

# PARISHES NEWSLETTER

## Skibbereen and Rath & the Islands

Parishes website – [www.skibbereenandrath.ie](http://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](mailto:skibbereenparish@gmail.com) **Office Hours:** Tues, Wed, from 10am to 12.00 noon  
Please contact Margaret in advance by leaving a message - on 028 22828 or email [skibbereenparish@gmail.com](mailto: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) 028 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](mailto: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](http://www.skibbereenandrath.ie)

### Mass Intentions for week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

9.00am Cathedral – Patrick & Kitty Hodnett, Goleen

10.15am Rath – Helena O'Regan, Ballylynch

11.30am Cathedral – Lillian O'Sullivan, 21 Cork Rd

#### Monday 21<sup>st</sup> St Peter Canisius, priest and

##### doctor of the Church

9.30am Cathedral - The Burns Family, North Street

10.15am Rath – Special Intention

#### Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Week of Advent

9.30am Cathedral – Kitty and Hans Rahr, Late of Florida and Mardyke

#### Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> St John Kanty, priest

9.30am Cathedral - Margaret and Seamus Ryan, North St

10.15am Rath – Special Intention

### Feasts This Week

**21<sup>st</sup>: St Peter Canisius**, 1521-97, was born in Holland. He intended to become a lawyer but joined the Jesuits. Through courtesy and learning he promoted the Catholic revival after the Council of Trent. His greatest work was a catechism of 211 questions and answers, published in 1555.

**23<sup>rd</sup>: St John of Kanty**, 1390-1473, taught theology and Scripture in the university of Krakow, Poland. He is remembered for his austerity of life and generosity.

**26<sup>th</sup>: St Stephen**, the first Christian martyr, was one of those in charge of the poor and needy. He is outstanding for his forgiveness of his enemies. Patron of deacons, stonemasons and bricklayers.

**Books of Remembrance** for Christmas: If you wish to remember and include the names of your deceased family members and friends in our Parishes for Christmas, Special Remembrance books will be available in both Sacred Heart Church, Rath and St Patrick's Cathedral, Skibbereen. The books will be available beside the altar in both Churches.

**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, or download from parish website [www.skibbereenandrath.ie](http://www.skibbereenandrath.ie)

**Confessions:** No Confessions possible just now due to Covid19 restrictions

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament;** Cathedral Exposition Chapel – Open every day

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

## Due to the Covid - 19 restrictions in place, Admission to these Christmas Masses is by ticket ONLY

### The Cathedral, Skibbereen

#### Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve

St. Patrick's Cathedral Skibbereen 9.30 am (extra Mass)

#### Christmas Eve Vigil

St. Patrick's Cathedral Skibbereen 6.00 pm (*Note change of time*)

St. Patrick's Cathedral Skibbereen 9.00 pm

#### Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day

St. Patrick's Cathedral Skibbereen 9.00 am

St. Patrick's Cathedral Skibbereen 11.30 am

#### Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> December – St. Stephen's Day

St. Patrick's Cathedral Skibbereen 9.30 am

St. Patrick's Cathedral Skibbereen 6.30 pm

#### Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> December – The Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph

St. Patrick's Cathedral Skibbereen 9.00 am

St. Patrick's Cathedral Skibbereen 11.30 am

### Rath and the Islands

#### Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve

\*Sacred Heart Church, Rath 10.15 am (extra Mass)

#### Christmas Eve Vigil

\*Sacred Heart Church, Rath 7.30 pm

(Especially for our young parishioners, we will begin with a ten minute Blessing of Crib ceremony – "Putting baby Jesus in the Crib")

#### Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day

St. Mona's Church, Sherkin 8.45 am

\*Sacred Heart Church, Rath 10.30 am Note change of time

#### Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> December – St. Stephen's Day

St. Mona's Church, Sherkin 4.45 am

\*Sacred Heart Church, Rath 7.30 pm

#### Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> December – The Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph

\*Sacred Heart Church, Rath 10.15 am

**\* Please note all Masses in Sacred Heart Church, Rath will be available online at [www.skibbereenandrath.ie](http://www.skibbereenandrath.ie)**

**Priest on Duty**  
this week:

Fr Evin

Emergency only  
086-7852262.

### Launch of Live Streaming of Masses from Rath!

The Masses from Rath Church will be live streamed for the first time. At 7.30pm Saturday and 10.15am Sunday. All Masses from Rath will now be available by going to [www.skibbereenandrath.ie](http://www.skibbereenandrath.ie) and clicking on the webcam tab. A team of people have been working on this for many months. These include Geraldine McCarthy, Susan Murphy-Wickens, Michael Coleman, Pat Leonard and Maev Devlin with the priests of the parishes. Our thanks also to Parish Websites.ie – the company who constructed the new website for us, for their help and support. In the spring, it is planned to put cameras in Skibbereen Cathedral which will make it possible to hear Mass from there, and this will also be available through the website.

