

# 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 28<sup>th</sup> August - St Augustine, bishop and doctor of the Church**  
4.45pm Sherkin - Special Intention

6.30pm Skibbereen - Helen Kirou, St Fachtna's Tce - Months Mind

7.30pm Rath - Daniel and Bridie O'Driscoll, Ballylynch

**Sun 29<sup>th</sup> August -Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9.00am Skibbereen - Eileen O'Sullivan, Shountellig

10. 15am Rath - Special Intention

11.30am Skibbereen - Joan Connolly, Coronea, Skibbereen

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August - St Fiacre, monk**

9.30am Skibbereen – Special Intention

10.15am Rath - Special Intention

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August - St Aidan of Lindisfarne, bishop and missionary**

10.15am Rath - Special Intention

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September - 22<sup>nd</sup> Week in Ordinary Time**

9.30am Skibbereen – Special Intention

10.15am Rath - Special Intention

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September - 22<sup>nd</sup> Week in Ordinary Time**

10.15am Rath - Special Intention

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – St Gregory the Great, pope and doctor of the Church**

9.30am Skibbereen - Ellen Lane, Ringaskiddy

10.15am Rath - Special Intention

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September - St Mac Nissi, bishop**

4.45pm Sherkin - Special Intention

6.30pm Skibbereen - Patrick Conlon 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary

7.30pm Rath - Special Intention

**Sun 5<sup>th</sup> September - Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9.00am Skibbereen - David Hourihane, Abbey View, Coronea

10. 15am Rath – John Finn, Riverdale & Longford

11.30am Skibbereen - Legion of Mary Centenary Mass

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

### 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

**30<sup>th</sup>: St Fiacre** was an Irishman who went abroad to seek a hermitage. He passed through Normandy and eventually met Faro, who was a great patron of Irish pilgrims at Meaux. Fiachre was given a hermitage near Breuil and there he stayed until his death around 670.

**31<sup>st</sup>: St Aidan of Lindisfarne** was of Irish descent and was a monk of Iona. When Oswald, the exiled King of Northumbria who had fled for refuge to Iona, returned to his throne in 634, he invited Aidan to come to reconvert his people. Aidan made his headquarters at Lindisfarne. With the aid of the king as interpreter he was very successful in his mission. He died in 651

**3<sup>rd</sup> September: St Gregory the Great, 540-604.** A Roman noble who was Prefect of the City before becoming a monk. As pope he established a pattern for the papacy in years to come. He sent missions to Lombardy, Sardinia and England. Patron of musicians.

**4<sup>th</sup>: St Mac Nissi.** Oengus Mac Nissi took his name from his mother Cnes or Ness. It is claimed that Patrick baptised him and taught him the psalms. He chose the district of Connor for his hermitage, but later became bishop of his clan. He died early in the sixth century

### Recently Baptised

Paige Eliza Crowley, Coronea, Skibbereen

Cara Ann O'Regan, Ballyisland, Skibbereen

*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

Pat O'Donovan, Cork Road

*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*

**Marriages:** At least 3 months' notice; Please contact one of the priests or the office for further information.

**Baptisms:** Please contact the parish office (028 22828) to arrange your Child's baptism.

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

**Priest on Duty this**

**week:** Fr Evin

Emergency only

086-7852262.

Fri, 20 Aug. 2021

Dear Father

In recent days I have received a number of enquiries in relation to the celebration of the Sacraments of First Penance, First Holy Communion and Confirmation in parishes.

The situation is unchanged in that these celebrations cannot be arranged in parishes at this time.

Hopefully the promised government announcement at the end of this month will be clear as to when these celebrations can safely resume and parishes can then begin to make arrangements. At this time, not even provisional arrangements should be made for these celebrations to avoid possible disappointment for families, parishes and schools who continue to be very patient.

I appreciate how difficult and disappointing this is for you, the children, their families and all involved. I will be in touch with you in early September when hopefully matters will be clearer.

