

# 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.

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) 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](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)

### Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June - 12<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time

4.45pm Sherkin - Special Intention

6.30pm Skibbereen - Pat Fehily, Rosscarbery

7.30pm Rath Vigil – John & Hannah Sheehy and Angela Sheehy, Creagh

### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June - Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.00am Skibbereen - Special Intention

10. 15am Rath – Neilie Bohane, Droumadoon

11.30am Skibbereen - Marie Keane, Coomnageehy

### Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June - St Irenaeus, bishop and martyr

9.30am Skibbereen – Florence Lynch, Townshend Street

10.15am Rath - Special Intention

### Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June - SS Peter and Paul, apostles

10.15am Rath – Irene Coughlan Cork & Dublin

### Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June - The First Martyrs of Rome

9.30am Skibbereen – Pauline Butler, Galleyhead Lighthouse

10.15am Rath - Barry St John Ryan, Barry Jnr & Niamh O'Connor

### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 St Oliver Plunkett, bishop and martyr

10.15am Rath - Special Intention

### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July - 13<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time

9.30am Skibbereen - Special Intention

10.15am Rath - Special Intention

### Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July - St Thomas, apostle

4.45pm Sherkin - Special Intention

6.30pm Skibbereen - Special Intention

7.30pm Rath Vigil – Mary Leonard, Reengaroga

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July - Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.00am Skibbereen - Yvonne Gilmartin, Lucan & late of Skibbereen

10. 15am Rath – Paddy Holland, South Rath

11.30am Skibbereen - Derry and Angela O'Byrne, Coronea

**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

**Confessions** - Skibbereen - Saturday morning at 10.15am

### Feasts this week:

**28<sup>th</sup>: St Irenaeus** lived just after the time of the apostles and knew those who had seen and talked with them. He became Bishop of Lyons, the largest trading centre in Gaul. The note of moderation, the desire to win people to Christianity by love rather than by fear, was apparent in all of Irenaeus' work.

**29<sup>th</sup>: Ss Peter and Paul.** On the day traditionally considered in pagan Rome to be its foundation day by Romulus, we celebrate the twin founders of the Church in Rome. St Peter died by crucifixion and St Paul by beheading between 64 and 67.

**30<sup>th</sup>: The First Martyrs of Rome,** in addition to Ss Peter and Paul, died under Nero in the year 64.

**1st: St Oliver Plunkett** from Irish nobility whose family supported King Charles I. Ordained in Rome in 1 654 he became a professor of theology from 1 654 until appointed Archbishop of Armagh in 1669. He ministered in Armagh, though forced to work in a covert way during the suppression of priests. He was arrested and tried at Dundalk in 1679 for conspiring against the state. It was seen that Oliver would never be convicted in Ireland, and he was moved to Newgate prison, London. He was found guilty of high treason 'for promoting the Catholic faith', and was condemned to a gruesome death. He was hanged, drawn and quartered on 1 July 1 681 at Tyburn, in London. He was the last Catholic to die for his faith at Tyburn, and the first of the Irish martyrs to be beatified in 1920. He was canonised by Pope Paul VI on 12 October 1975. He is buried at Downside Abbey, England; his head is venerated in St Peter's Church, Drogheda.

**3<sup>rd</sup>: St Thomas** is said to have preached the gospel in India where he was martyred. The faith that led him to know Christ in his wounds also sent him to the farthest places to preach Christ.

We ask our Parishioners to be aware of the changes to the traffic system on North Street. **A One-Way System will be in place From Monday June 21st to Monday Sept 6th.**

**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.

## Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion 2021 Confirmation Class of 2020

Unfortunately, the Government Restrictions continue until July 5<sup>th</sup> 2021.

Skibbereen and Rath and the Island Parishes, following discussion with Skibbereen Community School, plan to have the Confirmation Ceremony in early September for those who have now completed their first year.

Around early to mid-September we plan to have the Confirmation Ceremony for the class completing primary school this year.

