creates a sense of occasion: God’s people take in more of what is happening because, while the prayers and readings are

shared, each baby is baptised separately, so there is more time to observe and think. Families may know one another or may meet new people but they will always have that shared baptism in common.

The baptism schedule here in this Family of Parishes is changing. From 2025, we will have the opportunity to celebrate baptism with others, to make baptism the community celebration it is meant to be. As Pope Francis says: *‘At our baptism, we became God’s children forever! This is an occasion to remember and celebrate.’*

Maura O’Flynn [CATECHIST]

BAPTISM SCHEDULE FROM 1 JANUARY 2025 — PLEASE BOOK AT THE PARISHES’ OFFICE

| | | |
|--------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Skibbereen | FIRST & THIRD Saturday of the month | 4.00 pm |
| Rath | SECOND Saturday of the month | 2.30 pm |
| Aughadown | SECOND SUNDAY of the month | After 11.30 am Mass |
| Kilmacabea | THIRD Saturday of the month | 2.00 pm |
| Castlehaven | FOURTH Saturday of the month | 4.00 pm |



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 no later than 5pm Tuesday.

Mass Intentions from Saturday 11.01.25

Saturday – 6.30pm Barry and Jane Browne, late of North Street.
David Power, Adrigole, Beara.

Sunday - 11am Leo O’Neill, Coronea, First Anniversary.
John White, Gortnaclohy.

Monday – 9.30am John Crowley, Ballincollig.

Tuesday - 9.30am James O’Shea, Shanavagh, Ballydehob.

Wednesday - 9.30am People of the Family of Parishes

Thursday - 9.30am Sr Beatrice Sullivan, Union Hall

Friday – 9.30am Eileen Collins, Lake Marsh

Saturday – 6.30pm Denis Crowley.
John O’Mahony, 98 Street.

Sunday - 11am Sean Connolly, Oldcourt and Sharon Connolly.
Ina Williamson, Leap.

We extend our sympathies to the families of:
Carmel O’Driscoll, (née Sexton) Poundhill, Skibbereen
Hester O’Brien, (née McCarthy) Coronea, Skibbereen
Eddie (Eamonn) Mac Eoin, Old Chapel, Bandon and Skibbereen
Julia McManus (née Burke) West Seneca, New York and Ballyoughtra,
Lough Hyne
who died recently. May they Rest in Peace.

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).

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

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

Hospitality Morning, in the Presbytery, on Wednesday after the 9.30am Mass. **All welcome.**

Thank You - Fr Kevin and Fr Evin wish to thank you for your generosity in the Christmas offerings and the Christmas collection. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Volunteer drivers needed - Skibbereen Geriatric Society, who provide a widespread delivery of meals on wheels in the town and surrounding areas, are seeking volunteer drivers for delivery of their luncheons on a rota basis. Anyone interested please contact **Linda Shannon** at skibbgeriatric@gmail.com or by post to **Skibbereen Geriatric Society, Market Street, Skibbereen**. We have a genuine passion and desire to deliver high quality care and service to our community.
“Volunteering to deliver Meals on Wheels was one of the best things I decided to do – providing people with a nutritious daily meal, being that friendly face to those who may have little social contact and supporting people to keep their independence whilst living in their own homes.”

Diocesan needs collection today - The Diocese supports parishes through all kinds of services such as Education, School Religious Faith Formation support, Mission and Ministry, Youth Ministry, Safeguarding, Stewardship and Governance, and in areas such as Data Protection, Finance, and property advisory. This assistance to parishes is only possible through your ongoing generosity. These collections allow us to support the work in Parishes and Families of Parishes. This work is vital to enable our parishes to be renewed and invigorated.

Jubilee Year of Hope - Pope Francis has declared 2025 the Jubilee Year of Hope. The Holy Father has said that this is an *“event of great spiritual, ecclesial, and social significance in the life of the Church”*. He wrote that it is to be *“planned and celebrated with deep faith, lively hope and active charity”*.

The diocesan launch of the Jubilee of Hope took place at the Cathedral of St Mary and St Anne on Sunday, fifth January. Bishop Fintan, in solidarity with Pope Francis, and bishops worldwide, launched the Jubilee and called on the faithful to become *“messengers of hope”* in a troubled world. In his homily, Bishop Fintan urged the faithful to renew their faith, rekindle their hope, and deepen their love for God and one another. He encouraged each one to become a *“Pilgrim of Hope”* bringing hope to those in need in our families, Parishes and Families of Parishes, and to the wider community.



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

Priest on Duty/Emergency – 086/7852262

Mass Intentions

Sunday 12th January - The Baptism of the Lord

9.30am Rath – Gene O’Neill, Oldcourt – Months Mind

Josie Leonard, Rath

Sean Cahalane, Gurteenalomane, Skibbereen

10.00am Cape Clear

Monday 13th January – 10.15am Rath

Wednesday 15th January – 10.15am Rath

Friday 17th January – 10.15am Rath

Saturday 18th January

4.45pm Sherkin

Sunday 19th January – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30am Rath – Agnes Davis, Lackahane

Bernie McCarthy, Baltimore – 1st Anniversary

10.00am Cape Clear

Weekday Masses – Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10.15am

Confessions by appointment.

Second collection this weekend 12th January for Diocesan Needs

The Diocese supports parishes through all kinds of services such as Education, School Religious Faith Formation support, Mission and Ministry, Youth Ministry, Safeguarding, Stewardship and Governance and in areas such as Data Protection, Finance and property advisory.

This assistance to parishes is only possible through your ongoing generosity.

These collections allow us to support the work in Parishes and Families of Parishes.

This work is vital to enable our parishes to be renewed and invigorated.

Fr Kevin and Fr Evin wish to thank you for your generosity in the Christmas offerings and the Christmas collection. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Jubilee Year of Hope

Pope Francis has declared 2025 the Jubilee Year of Hope

The Holy Father has said that this is an "event of great spiritual, ecclesial, and social significance in the life of the Church." He wrote that it is to be "planned and celebrated with deep faith, lively hope and active charity"

The Diocesan launch of the Jubilee of Hope took place at the Cathedral of St. Mary and St. Anne on Sunday 5th January. Bishop Fintan, in solidarity with Pope Francis, and bishops worldwide, launched the Jubilee and called on the faithful to become "messengers of hope" in a troubled world.

In his homily, Bishop Fintan urged the faithful to renew their faith, rekindle their hope, and deepen their love for God and one another. He encouraged each one to become a "Pilgrim of Hope," bringing hope to those in need in our families, Parishes and *Families of Parishes*, and to the wider community.

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,

may the *faith* you have given us

in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,

and the flame of *charity* enkindled

in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,

reawaken in us the blessed *hope*

for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us

into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation

of a new heaven and a new earth,

when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,

your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,

a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread

the joy and peace of our Redeemer

throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,

be glory and praise for ever.

Amen