

# 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; 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](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 21<sup>st</sup> May - Ss Christopher Magallanes,

4.45pm Sherkin Island – Special Intention

6.30pm Cathedral - Frank Galvin, The Abbey

7.30pm Rath - Paddy Cahalane, Ballymacrown

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Sixth Sunday of Easter

9.00am Cathedral – Mary Hurley, Market St

10.00am Cape Clear – Special Intention

10.15 am Rath – Special Intention

11.30 am Cathedral - Pat Cleary, Market Street

### Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May - 6<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter

9.30am Cathedral - Kitty O'Riordan, Cork and late of Driminidy

10.15am Rath - Special Intention

### Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May - 6<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter

9.30am Cathedral –Special Intention

### Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May - St Bede the Venerable,

9.30am Cathedral – Special Intention

10.15am Rath – Special Intention

### Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May - St Philip Neri, priest

9.30am Cathedral - Diarmuid O'Donovan, Coolnagarrane

### Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May - St Augustine of Canterbury

9.30am Cathedral - Special Intention

10.15am Rath - Special Intention

### Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May - 6<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter

4.45pm – Sherkin Island – Special Intention

6.30pm Cathedral - Kit Fitzgerald Glencurragh, Richard Fitzgerald, Glencurragh Months mind

7.30pm Rath: Special Intention

### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May - The Ascension of the Lord

9.00am Cathedral – Special intention

9.00am Cape Clear – Special Intention

10.15am Rath: Mary McDonagh, Dublin and Baltimore

11.30am Cathedral - Annie and Paddy Connolly, Deelish

### Feasts this week

**24<sup>th</sup> May: Day of Prayer for the Church in China - Our Lady of Sheshan** In a Letter written to the faithful of the Catholic Church in China in May 2007, Pope Benedict XVI expressed the hope that today, the memorial of Our Lady Help of Christians who is venerated with such devotion at the Marian shrine of Sheshan in Shanghai, would become a day of prayer for the Church in China. Our Lady of Sheshan, sustain all those in China, who, amid their daily trails, continue to believe, to hope, to love. May they never be afraid to speak of Jesus to the world, and of the world to Jesus. In the statue overlooking the Shrine you lift your Son on high, offering him to the world with open arms in a gesture of love. Help Catholics always to be credible witnesses to this love, ever clinging to the rock of Peter on which the Church is built. Mother of China and all Asia, pray for us, now and for ever. Amen!

*- from the prayer written by Pope*

**25<sup>th</sup>: St Bede, 673-735**, monk of Jarrow, historian and biblical commentator. Patron of scholars.

**26<sup>th</sup>: St Philip Neri, 1515-1595**, founded the Congregation of the Oratory to foster good preaching and to promote holiness of priestly life

**27<sup>th</sup>: St Augustine of Canterbury** was a monk in Rome when sent by Pope Gregory the Great to preach to the English. He became the first Archbishop of Canterbury in the year 597. He is considered the "Apostle to the English" and a founder of the English Church.

Augustine was the prior of a monastery in Rome when Pope Gregory the Great chose him in 595 to lead a mission, usually known as the Gregorian mission, to Britain to Christianize King Æthelberht and his Kingdom of Kent from Anglo-Saxon paganism. Kent was probably chosen because Æthelberht had married a Christian princess, Bertha, daughter of Charibert I the King of Paris, who was expected to exert some influence over her husband. Before reaching Kent, the missionaries had considered turning back, but Gregory urged them on, and in 597, Augustine landed on the Isle of Thanet and proceeded to Æthelberht's main town of Canterbury. King Æthelberht converted to Christianity and allowed the missionaries to preach freely, giving them land to found a monastery outside the city walls.

### Trocaire Lenten Campaign

For those who still have Trocaire boxes to return please hand them into the Sacristy or Parish Office by next week, Thank you.