## First Holy Communion and First Penance

The Parishes of Rath and the Island and Skibbereen, following discussion with the five primary schools involved, propose to have the First Holy Communion Ceremonies towards the end of September/early October. We will finalise dates in early September. Obviously, all this is subject to any Covid restrictions that may prevail at the time.

In recent weeks we celebrated the Sacrament of First Penance with the 65 young people who are preparing to receive their First Communion in the Autumn. Many thanks to everyone involved, in their families, in their school community and in our parishes for what were very prayerful and meaningful occasions.

## A prayer for my grandparents

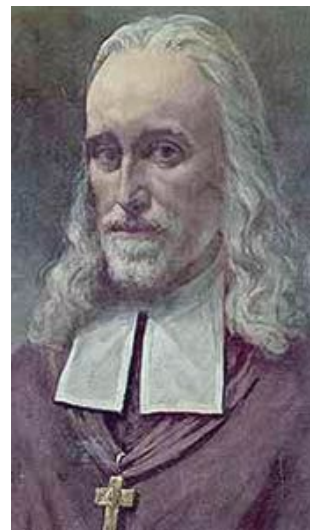
(a prayer for grandchildren to say)

Dear Father, We thank you for our wonderful grandparents. They bring such joy and happiness into our lives. Thank you for all the special times that we have with them. Please watch over them, protect them and care for them now. May they know your goodness and love always. Amen.

Read more at: [https://www.lords-prayer-words.com/family/prayer\\_for\\_grandparents.html](https://www.lords-prayer-words.com/family/prayer_for_grandparents.html)

**Oliver Plunkett** (or **Oliver Plunket**) (Irish: *Oilibhéar Pluincéid*), (1 November 1625 – 1 July 1681) was the Catholic Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland who was the last victim of the Popish Plot. He was beatified in 1920 and canonised in 1975, thus becoming the first new Irish saint for almost seven hundred years.

Oliver Plunkett was born on 1 November 1625 (earlier biographers gave his date of birth as 1 November 1629, but 1625 has been the consensus since the 1930s) in Loughcrew, County Meath, Ireland, to well-to-do parents with Hiberno-Norman ancestors. A grandson of James Plunket, 8th Baron Killeen (died 1595), he was related by birth to a number of landed families, such as the recently ennobled Earls of Roscommon, as well as the long-established Earls of Fingall, Lords Louth, and Lords Dunsany. Until his sixteenth year, the boy's education was entrusted to his cousin Patrick Plunkett, Abbot of St Mary's, Dublin and brother of Luke Plunkett, the first Earl of Fingall, who later became successively Bishop of Ardagh and of Meath. As an aspirant to the priesthood he set out for Rome in 1647, under the care of Father Pierfrancesco Scarampi of the Roman Oratory. At this time the Irish Confederate Wars were raging in Ireland; these were essentially conflicts between native Irish Catholics, English and Irish Anglicans and Nonconformists. Scarampi was the Papal envoy to the Catholic movement known as the Confederation of Ireland. Many of Plunkett's relatives were involved in this organisation.