**Mass from Rath Church** this weekend is also available on the parishes Facebook pages:  
<https://www.facebook.com/Rath-And-The-Islands-Parish-107099597589866/>

### Hear Mass via the Radio, TV and Internet

**Radio Maria:** Mass is broadcast daily at 10.00 am and on Sunday at 10.00 am and 11.00 am. Listen on Saorview ch 210, or on the “Radio Maria Ireland” App, or on Internet <https://www.radiomaria.ie/> and on Facebook “Listen Live Radio”

**RTE News Now TV** broadcasts Mass every weekday at 10.30am. (Try Sky channel 521)

**Church Services website** guides you to a multitude of available Masses both here and in Europe:  
[www.churchservices.tv/timetable](http://www.churchservices.tv/timetable)

### Recently Deceased

Brian O'Donovan, Clohane, Caheragh and 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*

### Orthodox Christians celebrate Christmas in Ireland

By Ann Marie Foley - 10 January, 2019

The most recent Irish census showed that the fastest growing religious belief was what it called the Orthodox branch of Christianity.

The Irish country estate best known for the Electric Picnic music festival celebrated Orthodox Christmas last Monday (7 January 2019).

A congregation of 50 to 60 attended a Christmas service at St Colman's Russian Orthodox Church, situated on the grounds of Stradbally Hall, Co. Laois, with the gospel readings in English for the Irish members and in the Church's traditional Slavonic language.

“Some were there especially for Christmas and more than half were regulars. Other regulars were in Russia and elsewhere for the holidays,” the priest Fr Sergey Mironenko told Catholicireland.net. The Orthodox Church across the world celebrates Christmas in early January.

Generally there are 25 to 40 members at the weekly Orthodox services in the rural Co. Laois village. Sergey Mironenko arrived in Dublin from Stalingrad, Russia, almost 20 years ago. He was introduced to the Church by Adrian Cosby, whose family have lived at Stradbally Hall for hundreds of years, and who was instrumental in setting up the Orthodox Church there in the early 1990s.

Sergey Mironenko was ordained a priest in May 2017 by His Grace Bishop Irenei of Sacramento in the Cathedral of the Dormition of the Mother of God and the Royal Martyrs (London), and was assigned to the parish in Stradbally.

He told Catholicireland.net that Orthodox priests work a ‘day job’ as well as carrying out their church duties. Married men can be ordained, but those who are ordained when single do not marry. He said that very few Irish people know about the Christian Orthodox Church and issued an invitation that all are welcome to come and see. “Because I know many people never heard about Orthodox Church,” he said. “People don't know about Orthodox and if they do they know very little so if somebody just wants to see they are very welcome.”

In Dublin one of the larger congregations uses the former Church of Ireland church in Harold's Cross for services and operates under the name Holy Apostles Peter and Paul Patriarchal Metochion Russian Orthodox Church.

Adrian Cosby, whose son brought the Electric Picnic to the family estate, got involved in setting up the little church in Stradbally at a time when there were fewer than 250 Orthodox Christians in Ireland. The most recent Irish census showed that the fastest growing religious belief was what it called the Orthodox branch of Christianity, and its adherents in Ireland grew from 45,200 in 2011 to 65,200 in 2016, an increase of 37.5 per cent.

There are a variety of Orthodox Christians in Ireland including Antiochian, Ethiopian, Georgian, Greek, Romanian, Russian and Coptic. Many of Ireland's new Orthodox may have fled persecution or financial hardship, and many came from Eastern Europe. Orthodox Christians celebrate Christmas Day on 6 to 7 January, as they date the Nativity using the Julian calendar, introduced under the Roman emperor Julius Caesar in 45 BC, rather than the Gregorian calendar brought in by Pope Gregory XIII in 1582, and there is a 13-day difference between the two.

*Follow us on Twitter @catholicireland*

**First Communion:** The young people of St Patrick's Boys National School, Skibbereen Gaelscoil, and Abbeystrewry School received their First Communion this weekend. We know they have had to wait many months for this special day and we pray God's blessing on them and their families and the catechists who work with them.

**Parish Office Opening Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday** from 10 am - 12 noon. Please contact Margaret in advance by leaving a message on 028 22828 or email [skibbereenparish@gmail.com](mailto:skibbereenparish@gmail.com) and she will respond to your request during office hours.

**St VINCENT DE PAUL. CONTACT NUMBER; 087 9182698**

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — DAILY MEETINGS IN SKIBBEREEN. FOR INFORMATION TEL; 087 6114946**

**Prevention Helpline 1800 742 745:** a free phone help-line open 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](mailto:tomcorcoran@westcorklivinglinks.ie)

**West Cork Women against Violence Helpline:** 1800203136

**Bingo in aid of the St. Vincent de Paul Society** in the Abbeystrewry Church Hall every Monday at 8.30pm.

**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](http://www.cura.ie)

**Legion of Mary Meetings:** Monday evenings at 7.00pm in St Vincent de Paul Rooms, Market Street.

**South Doc: 1850 335 999**