### Skibbereen First Holy Communion

We congratulate the girls and boys from St Joseph's NS and Abbeystrewry NS who received their First Holy Communion this weekend in St Patrick's Cathedral.

**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

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

### Recently Baptised

Michael Denis O'Riordan, Market Street, Skibbereen  
Twins – Laoise & Eábha Fahy, Mardyke Street Skibbereen  
Noah Joseph McCarthy, Reenmurrigha, Church Cross,  
*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.*

### Vocation to the Priesthood in the Diocese of Cork and Ross

Please contact Fr Cian O'Sullivan on 021 4876171 for further Information regarding a Vocation to Priesthood in the Diocese. There are cards providing more details at all church doors. You are welcome to take one.

### Prayer for the Synod

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen.

<https://synod.corkandross.org/>

### The Synodal Pathway leading to a National Synodal Assembly

On 10 March 2021, the 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. Challenges and Hopes for the Synodal Pathway The challenges and opportunities that provide a context for a synodal pathway leading to a National Synod at this pivotal time for the Church on our island, taken from the Conference website, may be outlined as follows:

Solidarity, Outreach to the Peripheries and the Promise of a New Pentecost *Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation The Joy of the Gospel (Evangelii Gaudium)*, together with his encyclicals *Laudato Si'* and *Fratelli Fratelli* Tutti, offers a challenging framework for the Church of today and tomorrow - calling us in particular to solidarity with the poor, the excluded and those 'on the peripheries', who yearn for the Good News. This calling also includes initiatives of social friendship in favour of our sisters and brothers in other continents. Speaking at the end of the World Meeting of Families in Phoenix Park, Dublin 2018, Pope Francis encouraged the people of Ireland to be open to the work of the Holy Spirit:

who constantly breathes new life into our world, into our hearts, into our families, into our homes and parishes. Each new day in the life of our families, and each new generation, brings the promise of a new Pentecost, a domestic Pentecost, a fresh outpouring of the Spirit, the Paraclete, whom Jesus sends as our Advocate, our Consoler and indeed our Encourager. How much our world needs this encouragement that is God's gift and promise! Listening *to what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church in an /re/and faced with*

*rapid transformation* Secularisation of Society. A synodal pathway leading to a National Synod is

inviting us to journey together in discernment of what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church in Ireland at this time. We are acutely aware of the huge challenges to the faith over the past fifty years from the rapid transformation and secularisation of society in Ireland bringing with it a major decline in practice of the faith and in the number of vocations to the priesthood and the religious life. Shocking Revelations. Like so many others we are appalled by the findings in published reports into institutional and clerical abuse; the recent shocking revelations about Mother and Baby homes in Ireland - north and south – have further reminded us of the deep trauma felt by so many in the Body of Christ and the need for inner healing and hope.

*The Need to Promote Peace-making and a Culture of Welcome.* One hundred years on from the partition of Ireland we also recognise the need for ongoing peace-making, the building of trust and reconciliation, and for a culture of welcome and integration for migrants and the many newcomers who have arrived to live on this island.

Listening *to the Cry* for Transparency. We hear a cry for transparency, greater participation and accountability in the Church.

Discovering *the Family* as 'Domestic Church'. We see the tremendous potential for the support and renewal of faith within the family. The restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic prompted a new discovery of the family as the 'domestic Church'.

Connecting *with Young People*. We are alert to the need to connect with the energy and gifts of our young people, forming and enabling them to be missionaries to each other and inviting them to spread the Good News not only in Ireland but around the world that Christ is *Alive!*

Honouring *the Contribution of Women*. While many women are very engaged in Church life in Ireland, we acknowledge the critical need to honour the contribution of women, to hear their deep concerns, to formally recognise their roles and articulate new models of co-responsibility and leadership involving all lay people- women and men. We are also aware that many people have left Church behind and in some cases feel ignored, excluded or forgotten - we need to hear their voices also.

[www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie)

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

**South Doc: 1850 335 999**