*Portrait of Oliver Plunkett*

He was admitted to the Irish College in Rome and proved to be an able pupil. He was ordained a priest in 1654, and deputed by the Irish bishops to act as their representative in Rome. Meanwhile, the Cromwellian conquest of Ireland (1649–53) had defeated the Catholic cause in Ireland; in the aftermath the public practice of Catholicism was banned and Catholic clergy were executed. As a result, it was impossible for Plunkett to return to Ireland for many years. He petitioned to remain in Rome and, in 1657, became a professor of theology. Throughout the period of the Commonwealth and the first years of Charles II's reign, he successfully pleaded the cause of the Irish Catholic Church, and also served as theological professor at the College of Propaganda Fide. At the Congregation of Propaganda Fide on 9 July 1669 he was appointed Archbishop of Armagh, the Irish primatial see, and was consecrated on 30 November at Ghent by the Bishop of Ghent, Eugene-Albert, count d'Allamont. He eventually set foot on Irish soil again on 7 March 1670, as the English Restoration of 1660 had begun on a basis of toleration. The pallium was granted him in the Consistory of 28 July 1670. After arriving back in Ireland, he tackled drunkenness among the clergy, writing: "Let us remove this defect from an Irish priest, and he will be a saint". The Penal Laws had been relaxed in line with the Declaration of Breda in 1660 and he was able to establish a Jesuit College in Drogheda in 1670. A year later 150 students attended the college, no fewer than 40 of whom were Protestant, making this college the first integrated school in Ireland. His ministry was a successful one and he is said to have confirmed 48,000 Catholics over a 4-year period. The government in Dublin, especially under the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, the Duke of Ormonde (the Protestant son of Catholic parents) extended a generous measure of toleration to the Catholic hierarchy until the mid-1670s. Plunkett was executed in Tyburn, England on the 1st July 1681. He was hanged, drawn, and quartered for treason and "promoting the Roman faith."

*Oliver Plunkett - Wikipedia*

## Recently Baptised

Jamal Idris Liam Yusuf Abaker, Pound Hill

*God our Father, You always work to save us, and now we rejoice in the great love you give to your chosen people. Protect all who have become your children and continue to bless those who are already baptised.*

## Recently Deceased

Vincent O'Sullivan, Cork and late of Sherkin Island

Hannah (Christine) Gaynor (nee O'Brien) Dublin and late of Skibbereen

Thomas (Tommy) O'Donovan St Fachtna's Terrace and late of Caheragh

Noelle McCarthy (nee Pyburne) Timoleague and late of Kilnagospagh, 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*

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

**South Doc: 1850 335 999**



The first Pope of the Americas Jorge Mario Bergoglio hails from Argentina. The 76-year-old Jesuit Archbishop of Buenos Aires is a prominent figure throughout the continent, yet remains a simple pastor who is deeply loved by his diocese, throughout which he has travelled extensively on the underground and by bus during the 15 years of his episcopal ministry.

“My people are poor and I am one of them”, he has said more than once, explaining his decision to live in an apartment and cook his own supper. He has always advised his priests to show mercy and apostolic courage and to keep their doors open to everyone. The worst thing that could happen to the Church, he has said on various occasions, “is what de Lubac called spiritual worldliness”, which means, “being self-centred”. And when he speaks of social justice, he calls people first of all to pick up the *Catechism*, to rediscover the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes. His project is simple: if you follow Christ, you understand that “trampling upon a person’s dignity is a serious sin”.

Despite his reserved character — his official biography consists of only a few lines, at least until his appointment as Archbishop of Buenos Aires — he became a reference point because of the strong stances he took during the dramatic financial crisis that overwhelmed the country in 2001.

He was born in Buenos Aires on 17 December 1936, the son of Italian immigrants. His father Mario was an accountant employed by the railways and his mother Regina Sivori was a committed wife dedicated to raising their five children. He graduated as a chemical technician and then chose the path of the priesthood, entering the Diocesan Seminary of Villa Devoto. On

11 March 1958 he entered the novitiate of the Society of Jesus. He completed his studies of the humanities in Chile and returned to Argentina in 1963 to graduate with a degree in philosophy from the Colegio de San José in San Miguel. From 1964 to 1965 he taught literature and psychology at Immaculate Conception College in Santa Fé and in 1966 he taught the same subject at the Colegio del Salvador in Buenos Aires. From 1967-70 he studied theology and obtained a degree from the Colegio of San José.

On 13 December 1969 he was ordained a priest by Archbishop Ramón José Castellano. He continued his training between 1970 and 1971 at the University of Alcalá de Henares, Spain, and on 22 April 1973 made his final profession with the Jesuits. Back in Argentina, he was novice master at Villa Barilari, San Miguel; professor at the Faculty of Theology of San Miguel; consultor to the Province of the Society of Jesus and also Rector of the Colegio Máximo of the Faculty of Philosophy and Theology.

