

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 apply; public Masses are discontinued for the present. Live streaming of all Masses from Sacred Heart Church, Rath is available at www.skibbereenandrath.ie

Saturday 17th April - 2nd Week of Easter

7.30pm Rath – Mary and Timmy Holland Lackahane and Boston

Skibbereen- Michael O'Regan, North Street and Lisheen

Sunday 18th April - 3rd Sunday of Easter

10.15am Rath – Special Intention

Skibbereen - Charles and Vincent Hodnett, Rosscarbery

Special Intention

Monday 19th April - 3rd Week of Easter

10.15am Rath - Special Intention

Skibbereen - Gerardine Young, Bantry and Skibbereen

Tuesday 20th April - 3rd Week of Easter

10.15am Rath – Special Intention

Skibbereen, - John and Mary Murphy, Bauravilla

Wednesday 21st April -St Anselm, bishop & Doctor of the Church

10.15am Rath - Special Intention

Skibbereen – Kathleen Ring, Coronea Drive

Thursday 22nd April - 3rd Week of Easter

10.15am Rath – Brendan Nestor, Askeaton

Skibbereen – Special Intention – 50th Wedding Anniversary

Friday 23rd April - 3rd Week of Easter, St George, martyr

10.15am Rath - Aileen Smyth, Swords Dublin

Skibbereen - Pat Cleary, Market Street

Saturday 24th April- St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, priest and martyr

7.30pm Rath – Special Intention

Skibbereen- William (Billy) Hurley, Gortnaclohy

Sunday 25th April - Fourth Sunday of Easter

10.15am Rath – Paddy Connolly, Skibbereen & Kinsale

Skibbereen - Junior Berry, Thornhill, Skibbereen

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

Feasts this week:

21st: St Anselm from Lombardy joined the monastic school at Bee in Normandy in 1059 under the direction of Lanfranc whom he succeeded as Archbishop of Canterbury. He was exiled twice and died in 1109

23rd:St George was venerated as a soldier saint at Lydda in the Holy Land where he was probably martyred around the year 300. He is patron saint of England.

24th: St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, 1578-1622, a Capuchin who preached to the Calvinists in Switzerland, where he was killed by a group of extremists.

Getting Married soon?

ACCORD Catholic Marriage Care Service provides Marriage Preparation courses for couples choosing to get married in the Catholic Church. We wish to express our congratulations and best wishes to them both as they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage.

The Church rejoices in their decision to get married and offers its continued support to them as they journey together. The Church (the people of God) sees their marriage as a sign of God's love among us. As ministers of the Sacrament of Marriage to each other you choose to live your married lives within the community of the Church.

The Sacrament enriches their lives in a very special way, but it also enriches the community in which they will live. They become witnesses for Marriage to all with whom they make contact. Parents, family members, friends, colleagues and neighbours celebrate entry into Marriage and by their attendance at their wedding ceremony offer their continued support to them for their future.

Your decision to get married is a sign of your love and of your desire to be together as husband and wife.

ACCORD in helping you to prepare for your Marriage is privileged to be part of your journey and offers you its continued support throughout your married life.

<https://www.accord.ie/services/marriage-preparation>

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

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 Spring Dues envelopes and the Easter offering envelopes are now available at the back of the Church. Thank you for your continued support for the priests' of the Parish.

We invite you to return your **Trocaire Donations** to the Parish Office, North Street, or the Sacristy in Skibbereen or Rath.

'The Rath & The Islands Parish Assembly met on Tuesday 6th April via Zoom.
Topics discussed were as follows:
1) Funeral Teams: A number of people have volunteered but very few from Rath, if interested please contact Fr Michael. An introduction meeting will be held via Zoom by the end of the month.
2) Finance: Accounts have been finalised and close to final signatures. Funds are low but insurance has been paid. The present Finance Committee has served their 6 years so formation of new Finance Committees are under way.
3) Easter: Disappointment over internet issues on Holy Thursday, which is being followed up with the web supplier.
Many thanks to all involved in preparing the church with Siobhan O'Brien's Easter Garden being a highlight. Thank you also to Nuala for the music throughout the Easter services. Finally thanks to Geraldine McCarthy for the Facebook updates.'
Take care & stay safe,
Maeve Devlin

Background to the Synodal Pathway

On 10 March 2021, the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference announced a new Synodal Pathway for the Catholic Church in Ireland leading to the holding of a National Synodal Assembly within the next five years.

Since Pope Francis hosted the 2018 Ordinary General Assembly of Bishops in Rome, on the theme of *Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment*, bishops in Ireland have been giving active consideration to calling a National Synodal Assembly for the local Church here.

Conversations at local, regional and national level have informed the work of a dedicated subgroup of the Bishops' Conference which was established to further explore this idea. During their 2020 Winter General Meeting, bishops decided to proceed along a synodal pathway, and, since then, have been assisted and greatly encouraged by Cardinal Mario Grech and Sr Natalie Becquart, of the General Secretariat for the Synod of Bishops in Rome. Cardinal Grech and Sr Becquart addressed the Irish Bishops on the theme of synodality on 3 February 2021.

The Initial Phase – Prayer, Listening, Consultation, Discernment

The initial two-year phase of embarking on the synodal pathway and leading, in time, to a National Synod, helpfully coincides with preparation for the 2022 Ordinary General Assembly of Bishops in Rome entitled, *For a synodal Church: communion, participation and mission*.

