

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 6th March 2021- 2nd Week of Lent

7.30pm Rath – John Connolly, Crow Hill

Skibbereen – Mary Deasy, Union Hall & Skibbereen

Sunday 7th March - Third Sunday of Lent

10.15am Rath – Kathleen O'Driscoll, Ballymacrown MM

Skibbereen - Florence Lynch, Coronea Drive
Michael Walsh, Dunmanway

Monday 8th March - St Senan, bishop

10.15am Rath – John (Stan) Holland

Skibbereen - John O'Sullivan, Birmingham

Tuesday 9th March – St Frances of Rome

10.15am Rath - Kieran O'Regan

Skibbereen - Paddy Mulhern, Roscommon

Wednesday 10th March - 3rd Week of Lent

10.15am Rath - Richard Bushe

Skibbereen – Mary O'Regan, Coronea

Thursday 11th March - St Aengus, bishop and abbot

10.15am Rath - Kathleen O'Driscoll

Skibbereen - Michael Daly, Cork and Mohonagh

Friday 12th March – 3rd Week of Lent

10.15am Rath - Tessie Sheehy

Skibbereen, - Kevin Barry, Durrus

Saturday 13th March - 3rd Week of Lent

7.30pm Rath – Christine Costello

Skibbereen – May O'Mahony, Drummig

Sunday 14th March - Fourth Sunday of Lent

10.15am Rath – Donie O'Regan, Reengaroga

Skibbereen –Neily Keohane, Caheragh
Teresa O'Donovan, Derrylugga

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

Feasts this week

8th; St Senan was born near Ki I rush, Co. Clare. His family were prosperous farmers. His vocation seems to have resulted from an experience of danger from the sea. His early studies were mainly made at the monastery of Kilnamanagh. His principal monastic foundation was on Scatterry Island, near Ki I rush, in the Shannon Estuary. He was anam chara to Ciaran of Clonmacnois and Brendan, and died in 544.

9th: St Frances of Rome, d. 1440, lived a happily married life and founded a society of women with the Rule of St Benedict and became a member of it after her husband's death.

11th; St Aengus (Oengus) was a monk in Clonenagh, Co. Laois, who came to the monastery at Tallaght at the end of the eighth century during the abbacy of Maelruain to spend a period under his direction. He was renowned for his devotion to both foreign and native saints and composed two martyrologies. He returned to Clonenagh, where he became abbot and bishop. He died around 824.

St Aengus: Called Dengus and "the Culdee," a hermit and author of the Festology of the Saints of Ireland, The Felire. The term Culdee refers to Aengus' love of solitude: Ceile De was a name given to the hermits of the time. Aengus, born in Clonengh, Ireland, became a solitary monk on the banks of the river Nore, where he communed with angels. In time he sought a more remote site near Maryborough, erecting a small hermitage there. Visitors drawn by his reputation for holiness drove Aengus to the monastery of Tallaght, near Dublin, then under the control of St. Maelruain. He tried to enter as a simple lay brother, not telling anyone who he was. Aengus, along with Maelruain (who had discovered the Culdee's real identity), wrote the Martyrology of Tallaght together in 790. Aengus completed his Felire in 805 in his Maryborough hermitage, having returned there when Maelruain died. Aengus passed away on March 11, 824, and was buried in Clonenagh.

St. Aengus - Saints & Angels - Catholic Online

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:Fr. Michael
Emergency only
086-7852262.

The year of St Joseph and his upcoming feast day.

Did you know that the Holy Father Pope Francis has announced that 2021 will be the year the Church dedicates to St. Joseph? St Joseph is one of the most powerful intercessors before the throne of God in Heaven? Apart from Our Lady herself no one was closer to Jesus on this Earth than St Joseph. He was there when Our Lord was born in the stable and He would have assisted Jesus throughout His life. Tradition tells us that St Joseph died with Jesus and Mary at his side – perhaps the most beautiful death anyone has ever had. St Teresa of Avila had a great devotion to St Joseph. *In her autobiography, the holy Carmelite mystic sings the praises of her holy father, St. Joseph, and gives proof of his powerful intercession: "I took for my patron and lord the glorious St. Joseph and recommended myself earnestly to him. I saw clearly that both out of this my present trouble, and out of others of greater importance, relating to my honor and the loss of my soul, this my father and lord delivered me, and rendered me greater services than I knew how to ask for. I cannot call to mind that I have ever asked him at any time for anything which he has not granted; and I am filled with amazement when I consider the great favors which God hath given me through this blessed Saint; the dangers from which he hath delivered me, both of body and of soul.*

