



Wednesday next, **Ash Wednesday**, is a day when Catholics fast from food and abstain from meat. Ashes will be blessed and given at these masses on Wednesday: 9.30 am Skibbereen, 10 am Kilcoe, 10.15 am Rath, 11.30 am Castlehaven and 7pm Glandore.

• *A Liturgy of the Word with distribution of ashes will take place in the Cathedral, Skibbereen at 7 pm on Wednesday (not Mass).*

FORTY DAYS OF LENT:

The journey to Easter begins.....

- **DAY 1, WEDNESDAY 5 MARCH:** ASH WEDNESDAY: Make someone happy.
- **DAY 2, THURSDAY 6:** An extra prayer.
- **DAY 3, FRIDAY 7:** Make a 'Mission of Mercy' every lenten Friday, visit a nursing home or someone who feels lonely. Or just offer a listening ear to someone who needs one.
- **DAY 4, SATURDAY 8:** Fast from television, phones and other screens.

FINANCE CORNER (23 FEBRUARY)

Aughadown €685. Castlehaven €905. Kilmacabea €745 [Lourdes €485]. Rath: €440. Skibbereen: €1,415.

☆ POINT TO PONDER ☆

'God is a bottomless encouragement to our faltering and frightened being.'

— JOHN UPDIKE

LITURGY IN LENT: No altar flowers in Lent, except St Patrick's Day & Laetare Sunday. No 'Alleluia' any day until sung at Easter.

OUR GOAL is the Easter Vigil for our Family of Parishes, Sat 19 April, 9pm in the Cathedral, Skibbereen.

CLERGY

- *Fr Kevin O'Regan Co-PP (MODERATOR) PHONE: 028 22878*
- *Fr Terry O'Brien MSC, Co-PP, 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

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 •

St Ciarán & All Saints
 FAMILY OF PARISHES

NEWSLETTER

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

SUNDAY 2 MARCH 2025 EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME VOL 3: 25

TEMPERANCE — BLESSING OR CURSE?

Today, Sunday 2 March, is a day of prayer for temperance, a day to reflect on our relationship with addictions. We are also encouraged to pray for those who suffer because of addiction.

When the Church encourages us to be temperate in what we eat and drink, and how we use the other pleasures in life, a burden is not being imposed on us. Rather we are being guided to physical and spiritual health. Temperance is a blessing not a curse.

Temperance guides us in our enjoyment of good things, in balanced

moderation, never in excess. Anyone can become addicted to things that are essentially good; food, drink, money, etc. But over-indulging in anything can be damaging. It shows a lack of self-control and places the gift over the Giver of all gifts — Jesus.

All of us can learn from Jesus Christ. He was temperate in everything, and He encourages us to follow this example. We pray today for those who are struggling with various forms of addiction: may God in His mercy grant them healing.

Fr Evin O'Brien CC [SKIBBEREEN]



Saint Ciarán, we ask you to intercede with God on our behalf. Protect me in times of distress and bring me safely through each and every evil. Amen.

— PRAYER TO ST CIARÁN, OUR PATRON (FEAST DAY 5 MARCH)



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: skibbereenparish@gmail.com no later than 5pm Tuesday.

Mass Intentions from Saturday 01 March 2025

Saturday – 6.30pm Archbishop Denis Hurley, South Africa and Mary Crowley, Mill Road

Arvydas, Mantas, Genute, Kazys, and Jonas.

Sunday – 11am Leo Werner, Poundlick

Michael Walsh, Dunmanway.

Cornelius McCarthy, Carrigfadda, First Anniversary.

Anthony Keane, Coomnageehy, Month's Mind.

Monday – 9.30am Peter Nolan.

Tuesday - 9.30am Jerry and Eileen Forde, Douglas.

Wednesday - 9.30am Ash Wednesday People of the Family of Parishes.

Distribution of Ashes after Mass

Ash Wednesday 7pm Service (Readings and distribution of Ashes)

Adoration in Rath church begins on Wednesday 5 March from 7pm to 9pm for the duration of lent. All welcome.

Thursday - 9.30am Holy souls

Friday – 9.30am Flor Lynch, Coronea Drive.

Saturday – 6.30pm May O'Mahony, Dromig.

James and Mary O'Brien, Home Rule Terrace.

Sunday - 11am Donal and Bridget Hurley, Inchindreen and

Archbishop Denis Hurley, Durban.

Margaret Caverly, Munig.

John Daly, Ardagh, Coronea, First Anniversary.

Recently deceased: We extend our condolences to the family of Danguolė Krikstaniene of Inise Alainn, Skibbereen. May she 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, as the fifth March is Ash Wednesday the hospitality morning **will not** take place.

