

MASS SCHEDULE FOR 2023 (FROM NEXT SUNDAY, 1 JANUARY)

AUGHADOWN: Kilcoe 10 am, Lisheen 11.30 am
CASTLEHAVEN & MYROSS: Union Hall 10 am, Castlehaven 11.30 am
KILMACABEA: Glandore 10 am, Leap 12 noon.
RATH & THE ISLANDS: Sherkin, Sat 4.45pm, Rath **9.30am**, Oileán Cléire 10am,
SKIBBEREEN (CATHEDRAL): Saturday 6.30 pm, Sunday **11.00 am**

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON (12 DAYS OF JOY)

Mon 26 Dec: St Stephen, first Christian martyr, patron of altar servers and deacons

Tues 27 Dec: St John, Apostle and Evangelist, patron of love, loyalty, friendship.

Wed 28 Dec: The Holy Innocents

Fri 30 Dec: The Holy Family

Sun 1 Jan 2023: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (World Day of Peace).

Fri 6 Jan: The Epiphany of the Lord (holy-day of obligation), *Nollaig na mBan*:

MASSSES: Thursday 6.30 pm Skibbereen;
Fri: 9.30 am Leap & Skibbereen
10 am: Castlehaven & Lisheen
7.30 pm Rath Parish Church.

Study the Scriptures in 2023

Studies in St Matthew's Gospel will commence at the Presbytery, Skibbereen, on Tuesday, 10 January, 7.30 – 9.00 pm. (The Gospel readings this year are taken from St Matthew.) The course is open to participants from the Family of Parishes and beyond, and

The Family of Parishes Newsletter is published at the Cathedral Presbytery, Skibbereen, by a team representing the parishes, with Fr Bernard Co-PP as overall Editor (frbernard1984@gmail.com).

Whilst every care is taken to ensure the accuracy of information, we cannot accept any responsibility for errors or omissions.

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Alcoholics Anonymous, West Cork: phone 087 611 4946 — alcoholicsanonymous.ie
Pieta House Free 24/7 Crisis helpline 1800 247 247 or text HELP to 51444.
St Vincent de Paul, Market St, Skibbereen — Contact Number: **087 918 2698**
Samaritans Phone 116 123 free — www.samaritans.org **Southdoc** 0818 355 999
Women against Violence Helpline 1800 203 136 — westcorkwomensproject.ie

the aim of the course is to deepen your knowledge and appreciation of this important document. The course will be facilitated by Fr Michael Curran MSC (Kilmacabea) and Frances MacMahon (Aughadown).

FINANCE CORNER, SUN 18 DEC

Aughadown €760, Castlehaven €835,
Kilmacabea €1015, Skibbereen €1840
Rath & the Islands (4 & 11 Dec) €1660

NEXT NEWSLETTER: SUNDAY 8 JAN 2023.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Fr John Heinhold SPS Co-PP, Cathedral Presbytery, Skibbereen (Moderator) PHONE: 028 22878
- Fr Evin O'Brien CC, Cathedral Presbytery, Skibbereen.
- Fr Terry O'Brien, MSC Co-PP, Leap (kilmacabeparish@gmail.com) PHONE 028 33177.
- Fr Bernard Cotter Co-PP, Union Hall PHONE 021 201 8172.
- PASTORAL ASSISTANT: Maura O'Flynn, EMAIL mauracatechist@gmail.com
- SECRETARY, Cathedral Presbytery, 1 North St, Skibbereen P81 K767.
Office closed until 4 January 2023.

Family of
Parishes
ICON
(being designed)

Our Family of Parishes
NEWSLETTER

(for the parishes of Aughadown, Castlehaven & Myross,
Kilmacabea, Rath & The Islands, and Skibbereen)

SUNDAY 25 DECEMBER 2022, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

VOL 1: NO. 5

MAKE EVERY DAY A CHRISTMAS DAY

Charles Dickens' story, "A Christmas Carol", is about Ebenezer Scrooge, the mean banker who hoards all his money. On Christmas Eve, he is visited by ghosts of many christmasses — Past, Present and Future. Then he wakes up on Christmas morning, to find he's been given a second chance. He is reconciled with his family, and loves and serves everyone for the rest of his life.

