

COME TO MASS IN YOUR FAMILY OF PARISHES IN LENT 2023

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS 6.30 PM Skibbereen (Cathedral), [4.45 pm Sherkin].

SUNDAY 9.30 AM MASS: Rath Parish Church.

SUNDAY 10 AM MASS: Glandore, Kilcoe, Oileán Cléire & Union Hall.

SUNDAY 11 AM: Skibbereen. Sunday 11.30 AM: Castlehaven & Lisheen

SUNDAY 12 NOON MASS: Leap Parish Church.

THIS WEEK

Friday next is the “Worldwide Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Sexual Abuse”, which is kept on the First Friday of Lent each year since 2017.

“Lord, we are sorry
for what some of us did to your children;
treated them so cruelly,
especially in their hour of need.
We left them with a lifelong suffering.
This was not your plan for them or us.
Please help us to help them.
Guide us, Lord. Amen”

—From the healing stone at Lough Derg

THINGS TO DO FOR LENT

— Try something new every day —

DAY 1, ASH WED: Smile more often!

DAY 2, THURSDAY 23 FEB:

Turn off lights, save energy.

DAY 3, FRIDAY 24 FEB:

Fast from television/screens today.

DAY 4, SATURDAY 25 FEB:

Write an overdue letter or email.

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

FINANCE CORNER, SUN 12 FEB

AUGHADOWN: €985 (Lourdes €780)

CASTLEHAVEN: €1035 (Lourdes €750)

KILMACABEA: €1070

SKIBBEREEN (CATHEDRAL): €1,350

Lourdes pilgrimage fund €1345

• Don't miss the Solemn Easter Vigil 2023 on Saturday 8 April in the Cathedral, Skibbereen (9pm), one united vigil for our Family of Parishes.

FAMILY OF PARISHES INFORMATION

• Fr John Heinhold SPS Co-PP, Cathedral Presbytery, Skibbereen (Moderator)

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• Fr Evin O'Brien CC, Cathedral Presbytery, Skibbereen. PHONE 028 22877

• Fr Terry O'Brien, MSC Co-PP, Leap (kilmacabeparish@gmail.com)

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• Fr Bernard Cotter Co-PP, Union Hall Text / WhatsApp: 087 901 0627

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Family of Parishes Office, 1 North St, Skibbereen P81 K767.

Office open Mon, Wed, Thurs, and Fri. from 10 am to 1 pm for Mass bookings etc. Phone 028 22828.

Email skibbereeparish@gmail.com

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 19 FEBRUARY 2023, SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME VOL 1: NO. 12

BE HOLY. BE GOOD. BE NICE.

Love, it is said, lightens the burdens of life. Without it, every molehill becomes a mountain — and what of holiness? ‘Be holy’, God tells them in today’s first reading and tells them too to be nice: (Love) each other - is there a difference?

LENT BEGINS THIS WEEK

Next Wednesday 22 February is Ash Wednesday, a day of fast and abstinence. This means that Catholics over the age of 14 abstain from meat and meat products, while adults under 60 usually fast from food. Ashes can be obtained in your local church (see overleaf).

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS (26 FEB)

First Sunday of Lent

GENESIS 2:7-9, 3:1-7 — Describes the entry of sin into the world through the story of Adam and Eve.

ROMANS 5:12-19 — Paul brings First Reading and Gospel together, telling us that the death of Jesus freed all from sin.

MATTHEW 4:1-11 — The Gospel shows us that even Jesus had to endure temptation. Prayer helped him, as it will us.

Pelé and Lizzie Minihane died at the year end, might we call them holy?

Sport, it is said, brings out the best in people. Pelé played his in the shanty towns, where it gave hope to youngsters who had little. ‘Ag imirt peile’ filled their days.

Much loved Pelé (ever a gentleman), with a global following, had banner headlines when he died..... Lizzie’s name was on the parish newsletter when she died. ‘Prayer’ was for her the greatest power on earth, her faith and hospitality going hand in hand, ‘her kettle always on the boil’ and her doors ever open to host the Island Mass. Little wonder Fr. Evin referred to her as the ‘Queen of Heir Island’ at her Requiem.

Pelé and Lizzie heeded the call of the Lord, to ‘be holy and be good’, from today’s readings — and were all the happier for it. And this world was a better place for their being here.

Lent begins Wednesday, we too would do well to heed those words.

Fr Donal Cahill
Aughadown



Skibbereen Parish News

Contact numbers: Parish Office 028 22828

Priest on duty/emergency 086 785 2262

Submitting items for inclusion in the parish newsletter – Please email Skibbereen

Parish Office: skibbereeparish@gmail.com no later than 5pm Tuesday.

