FOR VICTIMS OF ABUSE ord, we are sorry, for what some of us did to your children: treated them so cruelly, especially in their hour of need. We have 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.

Prayer on the healing stone at Lough Derg.
 Friday is the Day of Prayer for Victims of Abuse.

THIS WEEK

TUES 13: Shrove (or Pancake) Tuesday,'Mardi Gras', last day before Lent. WED 14: ASH WEDNESDAY, a day of fast & abstinence for Catholics. ashes are blessed and distributed at Mass: "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return". FRI 16:Worldwide Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Sexual Abuse. This is an initiative of Pope Francis, first marked in Irish dioceses in 2017. See prayer above. SAT 17: ST FINTAN, a Leinster native, was schooled in Terryglass, Co Tipperary and founded a monastery at Clonenagh, Co Laois.

FORTY DAYS OF LENT:

The journey to Easter begins

• DAY 1, WEDNESDAY 14 FEB: ASH WEDNES-DAY: Make someone happy today.

• DAY 2, THURSDAY 15 FEB: An extra prayer.

• DAY 3, FRIDAY 16 FEB: Make a 'Mission of Mercy' every Friday in Lent (Pope Francis' idea), a visit to a nursing home or to someone who feels lonely. Or just offer a listening ear to someone who needs one.

• DAY 4, SATURDAY 17 FEB: Fast from television, phones and other screens.

• Sunday 18 Feb is the First Sunday of Lent: do not fast or mourn today, but celebrate the resurrection, as the Church does each Sunday. FINANCE CORNER (4 FEBRUARY) Aughadown: €900 Castlehaven & Myross: €765 Parish Development collection: €810 Kilmacabea: €985 Rath & the Islands: €610 Skibbereen: €1,670.

• Collection today for Lourdes Pilgrimage.

* POINTS TO PONDER *

• Today is the tomorrow you worried about

yesterday — and all is well.

• 'We are all tested in life. It's how we grow.'— Pope Francis, in '*Let us Dream*', 2020

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. Southdoc Phone 0818 355 999 Women against Violence Helpline 1800 203 136: westcorkbeacon.ie

CLERGY

Fr John Heinhold SPS Co-PP, Skibbereen (MODERATOR). PHONE: 028 22878
Fr Terry O'Brien, MSC Co-PP, Leap EMAIL: kilmacabeaparish@gmail.com
Fr Bernard Cotter Co-PP, Union Hall TEXT OR WHATSAPP: 087 901 0627
Fr Evin O'Brien CC — PHONE 028-22877

OUR COMMUNITY THIS WEEK Family of Parishes Office

To book masses, weddings, christenings, anniversaries etc, contact the Parishes' Office, North St, Skibbereen. Open this Wednesday, Thursday & Friday from 10 am to 1 pm; also Monday 19th & 26th Feb. • Phone 028-22828.

• EMAIL: stciaranasFOP@gmail.com



Remember All the sick **TODAY** — **INCLUDING ME...**

e are generally well served with our health services here in Ireland. During the recent epidemic, our hospital staff responded magnificently to those who were affected. At a personal level, I was treated with compassion and competency in hospital recently for a broken hip. I was soon well on my way to recovery, and I am grateful for the wonderful kindness I experienced.

Mistakes are sometimes made for one reason or another, and faults are acknowledged with genuine apology. There is a serious commitment on the part of all concerned to care for all who are sick.

Compassion for the sick and their families is at the heart of Jesus' ministry. His heart goes out to them. He listens to the appeal of the lepers and of the blind. He calls them to him, lays his hands on them, and restores them to health through the

power of the divine Spirit, who is always behind his words. He is the Messiah, Son of God, sent to heal the broken-hearted, to restore people to health of mind and body.

We need to pray for the sick and for their carers. Prayer sustains the work of all those engaged in the great work of research and effective commitment to the ministry of healing. We include in our prayer those who live in the less developed countries of the world and in places devastated by social chaos, famine, illness and war. We pray for their carers, often volunteers, such as *Médecins sans Frontières*, who look after sick people in extremely difficult situations. We support them effectively through our prayers and through our gifts.

Fr Michael Curran MSC Kilmacabea Parish

• We welcome Fr Michael back to his home in Leap and wish him a full recovery; he was missed.



