

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; Dolores Ruane; Secretary – Brigid O'Driscoll.

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

Saturday 5th March 2022- After Ash Wednesday St Kieran, bishop

4.45pm Sherkin Island: - Special Intention

6.30pm Cathedral: - Mary Deasy, Union Hall

7.30pm Rath: - Tessie Sheehy, Ballylynch

Sunday 6th March - First Sunday of Lent

9.00 am Cathedral: - Geraldine Hurley, Poundlick

10.00am Cape Clear: - Special Intention

10.15 am Rath: - Bob Crowley, Market Street

11.30 am Cathedral - Michael Walsh, Dunmanway

Monday 7th March - Ss Perpetua & Felicity, martyrs

9.30am Cathedral - Florence Lynch, Coronea

10.15am Rath - Special Intention

Tuesday 8th March – St Senan, bishop

9.30am Cathedral – Anna McCarthy, Coronea

Wednesday 9th March - St Francis of Rome, religious

9.30am Cathedral – Kitty Gough, Strabally, Waterford

10.15am Rath – Special Intention

Thursday 10th March - 1st Week of Lent

9.30am Cathedral - Mary O'Regan, Coronea

Friday 11th March – St Aungus, bishop and abbot

9.30am Cathedral – James Connolly & Gerard McMahon

10.15am Rath – Special Intention

Saturday 12th March - 1st Week of Lent

4.45pm Sherkin Island: - Special Intention

6.30pm Cathedral: - May O'Mahony, Dromig

7.30pm Rath: - Angela Sheehy, Creagh

Sunday 12th March - Second Sunday of Lent

9.00 am Cathedral: - Jim McCullagh, Mill Road

10.00am Cape Clear: - Special Intention

10.15 am Rath: - Donie O'Regan

11.30 am Cathedral - Colm Crowley, Inchinagotagh

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

Envelopes for the 'Spring Stations' are available in all church porches, from this weekend

Feasts this week

7th: St Perpetua, a young upper-class married woman, and **St Felicity**, a slave girl, were martyred in Carthage, 203.

8th: St Senan was born near Kilrush, 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 Scattery Island, near Kilrush, in the Shannon Estuary. He was anamchara 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.

FRIDAY PENANCE

The following are suggested as ways of fulfilling Friday penance:

- Abstaining from meat or some other food.
 - Abstaining from alcoholic drink or smoking.
 - Making a special effort at involvement in family prayer.
 - Making a special effort to participate in Mass on Fridays.
 - Visiting the Blessed Sacrament.
 - Making the Stations of the Cross.
- Fasting from all food for a longer period than usual and perhaps giving what is saved to the needy.
- Helping the poor, sick, old, or lonely.

From the statement on Friday Penance issued by the Bishops' Conference, 2011

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

Confessions - Skibbereen - Saturday morning at 10.15am

Eucharistic Adoration - In the Cathedral - every Saturday morning from 10am to 11am

Priest on Duty this week: Fr Michael
Emergency only
086-7852262.

Trócaire has appealed to the people of Ireland to support its 2022 Lenten appeal which is supporting millions in Zimbabwe suffering from the devastating impact of Covid-19 and climate change. The iconic Trócaire Box – which has been a firm Lent feature in Ireland for almost 50 years – will be rolled out to almost 700,000 homes, schools and churches this week.

This year's appeal highlights how thousands of families in Zimbabwe are struggling with the triple challenges of Covid-19, climate change and a devastated economy. The Trócaire Box features a family – widow Thandekile and her two children – based in Matobo district in southern Zimbabwe who face massive daily challenges in their lives. Recently retired Dublin Gaelic football star and doctor, Noelle Healy, who holds five All-Ireland senior Ladies Football Championship medals, said she is delighted to be supporting the appeal.

Please pick up a **Trócaire** pack from the Church doors.