With prayerful good wishes

Your sincerely in Christ

✠ Fintan Gavin, Bishop of Cork and Ross

#### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION 1**

September:

This World Day of Prayer offers to individual believers and to the community a precious opportunity to renew our personal participation in this vocation as custodians of creation, raising to God our thanks for the marvellous works that he has entrusted to our care, invoking his help for the protection of creation and his mercy for the sins committed against the world in which we live. The celebration of the Day on the same date as the Orthodox Church will be a valuable opportunity to bear witness to our growing communion with our orthodox brothers. We live in a time where all Christians are faced with identical and important challenges and we must give common replies to these in order to appear more credible and effective.

*Pope Francis*

#### **Covid 19 Stewarding for Masses**

As our summer of gradually opening up from the Covid restrictions on public worship there are a few things that we need to acknowledge:

Firstly, thank you for your cooperation with the wearing of masks during Masses. This is a strict instruction from the government but we are aware that some people find it challenging.

Secondly, thank you for your cooperation with the Covid stewards. This cooperation gave a lot of reassurance to those who were hesitant about coming back to Mass.

Thirdly, we want to thank the Covid stewards themselves and those who organised that there would be somebody there for each Mass. Their advice and suggestions helped our parish to find its way through the many changes of government guidelines.

Now we want to ask your help!

We will need additional Covid stewards for the Autumn/Winter to fill vacancies left by students returning to college etc. If you could let the stewards at the Mass that you normally attend know when you would be available they will organise it from there.

**Pat O'Donovan RIP**, Sacristan, Skibbereen Cathedral for over thirty years from 1982. During this past week many people have expressed their appreciation of Pat's work as sacristan. He helped so many families through the difficult time of a family funeral. He was with people through the occasions of weddings and baptisms. I know that families and our local schools appreciated his cooperation in preparing for First Communions and Confirmations. This is the public face of the work of a sacristan. Behind the scenes there is the ordering of breads and wine and other church requisites as well as the maintaining and cleaning of the Cathedral. As priests and people came and went Pat and Helen continued to be a constant presence working with people and caring for our Cathedral church.

**The Catholic Catechism** PART FOUR: CHRISTIAN PRAYER/ SECTION ONE / PRAYER IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE/ CHAPTER THREE THE LIFE OF PRAYER /Article 1 EXPRESSIONS OF PRAYER/ II. Meditation

2705 Meditation is above all a quest. the mind seeks to understand the why and how of the Christian life, in order to adhere and respond to what the Lord is asking. the required attentiveness is difficult to sustain. We are usually helped by books, and Christians do not want for them: the Sacred Scriptures, particularly the Gospels, holy icons, liturgical texts of the day or season, writings of the spiritual fathers, works of spirituality, the great book of creation, and that of history the page on which the "today" of God is written.

2706 To meditate on what we read helps us to make it our own by confronting it with ourselves. Here, another book is opened: the book of life. We pass from thoughts to reality. To the extent that we are humble and faithful, we discover in meditation the movements that stir the heart and we are able to discern them. It is a question of acting truthfully in order to come into the light: "Lord, what do you want me to do?"

2707 There are as many and varied methods of meditation as there are spiritual masters. Christians owe it to themselves to develop the desire to meditate regularly, lest they come to resemble the three first kinds of soil in the parable of the sower.<sup>5</sup> But a method is only a guide; the important thing is to advance, with the Holy Spirit, along the one way of prayer: Christ Jesus.

2708 Meditation engages thought, imagination, emotion, and desire. This mobilization of faculties is necessary in order to deepen our convictions of faith, prompt the conversion of our heart, and strengthen our will to follow Christ. Christian prayer tries above all to meditate on the mysteries of Christ, as in lectio divina or the rosary. This form of prayerful reflection is of great value, but Christian prayer should go further: to the knowledge of the love of the Lord Jesus, to union with him.

[https://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/\\_INDEX.HTM](https://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_INDEX.HTM)

**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**