As we celebrate the feast of St Joseph on March 19th it would be most fitting and beneficial for us to begin a novena in his honor on Thursday March 11th. Entrust all your cares to him and he like a good father will take care of all your needs. Below is novena which can be prayed any time but particularly in the nine days preceding his feast on March 19th in honor of the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus.

O good father Joseph! I beg you by all your sufferings, sorrows and joys, to obtain for me what I ask.

(Here name your petition).

Obtain for all those who have asked my prayers, everything that is useful to them in the plan of God. Be near to me in my last moments, that I may eternally sing the praises of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Amen.

(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be)

Remember, O most pure spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, my great protector, Saint Joseph, that no one ever had recourse to your protection, or implored your aid without obtaining relief. Confiding therefore in your goodness, I come before you. Do not turn down my petitions, foster father of the Redeemer, but graciously receive them. Amen.

Sayings from the saints on the power of prayer

You pay God a compliment by asking great things of Him.

--St. Teresa of Avila

It is simply impossible to lead, without the aid of prayer, a virtuous life.

--Saint John Chrysostom

Virtues are formed by prayer. Prayer preserves temperance. Prayer suppresses anger. Prayer prevents emotions of pride and envy. Prayer draws into the soul the Holy Spirit, and raises man to Heaven.

--Saint Ephraem of Syria

"Purity is the fruit of prayer."

- Blessed Mother Teresa

What prayer could be more true before God the Father than that which the Son, who is Truth, uttered with His own lips? The Our Father

--Saint John Chrysostom

Prayer is the place of refuge for every worry, a foundation for cheerfulness, a source of constant happiness, a protection against sadness.

--St. John Chrysostom

Let us all resign ourselves into His hands, and pray that in all things He may guide us to do His Holy Will ... When thoughts of this or that come I turn to Him and say: "Only what you will, my God. Use me as You will".

--Blessed Mary MacKillop

'He who prays most receives most.'

--St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori

Bishops encourage support of vaccine programmes against Covid-19

24. FEB, 2021

Council for Healthcare of the Bishops' Conference urges everyone to support the vaccination programmes currently in place in the Republic and in Northern Ireland

As a matter of priority, vaccines should be made available to carers and to priest-chaplains to nursing care facilities and who preside at funerals

Last December the Irish Catholic Bishops in a statement said that "safe and effective vaccination is an essential aspect of the prevention of disease". They encouraged Catholics to support the programme of vaccination "not only for their own good, but for the protection of life and the health of those who are vulnerable and for the common good of humanity". The Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith made a similar call to all Catholics in its Note on the morality of Covid-19 vaccines (21 December 2020). The Council for Healthcare of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference wishes to reiterate that message and urges everyone to support the vaccination programmes currently in place in the Republic of Ireland and in Northern Ireland.

The development and provision of the vaccines is already providing reassurance for those who are most vulnerable to the virus and will help us to return to normality in terms of work, education, religious practice, and sporting and leisure activities as soon as possible. We note that many people both North and South have already received the vaccine and we particularly welcome the fact that all residents and staff of nursing care facilities have been vaccinated at this stage. At present the group prioritised in the Republic of Ireland to receive the vaccine in the coming weeks are those over 70 years of age while in Northern Ireland it is those over 65 years of age along with others who are clinically vulnerable. We encourage all parishes and Church personnel to promote this programme and to encourage elderly parishioners, relatives and neighbours to avail of the opportunity to protect their health and the health of the whole community.

Bishop Michael Ruter is Chair of the Bishops' Council for Healthcare.

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

Recently Deceased

Simon Roche Skibbereen, Schull and Wexford

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

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 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

Bingo in aid of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in the Abbeystewry 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

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

South Doc: 1850 335 999