Mardi Gras and carnival celebrations

Mardi Gras ("Fat Tuesday") refers to events of the Carnival celebration, beginning on or after the feast of Epiphany and culminating on the day before Lent. The carnival celebrations which in many cultures traditionally precede Lent are seen as a last opportunity for excess before Lent begins. Some of the most famous are the Carnival of Barranquilla, the Carnival of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, the Carnival of Venice, Cologne Carnival, the New Orleans Mardi Gras, the Rio de Janeiro carnival, and the Trinidad and Tobago Carnival.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lent>

Rath NS enrolment is currently taking place for incoming pupils 2022/23. Please contact the school - rathnationalsc@gmail.com for more info.

Parking at Mass Times:

It has been brought to our attention that some cars are parked illegally during Mass times. This results in residents being unable to access their cars. Please always adhere to proper parking guidelines.



Lent is a significant season in the year for Christians – a time of solemnity and self-reflection where they confess their failings and resolve to live a more godly life based on the teachings of Jesus Christ. It lasts for just over six weeks leading up to Easter.

Traditionally it was a time of fasting from certain foods such as eggs, meat, fish and fats. Nowadays people might give up a luxury food – such as chocolate. They may also give up an activity such as using social media or drinking alcohol. It is called Lent in English because it is the time of the year when days are lengthening in the northern hemisphere. Like Easter, Lent falls on different dates each year. Christians in different church traditions around the world celebrate slightly different periods of Lent. Some church buildings are made to look more plain during Lent with flowers and other decorations removed.

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In most churches, the first day of Lent is Ash Wednesday. Many Christians go to church that day to seek forgiveness from God for what they have done wrong. In some churches, the priest will take some ash and use it to mark a cross sign on the forehead of each person. It is a symbol of their remorse. The ash is traditionally made from burning palm crosses which were distributed on Palm Sunday the year before (see below). During Lent, many Christians use special studies to guide their times of personal prayer and reflection. The idea of fasting around the time of Easter goes back to the days of the early Church 2,000 years ago. For some years after the resurrection of Jesus Christ, Christians fasted from all food and drink between Good Friday and Easter Sunday – marking the time period between his death and the discovery that his tomb was empty. Lent, as we now know it, has its origins about 900 years after Jesus. There was international agreement that there should be a season of prayer and seeking forgiveness lasting 40 days – plus Sundays – leading up to Easter Sunday. The significance of the time period was that immediately before he began his years of travelling and teaching, Jesus spent 40 days in the desert reflecting on the future of his life.

Traditionally the day before Lent begins is a time for feasting and celebration. All the luxury foods that won't be eaten during Lent are consumed. Given that those foods include eggs, milk and fat – ingredients for pancake batter – it is clear why it became traditional to make pancakes! In the UK, the day is known as Shrove Tuesday – the word 'shrove' is derived from 'shrive' meaning to forgive. In many parts of the world, the day is known as Mardi Gras ('fat Tuesday' in French) and is marked with a carnival.

The fourth Sunday during Lent is Mothering Sunday. In England in the 16th century it was an occasion to appreciate the motherly nature of the Church. More recently it has become a time to honour all mothers.

In the UK, the day is known as Shrove Tuesday – the word 'shrove' is derived from 'shrive' meaning to forgive.

The last week of Lent is Holy Week, which commemorates the final days before Jesus' execution on a cross. It begins with Palm Sunday which marks the day Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. It was a day of triumph when crowds of followers and supporters waved palm branches and laid them on the ground in front of him. In many churches, Christians are given small palm crosses to remember the day. These are the crosses that are burnt the following year to provide ashes for Ash Wednesday. Later in Holy Week, as Lent draws to an end, some Christians mark significant days in the Christian year: Holy Wednesday, when one of Jesus's followers, Judas, agreed to betray him; Maundy Thursday, when Jesus ate his last meal with his followers and was then arrested; and Good Friday, when Jesus was put on trial and executed. Lent ends with Easter Sunday – the day Christians celebrate Jesus rising from the dead.

<https://christianity.org.uk/article/what-is-lent>

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