On 31 July 1973 he was appointed Provincial of the Jesuits in Argentina, an office he held for six years. He then resumed his work in the university sector and from 1980 to 1986 served once again as Rector of the Colegio de San José, as well as parish priest, again in San Miguel. In March 1986 he went to Germany to finish his doctoral thesis; his superiors then sent him to the Colegio del Salvador in Buenos Aires and next to the Jesuit Church in the city of Córdoba as spiritual director and confessor.

It was Cardinal Antonio Quarracino, Archbishop of Buenos Aires, who wanted him as a close collaborator. So, on 20 May 1992 Pope John Paul II appointed him titular Bishop of Auca and Auxiliary of Buenos Aires. On 27 May he received episcopal ordination from the Cardinal in the cathedral. He chose as his episcopal motto, *miserando atque eligendo*, and on his coat of arms inserted the *ihs*, the symbol of the Society of Jesus.

He gave his first interview as a bishop to a parish newsletter, *Estrellita de Belém*. He was immediately appointed Episcopal Vicar of the Flores district and on 21 December 1993 was also entrusted with the office of Vicar General of the Archdiocese. Thus it came as no surprise when, on 3 June 1997, he was raised to the dignity of Coadjutor Archbishop of Buenos Aires. Not even nine months had passed when, upon the death of Cardinal Quarracino, he succeeded him on 28 February 1998, as Archbishop, Primate of Argentina and Ordinary for Eastern-rite faithful in Argentina who have no Ordinary of their own rite.

Three years later at the Consistory of 21 February 2001, John Paul II created him Cardinal, assigning him the title of San Roberto Bellarmino. He asked the faithful not to come to Rome to celebrate his creation as Cardinal but rather to donate to the poor what they would have spent on the journey. As Grand Chancellor of the Catholic University of Argentina, he is the author of the books: *Meditaciones para religiosos* (1982), *Reflexiones sobre la vida apostólica* (1992) and *Reflexiones de esperanza* (1992).

In October 2001 he was appointed General Relator to the 10th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on the Episcopal Ministry. This task was entrusted to him at the last minute to replace Cardinal Edward Michael Egan, Archbishop of New York, who was obliged to stay in his homeland because of the terrorist attacks on September 11th. At the Synod he placed particular emphasis on “the prophetic mission of the bishop”, his being a “prophet of justice”, his duty to “preach ceaselessly” the social doctrine of the Church and also “to express an authentic judgement in matters of faith and morals”.

All the while Cardinal Bergoglio was becoming ever more popular in Latin America. Despite this, he never relaxed his sober approach or his strict lifestyle, which some have defined as almost “ascetic”. In this spirit of poverty, he declined to be appointed as President of the Argentine Bishops’ Conference in 2002, but three years later he was elected and then, in 2008, reconfirmed for a further three-year mandate. Meanwhile in April 2005 he took part in the Conclave in which Pope Benedict XVI was elected.

As Archbishop of Buenos Aires — a diocese with more than three million inhabitants — he conceived of a missionary project based on communion and evangelization. He had four main goals: open and brotherly communities, an informed laity playing a lead role, evangelization efforts addressed to every inhabitant of the city, and assistance to the poor and the sick. He aimed to reevangelize Buenos Aires, “taking into account those who live there, its structure and its history”. He asked priests and lay people to work together. In September 2009 he launched the solidarity campaign for the bicentenary of the Independence of the country. Two hundred charitable agencies are to be set up by 2016. And on a continental scale, he expected much from the impact of the message of the Aparecida Conference in 2007, to the point of describing it as the “*Evangelii Nuntiandi* of Latin America”.

Until the beginning of the recent *sede vacante*, he was a member of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, the Congregation for the Clergy, the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, the Pontifical Council for the Family and the Pontifical Commission for Latin America.

He was elected Supreme Pontiff on 13 March 2013.

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/biography/documents/papa-francesco-biografia-bergoglio.html>