Bishops envisage the next two years as a period of prayer, listening and discernment, involving a nationwide consultative conversation on this theme. This will allow individuals and parishes, religious orders and associations as well as groups, movements and organisations both within the Church and in Irish society at large, to share their insights into the Church in Ireland – past, present and future. It will also include discussion and debate via related information sessions and educational programmes on the meaning and processes of synodality. Best practice in listening and synodal processes and assemblies at home and around the world will be researched.



Initial Submissions Easter to Pentecost 2021

Before embarking on the Synodal Pathway consultation, between Easter (5 April) and Pentecost (23 May), 2021, bishops are inviting submissions to reflect on what methods (model/s?) to adopt in these coming two years of conversations. For example: focus groups, questionnaires, deep-listening sessions; written

submissions; family-focused gatherings; summary of findings of assemblies that have already taken place across dioceses; and/or conferences.

These submissions, in not more than 300 words, are not yet about the themes for the Synod but rather how to go about this phase of setting up the initial conversations.

Question: What would be your preferred option for engagement in a conversation process about the Synod?

Answers to: <https://www.catholicbishops.ie/synod/submissions>

St VINCENT DE PAUL. CONTACT NUMBER; 087 9182698

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS —TEL; 087 6114946

Suicide 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

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

South Doc: 1850 335 999

The Powerful Novena St Padre Pio prayed daily for all who asked his prayers

When Padre Pio was living, thousands of people all over the world would visit him and write to him on a regular basis requesting his prayers for various intentions. Everyday he would pray a novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for all those who requested His prayers. It was very efficacious as many people received an answer to their prayers. We too can pray this novena daily asking the Lord to grant peace and eternal salvation to all we love. The following is the prayer St Pio use to say.

O my Jesus, you have said: “Truly I say to you, ask and it will be given you, seek and you will find, knock and it will be opened to you.” Behold I knock, I seek and ask for the grace of *[insert your intention.]*

Our Father...Hail Mary...Glory be to the Father...Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

II. O my Jesus, you have said: “Truly I say to you, if you ask any thing of the Father in my name, He will give it to you.” Behold, in your name, I ask the Father for the grace of *[insert your intention.]*

Our Father...Hail Mary...Glory be to the Father...Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

III. O my Jesus, you have said: “Truly I say to you, heaven and earth will pass away but my words will not pass away.” Encouraged by your infallible words I now ask for the grace of *[insert your intention.]*

Our Father...Hail Mary...Glory be to the Father...Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, for whom it is impossible not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity on us miserable sinners and grant us the grace which we ask of you, through the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, your tender mother and ours.

Say the Hail Holy Queen prayer and add: St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus, pray for us.

Why should we pray the Rosary?

Saints say it. Popes say it.

The Rosary is a powerful weapon against evil. But have you stopped to figure out why?

Here are just three reasons why the Rosary prayer is the most powerful and how you can use it most fully.

1. It Engages Your Will. The human will is powerful because it is a sharing in God’s power. He gives us the will to choose to do good or to do evil — and that will, in and of itself, is a powerful weapon in the spiritual realm. That’s why Satan seeks to enslave us and incapacitate our will through addictions. When our will is joined with God’s will through prayer we literally tap into God’s own power source.

2. It is Physical. God has given us bodies and souls. Angels — and this includes demons — are purely spiritual creatures. They have no physical form and are therefore inferior to us. When we pray the Rosary we use our bodies. We hold the rosary beads with a crucifix. If possible we should adopt an intentionally physical posture for prayer — either walking, kneeling or sitting attentively. If possible we should also use other physical sacramentals like blessed candles, holy water, maybe some incense and holy pictures or statues. When we use the physical aspects of prayer we are using tools that we have and which Satan does not have.

3. It Engages our Linguistic Functions. God has not only given us bodies — he has given us physical speech. We have tongues to praise him. We have vocal chords and breath to speak and sing. Satan does not have the means of physical speech. Animals do not have physical speech. Humans do. Therefore we should pray the Rosary out loud, moving our lips. This engages our physical bodies and our intellect through which we are able to produce speech.

Promises from Our Lady to all who pray the Rosary

1. Whoever shall faithfully serve me by the recitation of the Rosary, shall receive signal graces.
2. I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the Rosary.
3. The Rosary shall be a powerful armor against hell, it will destroy vice, decrease sin, and defeat heresies.
4. It will cause virtue and good works to flourish; it will obtain for souls the abundant mercy of God; it will withdraw the heart of men from the love of the world and its vanities, and will lift them to the desire of eternal things. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means.
5. The soul which recommends itself to me by the recitation of the Rosary shall not perish.
6. Whoever shall recite the Rosary devoutly, applying himself to the consideration of its sacred mysteries, shall never be conquered and never overwhelmed by misfortune. God will not chastise him in His justice, he shall not perish by an unprovided death (unprepared for heaven). The sinner shall convert. The just shall grow in grace and become worthy of eternal life.
7. Whoever shall have a true devotion for the Rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.
8. Those who are faithful to recite the Rosary shall have, during their life and at their death, the light of God and the plenitude of His graces; at the moment of death they shall participate in the merits of the saints in paradise.
9. I shall deliver from purgatory those who have been devoted to the Rosary.
10. The faithful children of the Rosary shall merit a high degree of glory in heaven.
11. You shall obtain all you ask of me by the recitation of the Rosary.
12. All those who propagate the holy Rosary shall be aided by me in their necessities.
13. I have obtained from my Divine Son that all the advocates of the Rosary shall have for intercessors the entire celestial court during their life and at the hour of death.
14. All who recite the Rosary are my sons, and brothers of my only son Jesus Christ.
15. Devotion of my Rosary is a great sign of predestination.