Second collection: There will be a second collection next weekend, **08/09 March** for the **Irish Bishops' commissions.**

A Station Mass for the town and rural areas will take place in **Skibbereen Cathedral on Tuesday 11 March at 7.30pm.** Station offering envelopes are available at the back of the church.

First Friday calls – This week the priests of the parish will call to the sick with Holy Communion. If you know of anyone who is sick or housebound and would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick or Holy Communion, or would appreciate a visit from a priest, please contact the parish office **028 22828.**

We extend our congratulations to the First Holy Communion candidates of St Joseph's, St Patrick's, and Gaelscoil Dr Uí Shúilleabháin, who recently had their first confessions. We look forward to celebrating First Holy Communion in May and thank the teachers for the preparatory work for this sacrament.

The Annual World Day of Prayer service, shared by the Catholic, Church of Ireland, and Methodist Churches, will be held in the **Cathedral, Skibbereen, on Friday, seventh March at 7pm.** This year's prayers are prepared by women from the Cook Islands, a nation in the South Pacific. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend this ecumenical service, where we will come together in unity to pray for peace in these troubled times. No matter what your background is, you are warmly invited to join this gathering of faith and hope, followed by light refreshments in the Parochial House, North Street.

Youth 2000 retreat -The Spring Munster Youth 2000 retreat will take place at Knockadoon Camp, Co Cork from Friday evening seventh - Sunday ninth March. Everyone aged 16 - 35 is welcome to attend for all or part of the weekend. Donation only, suggested donation €75.00pp (includes accommodation and meals). Please see www.youth2000.ie



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

Priest on Duty/Emergency – 086/7852262

Mass Intentions

Sunday 2nd March – Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30am Rath – Sean Coughlan, Church Strand, Baltimore

10.00am Cape Clear - John O'Donoghue, Oileán Chléire

Monday 3rd March – 10.15am Rath

Wednesday 5th March – 10.15am Rath – Ash Wednesday

Friday 7th March – 10.15am Rath – Denis P O'Driscoll, Kilkilleen & Cape Clear

Saturday 8th March

4.45pm Sherkin

Sunday 9th March – First Sunday of Lent

9.30am Rath – Angela Sheehy, Creagh

Miah O'Driscoll, Rath

Josephine Griffin, Cork Road, Skibbereen

10.00am Cape Clear

Weekday Masses – Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10.15am

Confessions by appointment.

Adoration in Rath Church begins on **Wednesday 5th March from 7pm to 9pm** for the duration of Lent. All are welcome

A station mass for all station areas in Rath parish will take place in the Sacred Heart Church on **Friday 14th March at 7.30pm**. Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

First Friday Calls – This week the priests of the parish will call to the sick with Holy Communion. If you know of anyone who is sick or housebound and would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick or Holy Communion, or would appreciate a visit from a priest, please contact the Parish office 028 22828.

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

There will be a second collection next weekend, March 8th & 9th for Irish Bishops Commissions.

Maranatha Newsletter/Altar Announcement

Maranatha is a full-day faith-based, high energy music event for young people from parishes across the diocese attending post-primary schools. Students from over half of the post primary schools have already been preparing for Maranatha 2025.

This cumulates in a concert in **Cork City Hall on Thursday 6th March** with over 500 young people and musicians singing together.

Maranatha was created to bring young people together to celebrate their faith and identity through music and have fun at the same time.

Please support our young people by coming to this event. Tickets are €15 (plus booking fee) and are available to book on [eventbrite.ie](https://www.eventbrite.ie), search Maranatha. Doors open 6.45pm with concert beginning at 7.30pm.

Youth 2000 Retreat

The spring Munster Youth 2000 retreat will take place at Knockadoon Camp, Co. Cork from **Friday evening 7th - Sunday 9th March**. Everyone aged 16 - 35 is welcome to attend for all or part of the weekend. Donation only, suggested donation €75 pp (includes accommodation and meals).

Please see www.youth2000.ie

Medjugorje Pilgrimage 28th May (7 nights) from Cork. 10 places still available.

Group Leader Sean O'Shaughnessy 0862959380. Spiritual Director Fr. Ted Sheehan. Cost €949.00 includes flights and half board accommodation. Travelling with Joe Walsh Tours.

Cork Scripture Group would like to invite anyone who is interested in Scripture to join us for the following course.

Exploring Prophecy in the Bible

4 Monday nights (24th & 31st of March and 7th & 14th of April) from 7.30pm - 9.30pm in Scala, Blackrock

Presenters: Fr Seán O'Sullivan, Sheila Curran, Marian Mortell, Rosalie Moloney
Workshop on "Prophecy: Reading the signs of the times" with Jessie Rogers (Maynooth) in Sacred Heart Hall, Western Road from 10.00- 1.00 p.m. on Sat.5 April. Cost €50. To book a place please email corkscrepturegroup@gmail.com