What makes this such a great story is that Scrooge truly wakes up. He decides to spend his life consciously loving and serving others, living every day as if it were Christmas, loving and serving Christ in everyone.

The birth of Jesus Christ is the most in-

spiring of all recorded birth stories. People are touched by the vulnerability of the new-born Saviour, born into the lowliness and humility of a manger with animals. God sent his only Son to be born as one of us. We wake up on Christmas morning to the wonder of the new-born Christ who gives us another chance, not to grasp, but **to be grasped by** the mystery of the Word made flesh. We get the chance to live every day as if it were Christmas, loving and serving Christ in everyone.

Happy Christmas from all the Team!

Maura O'Flynn

Pastoral Assistant, Family of Parishes

EMAIL mauracatechist@gmail.com



Prayer before Christmas Dinner

Our Father in Heaven,
For this Christmas meal you have given
We want to say "Thank you" from our hearts.
Bless the ones who prepared it
And Lord, as we share it,
Will you stay with us
And be our Guest of Honour.



Skibbereen Parish News

Submitting items for inclusion in the parish newsletter – Please email Skibbereen Parish Office: skibbereenparish@gmail.com no later than 5 pm Tuesday.

Mass Intentions from Monday 26th December

Monday - 9.30am – Joe O'Brien, Newbridge, Coronea

Tuesday - 9.30am – Catherine Monica Keating, Lisheen, Church Cross

Wednesday - 9.30am – Denis and Ina Herlihy, Knockskagh, Leap

Thursday - 9.30am – Maura Hayes, Cork Road, Skibbereen

Friday - 9.30am – Special Intention

Saturday 31 Dec - 6.30pm – Denis and Bebe O'Mahony, Newcestown

Sunday - 01st January 11.00am – (Please note change of Mass Time)

Florence and May McCarthy, The Abbey and Ellen Burchill, Gortbrack, Helen O'Brien, St Fachtna's Terrace, Skibbereen

Mass Intentions from Monday 2nd January to Sunday January 8th

Monday – 9.30am - James and Julia O'Sullivan

Tuesday – 9.30am – Pat O'Donovan, Cork Road, Skibbereen

Wednesday - 9.30am - Special Intention

Thursday – 9.30am - Danny O'Donovan, Mardyke Street, Skibbereen

Thursday – 6.30pm Solemnity of the Epiphany Rosemary Kavanagh, Oldcourt

Friday – 9.30am – Kathleen Tobin, Kilcrohane

Saturday 6.30pm Feast of the Baptism of the Lord –

John White, Gortnaclohy,

Bridie Goggin, Mallevonea

Sunday – 11am –

Christy Murphy, Coronea,

Denis Dempsey, Shepperton,

Danny O'Donovan, Mardyke Street, Months Mind

Deaths: - We send our condolences to the families of John Long, Lissalohorig, Skibbereen and Kathleen Mullally, Mardyke Street, Skibbereen whose funerals took place this week

Parish Office Christmas Schedule: The Parish Office is closed from 21st December and will reopen on Wednesday 4th January at 10am.

Pre-signed Mass Cards: are available in the office. Please contact the office by phone on 028 22828 or by email: skibbereenparish@gmail.com if you need Mass Cards.

Wedding: Congratulations to Miriam Long and Tadgh Leahy who celebrated the sacrament of Marriage in St Patrick's Cathedral on Friday 16th December. We wish you both every happiness and blessings for your married life together.

First Holy Communion and Confirmations: Thanks to the parents who attended the meetings that were held over the past few weeks in the Presbytery, Skibbereen. These meetings were held to encourage the parents and suggest ways that they could help their children in their preparations to receive the sacraments. Congratulations to the children of the First Holy Communion and Confirmation classes who have attended and participated in the enrolment Masses. We ask all to remember these children in your prayers.

Skibbereen Parish Pastoral Council: – Meeting on **Thursday 5th January** in the Presbytery, North Street, Skibbereen at **7.30pm**. Commissioning of the New Parish Pastoral Council will take place within the Mass of **Sunday 8th January at 11am**. The Parish Pastoral Council will then officially take their post for three years from 2022 – 2025.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: - We are hoping to reintroduce the Apostolate of Eucharistic Adoration in St Patrick's Cathedral, Skibbereen, beginning the first week of January 2023. You can choose either Monday or Friday (just tick the box) and any hour from 10am until 6pm each day (just tick the box). Please find forms at the porches of St Patrick's Cathedral, complete the form, and return it to the Parish Office by Christmas Day.

