POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER: That Christians living in areas of conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace and hope.

THIS WEEK

WED 3 DEC, ST BARRAHANE, patron of Castlehaven parish, after whom the parish is named (Gleann Bearcháin).

• Also St Francis Xavier, missionary to India, Goa, Japan. Patron of missions.

SAT 6 DEC, ST NICHOLAS, patron saint of Galway & Russia — and of children.

FINANCE CORNER FOR 23 NOVEMBER AUGHADOWN: €805 (16 Nov €615)

Castlehaven: €980

RATH & THE ISLANDS: €695.

Skibbereen: €1,450

♦ POINT TO PONDER ♦

'Friends should be preferred to kings.'

— Voltaire

CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE



Castlehaven 5pm Glandore 6.15 pm Skibbereen 6.30 pm Lisheen 7pm Rath 8pm Skibbereen 9pm

TRADITIONAL ADVENT PRAYER "Usil and blossed be the

"Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In

that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires, through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of his blessed mother. Amen"

CLERGY

- Fr Kevin O'Regan Co-PP (MODERATOR) PHONE: 028 22878
- Fr Bernard Cotter Co-PP (EDITOR) Email frbernard1984@gmail.com TEXT/WHATSAPP: 087 901 0627
- Fr Evin O'Brien CC, Family of parishes. PHONE: (028) 22877

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS Alcoholics Anonymous in West Cork: 087 611 4946.

Pieta Hse 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 203 136

FAMILY OF PARISHES OFFICE

TO BOOK MASSES, ARRANGE WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS, ANNIVERSARIES, ETC. CONTACT THE FAMILY OF PARISHES' OFFICE, 1 NORTH ST, SKIBBEREEN.

Open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 10 am -1 pm

• Phone 028-22828 • EMAIL stciaranasFOP@gmail.com •



St Ciarán & All Saints

NEWSLETTER

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

30 Nov 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Vol 4: 13

NOTICE THE SMALL DETAILS OF LIFE; IT'S WHAT JESUS DID

oliness isn't reserved for special people — it's what God wants for everyone. Or so wrote Pope Francis. In his letter 'Rejoice and Be Glad' (*Gaudete et Exsultate*) in 2018, Francis invites us to live with love and integrity in the ordinary moments of life. The late pope warns of two dangers that can distract us:

- Trusting in knowledge or ideas without mercy or humanity,
- Relying on our own effort instead of trusting.

Only by God's grace can our good works flow, and we become a gift to our neighbour. Remember that evil exists; it comes from the Evil One! So we have to avoid the trap of falling into complacency and a lukewarm spiritual life.

Signs of holiness today include perseverance, patience, and meekness; joy and a sense of humour; boldness and passion; prayer; and community spirit.

Tesus noticed the small details and acted on them: wine running out at the party, one sheep missing, having a fire burning and fish cooking as He waited for the disciples at daybreak. Mary our mother teaches us this way of holiness as she walks ever by our side.

Eithne O'Donovan, Kilmacabea Parish

[EITHNE IS A PARTICIPANT IN THE PAPAL DOCUMENTS READING GROUP, MEETING AT PAROCHIAL HOUSE, SKIBBEREEN, ON TUESDAYS AT 7:30 PM: ALL WELCOME]



Skibbereen Parish News
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 Wednesday

Mass Intentions from Saturday 29 November 2025

Saturday – **6.30pm** - Martin Connolly, Derrylugga.

David and Gillian Morrison, Riverdale.

Brian Crowley.

Sunday – **11am** - John and Mary O'Donovan, Cullinagh.

Betty Crowley, The Moorings.

Jim & Kathleen Mulally, their son Jimmy, daughter

Margaret, son in law Frank and all deceased

members of the Mulally family.

Don Morrison, Bridgetown and Dunmanway,

First Anniversary.

Monday – 9.30am - Pauline and Lewis Gray.

Tuesday – 9.30am - James O'Donovan.

Wednesday - No Mass

Thursday – 9.30am - Jim Collins, Gurteenaduige, Leap and London,

First Anniversary

Friday - 9.30am - Birthday Intention.

Saturday – **6.30pm** - Michael John and Josephine Carey, Derrylugga.

Danny O'Donovan, Mardyke Street.

Michael O'Rourke, Cork Road, First Anniversary.

Sunday – 11am Kathleen O'Donovan, Mardyke.

JJ (Derry) O'Donovan, North Street.

Michael O'Rourke, Cork Road, First Anniversary.

We extend our condolences to the families of Patrick John Crowley, New Jersey, and Inchinagotagh, Skibbereen,

And Diarmuid (Dermot) O'Connor, Killeagh and Skibbereen who died recently. May they Rest in Peace.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral every Monday and Friday from 10am to 6pm.