Mass Intentions from Saturday 18th to Sunday 26th February 2023

Saturday – 6.30pm - Mary Elizabeth Humphreys, Derrygool
Denis Kelleher, Home Rule Terrace

Sunday – 11.00am - Kerry and Richard Hodnett, Gortnaclohy
Annie Margaret Kelly, Gortnadihy, Leap
Paulina Nazerath, Month's Mind

Monday - 9.30am – Tim Keohane, Rossmore

Tuesday - 9.30am - William Hayes, Cullinagh

Wednesday – 9.30am - Missa Pro Populo/People of the Parish

Thursday – 9.30am - Paul O'Connor, Mardyke Court

Friday – 9.30am – Julia Keohane, Rossmore

Saturday – 6.30pm - Mary Crowley Mill Road and
Archbishop Denis Hurley, Durban
Pat Cleary, Market Street

Sunday – 11am - Paddy O'Shea, Market Street
Denis Murphy, Ballybane East, Ballydehob

Ash Wednesday and Lenten Season - Lent is one of the five seasons of the Catholic liturgical calendar, along with Advent, Christmas, Easter, and Ordinary Time. It precedes Easter and is a solemn period centred on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

There is no better time to reconnect with or deepen one's faith than Lent. During this time, we can draw closer to God as we prepare for the joyous celebration of Christ's resurrection at Easter. Lent can be an incredibly rewarding time for our faith lives. We start our season of Lent with Ash Wednesday. In 2023, like in every year, Ash Wednesday is the first day of the liturgical season of Lent. It always falls six and half weeks before Easter, beginning the Lenten season of preparation for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Ash Wednesday dates to the 11th century. Yet, the tradition of receiving ashes has even earlier roots— to the ancient Hebrew custom of clothing oneself in sackcloth and dusting oneself with ashes as a sign of penance. The Bible does not explicitly detail this first day of Lent, but there are many instances of this repentant act in the Old Testament, such as Job 16:15, *'I have sewed sackcloth upon my skin, and have laid my strength in the dust'*. In the New Testament, such as Luke 10:13: *'Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth*

and ashes.' In the early Christian Church, public penance for people who had sinned included wearing ashes and sackcloth. As the Church grew and evolved, this practice lessened. This long tradition — of externally recognising ourselves as sinners seeking renewal with God — ultimately transformed into what we now know as Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent.

Ash Wednesday is not a Holy Day of Obligation, yet receiving ashes is a universal practice among Christians to begin their Lenten journeys. Most Catholic parishes offer Ash Wednesday Mass, and most parishes now leave ashes available in the church throughout the day for those who could not attend Mass. As the first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday awakens us to Jesus' entry into the desert preceding his death. Before Easter, however, we must prepare our hearts for his Resurrection. We begin our season of preparing our hearts for Easter by recognising our brokenness and need for conversion, a turning of our hearts to God.

It is typical to receive ashes on your forehead in the Sign of the Cross. Similarly to taking Communion at Mass, you usually process toward the altar to get ashes. The priest or minister will make the Sign of the Cross and say one of two things:

- **“Remember that you are dust, and unto dust you shall return.”**

- **“Repent and believe in the Gospel.”**

The ashes symbolise our mortality. They are a physical reminder that our bodies will decay, but our souls will live on in eternal life. We wish you all a very holy and rewarding Lenten Season.

Masses for Ash Wednesday are as follows:

St Patrick's Cathedral, Skibbereen at 9.30am

Sacred Heart Church, Rath at 10.15am

Scripture Studies – using Matthew's Gospel, continue every Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Presbytery, North Street. All Welcome.

Eucharistic Adoration takes place every **Monday and Friday from 10am to 6pm** in the **Adoration Chapel** of the Cathedral. All Welcome.

Confessions are available in the **Adoration Chapel** every **Saturday from 10am to 11am**.

The Stations of the Cross will be held in **St. Patrick's Cathedral** every **Friday** during the Season of Lent at **6.30pm**. All are Welcome.

Recently Baptised: We welcome into our faith community in Skibbereen Ali Marie Donohue who received the sacrament of Baptism on 11th February.

Recently deceased: We extend our condolences to the family of Aidan Jennings of Baltimore Road. May he rest in peace.



Mass Intentions

Sunday 19th February - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30am Rath: Claire Connolly, Lough Hyne

Peter Gaffney, Fishermans Row, Baltimore

10.00am Cape Clear: Special Intention

Monday 20th February – 10.15am Rath: Special Intention

Wednesday 22nd February – Ash Wednesday

10.15am Rath: Hannah & Denis Whooley, Ballylynch

Friday 24th February – 10.15am Rath: Deceased members of the Williamson Family, Bandon

Saturday 25th February – 4.45pm Sherkin: Special Intention

Sunday 26th February – First Sunday in Lent

9.30am Rath – John Connolly, Crow Hill

10.00am Cape Clear: Special Intention

Masses for Ash Wednesday 22nd February:

St. Patrick's Cathedral, Skibbereen at 9.30am

Sacred Heart Church, Rath at 10.15am

Meeting for the Safeguarding representatives of Rath and The Islands will be held in the meeting room in Rath Church on Monday 20th February at 7.30pm.

Eucharistic Adoration takes place every Monday and Friday from 10am to 6pm in the Adoration Chapel of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Skibbereen. All Welcome.

Confessions are available on request.

Scripture Studies using Matthews Gospel continues every Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Presbytery, North Street. All Welcome.

Skibbereen Community School presents "Hi School Musical" – TY Musical 2023 on 9th, 10th, 11th March at 7.30pm. Tickets available at School Office 028 51162 and Cathal O'Donovan Bookshop 028 21279

Ilen Rovers Quiz night – Saturday 4th March 8.30pm in The Síbín – 4 people per team - €10 per person.

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

Ash Wednesday and Lenten Season-

The weather begins to change, calendars continue to turn, Christmas and New Year's celebrations drift further into the rear-view mirror. All are signs that Lent is drawing near.

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