Christmas Offering Envelopes: – The Christmas Offering envelopes are available at the porches of the Cathedral. These offerings go towards the income of the priests. We thank you for your support.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS:

Fr Evin and Fr John would like to take this opportunity to wish all a very happy, holy, and safe Christmas 2022. The past few years have not been easy for so many but thank God this year we can gather, without restrictions, to celebrate the Lord's birth with great joy.

Always, at this time we remember our loved ones who are living abroad, and we remember those who have died. We also, at this time of year, welcome many back home or those who will come to visit us. We thank God for all who mean so much to us and, as we share the celebrations of Christmas, we take this time to appreciate all that we have and we place our faith and hope in Jesus, our Saviour, for the coming year 2023. May God bless you all, Amen.



Mass Intentions

Saturday 24th December 2022 - Christmas Eve

8:00pm Rath: Christmas Carols before Mass starting at 7:30pm

Sunday 25th December 2022 – Christmas Day

9:00am Sherkin

10:00am Cape Clear

10:30am Rath: Christmas Carols before Mass starting at 10:00am

Monday 26th December 2022 – St Stephen's Day

10:15am Rath: Pat Joe O'Driscoll, Inane, Reengaroga

Wednesday 28th December 2022

10:15am Rath: Denis & Christine Browne, Baltimore

Friday 30th December 2022

10:15am Rath: Joe Collins

Saturday 31st December 2022

4:45pm Sherkin: Special Intention

7:30 pm Rath: Hannah & John Sheehy, Creagh

Sunday 1st January 2023 – Mary, The Holy Mother of God

9:30am Rath: Helena O'Regan, Ballylynch. **(NOTE TIME CHANGE).**

10:00am Cape Clear: Special Intention

Monday 2nd January 2023

10:15am Rath: Maryann O'Neill, Oldcourt

Wednesday 4th January 2023

10:15am Rath: Special Intention

Friday 6th January 2023 – The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30pm Rath: Denis P & Catherine O'Driscoll, Kilkilleen

Saturday 7th January 2023

4:45pm Sherkin: Special Intention

Sunday 8th January 2023 – The Baptism of the Lord

9:30am Rath: Sean Cahalane, Gorteenlomane

10:00am Cape Clear: Special Intention

Recently Deceased: Donal O'Driscoll, Cobh and Cape Clear

Bernadette (Bernie) O'Connor, late of Dublin, Ballineen and Baltimore

Annie Bohane (née Minihane) Droumadoon, Skibbereen

May they rest in peace.

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Christmas Offering Envelopes: The Christmas Offering envelopes are available at the porches of the Church. These offerings go towards the income of our Priests. We thank you for your support.

Christmas Book of Remembrance: The book for remembering your deceased loved ones is available at the side altar rail. You are invited to write the names of your deceased family members, neighbours, and friends in this book of remembrance. This book will then be placed on the altar for our Christmas Masses.

Parish Office Christmas Schedule: The Parish Office will be closed from Thursday 21st December and will reopen on Wednesday January 4th 2023 at 10.00am.

Baltimore Christmas Day Swim: will take place on Christmas morning at 12 noon. Proceeds in aid of The Wild Atlantic Pool, Baltimore.

The Cork and Ross Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from Friday 22nd - Wednesday 27th September 2023.

Further details are available on www.corkandross.org or via e-mail at lourdes@corkandross.org

Information is also available from Joe Walsh Tours (01 2410800).

Cost: €849 to €899 with a choice of hotels.

People, families and parishes throughout the Diocese are invited to travel to Lourdes with the Diocese in 2023. Those who may wish to travel as helpers, nurses or doctors to assist pilgrims in Lourdes should

contact lourdes@corkandross.org

If you have any items for inclusion in our newsletter, please submit no later than 5pm on Tuesday of each week to the Parish Office, North Street, Skibbereen or email skibbereeparish@gmail.com