Weekday Masses - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 9.30am. The Rosary is prayed before each Mass and on Thursday it is said for the special intention of vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood.

Rosary every Tuesday at 8pm at Our Lady's Grotto, Cork Road, Skibbereen. All welcome.

Confessions Saturday 10am to 11am.

Hospitality Morning in the Presbytery on Monday after the 9.30am Mass. All Welcome

Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards are available in the Parish Office until 17 December.

The Parish Tax Back Scheme If you've generously given €250 or more to Skibbereen Parish in a calendar year, you could make your donation work even harder by letting the Parish claim some of the tax that you've already paid to Revenue! How it works: The tax back scheme allows our Parish to claim more than 40% in tax back on a year's donations totalling over €250, at no cost to you. All you need to do is speak to a member of the Parish Finance Committee after Mass this weekend and they will give you an envelope containing forms for you to fill up. We ask that you return these completed forms next weekend when you will be given a box of envelopes. You will bring the weekly envelope to Mass each weekend starting in January. Do you qualify? If you pay any Irish tax, either PAYE or self-assessed, and you live in Ireland, then you probably do! In order to claim any tax back, you need to have donated a minimum of €250 in any one year. It doesn't matter if you're PAYE or self-assessed for us to be able to claim back your tax paid.

The local Conference of St Vincent de Paul Skibbereen will hold its annual appeal on the weekend of Friday & Saturday 12/13 December. Members will be in attendance both days at our rooms from 10am to 3pm to accept donations. The Conference wants to thank the community and are very grateful for your ongoing support. All donations received are used to support people in the area. St Vincent de Paul - we are always here to help, never hesitate to contact us.

Please contact: 087 9182698.



Parish Office, Skibbereen - 028/22828 – Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri – 10am to 1pm. **Priest on Duty/Emergency** – 086/7852262

Mass Intentions Saturday 29th November 4.45pm Sherkin

Sunday 30th November – First Sunday of Advent

9.30am Rath - Sheila Connolly, Crow Hill

Mary & Dick Connolly, Lissanuhig

Eileen Whooley, Munig - Months Mind

Mary & Paddy Holland, South Rath

10.00am Cape Clear - Michael D O'Driscoll, Lisamona

Monday 1st December - 10.00am - Rath

Wednesday 3rd December – 10.00am - Rath

Saturday 6th December

4.45pm Sherkin –

Sunday 7th December – Second Sunday of Advent

9.30am Rath – Ellen & Daniel Davis and Mary & George Walsh, Lackahane.

Mary & Peter Leonard, Reengaroga & Dingle

Gene O'Neill, Oldcourt – First Anniversary

10.00am Cape Clear – Sr Cecilia no Griofa, Ciarrai

Weekday Masses – Mass on Monday 1st and Wednesday 3rd at 10am.

Eucharistic Adoration in Sacred Heart Church, Rath on Wednesday evenings from 7pm-9pm. All are welcome even if only for ten minutes, half an hour or an hour to spend time with the Blessed Sacrament.

Adoration of the blessed sacrament in the Cathedral every Monday and Friday from 10am to 6pm. There are scheduled hours available for adoration but all are welcome for any period of time.

Changes to Postures during Mass

During the year of Prayer, Listening and Discernment, people shared a desire for a deeper and more unified experience of worship during Sunday Mass. In responding to this, the Diocese of Cork and Ross is introducing the use of common postures in Mass as outlined in the Roman Missal.

The congregation will stand for three additional moments at Mass:

- 1. From the start of Mass until we sit for the readings
- 2. When the Priest says, "Pray brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours...." until the end of the Holy Holy.
- 3. For the prayer after Communion until the end of Mass.

An explanation card is available at all Churches. There is also a short explanatory video on the Cork and Ross website.

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All donations received are used to support people in the area.

St Vincent de Paul - We are always here to help, never hesitate to contact us.

Contact: 087 9182698

Advent Lectio Divina – The Office of Mission & Ministry will be offering three online Lectio Divina sessions for Advent on Wednesday 3rd December, Wednesday 10th December and Wednesday 17th December from 7.30pm to 8.30pm.

These will be an opportunity to pause, pray with Scripture and prepare for the coming of Christ. These online sessions are open to everyone. With limited places available, registration is essential. Contact us via https://tinvurl.com.mission-ministry or by ringing 021-7355517.

The November/December meeting of the Bantry and Surrounding Areas Cardiac Support Group will be held on Tuesday, December 2nd at 8 p.m. in the Bantry Primary Care Centre (The South Doc Building), P75 T611.

At this meeting, our monthly speaker, Noreen Comey will share/update the group on a cardiac-related issue through presentations and/or group workshops. Refreshments and discussion after.