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: <u>skibbereenparish@gmail.com</u> no later than 5pm Tuesday. Mass Intentions from Saturday 10th February 2024

Saturday – 6.30pmPat Connolly, Deelish.
Dan Griffin, Cork Road and his late wife Josephine.Sunday - 11amDenis Dempsey, Shepperton.
Theresa and Patrick O'Donovan, Lassanroe.
Aidan Jennings, Baltimore Road, First anniversary.Monday - 9.30amSpecial IntentionTuesday - 9.30amTadg Crowley RIPWednesday - 9.30amPeople of the ParishASH WEDNESDAY:
Mass 9.30am will include the blessing of ashes and the
distribution of ashes. Ashes will be available for collection during the day.

Thursday – 9.30amDan Collins, Lake Marsh

Friday - 9.30am Tim Keohane, Rossmore

- Saturday 6.30pm Michael O'Riordan, Riverdale. Bert and Liz Humphries, Derrygool. Eileen O'Sullivan, Month's Mind.
- Sunday 11am Filip Stromecki & Ewa Stromecka, birthday intentions Denis Murphy, Ballybane East, Ballydehob Leo O'Neill, Coronea, Month's Mind

Weekday Masses Monday to Friday at 9.30am. The Rosary is prayed before each morning mass. (The Rosary on Thursday is said for the special intention of vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood).

Confessions Saturday 10am to 11am.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues every Monday and Friday from 10am until 6pm both days. All welcome.

Lectio Divina (Sacred Reading) on Saturday mornings from 11.15am to 12 noon in the Presbytery North Street.

Mass for Temperance Sunday & World Day of Prayer for the Sick will be broadcast Sunday 11th February 2024 at 11am on RTÉ TV & Radio.

Hospitality Morning every Wednesday, in the Presbytery, after the morning Mass. All are welcome for tea or coffee and a chat.

Bicentenary – **The leaflets** for the Book of Remembrance **are available in the Cathedral.** Remember your Family, Friends, or Neighbours by completing the form and contributing to our Bicentenary Conservation appeal. Why not consider sending a few leaflets to your family and friends abroad (people who may have historical connections to Skibbereen) who may like to be part of the Bicentenary Celebrations.

Spring Station Masses. If you would like to host a Spring Station Mass in your home, please contact the **Parish Office on 028 22828** as soon as possible.

Stations of the Cross - will be followed on every Friday at 6.30pm for the season of Lent in St Patrick's Cathedral.

Finance Committee Meeting Skibbereen will be held on Monday 12th in the Presbytery, North Street at 7pm.

Tuesday 13th February is the feast of the **Holy Face of Jesus.** A holy hour will take place **after the 9.30am mass until 11am in St Patrick's Cathedral.** Devotional prayers to the holy face and the rosary will be recited during this hour.

Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund Annual Collection 2024 - The annual collection for the Diocesan Sick/Assisted Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund will be taken up at all masses on the 10th/11th February 2024. The Cork and Ross Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from Friday 20th September to Wednesday 25th September this year. People are encouraged to join the pilgrimage as helpers, nurses, and doctors to assist pilgrims in Lourdes. Further information is available from the Diocesan website <u>lourdes@corkandross.org</u> or by telephoning 085 2525040. There has always been great support for the diocesan Pilgrimage Fund and your support and generosity on 10th/11th February is very much appreciated.

Finding hope in a hopeless world – **Lent 2024:** This is a seven-week programme for Parish groups or individuals which will be available on the Diocesan website (<u>www.corkandross.org</u>) from Ash Wednesday (14th February) This programme explores how we can still be people of faith and hope in today's world. It includes a series of reflections, Scripture readings and prayers, and a guide on how to use this resource in your Parish/Family of Parishes.

Skibbereen Flower and Garden club are holding a Garden talk with William Swanton on Wednesday 14th February at 8.15pm in Abbeystrewry Hall Skibbereen. Great night assured. Come along and bring a friend.

RATH & THE ISLANDS BALTIMORE, WEST GORK

Parish Office, Skibbereen - 028/22828 – Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri – 10am to 1pm. Priest on Duty/Emergency – 086/7852262

Mass Intentions

Sunday 11th February – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 9.30am Rath – Peggy Moore (nee Davis) Church Strand Kieran O'Regan, The Bungalow, Baltimore 10.00am Cape Clear Monday 12th February 10.15am Rath – Flo Devlin Wednesday 14th February – 10.15am Rath – Ash Wednesday Friday 16th February – 10.15am Rath Saturday 17th February 4.45pm – Sherkin Sunday 18th February – First Sunday of Lent 9.30am Rath – Claire Connolly, Lough Hyne 10.00am Cape Clear

Weekday Masses – Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10.15am.

Ash Wednesday 14th February - Mass 10.15am will include the blessing of ashes and the distribution of ashes. Ashes will be available for collection during the day. Confessions by appointment.

Recently Baptised: We welcome Jerry and Chloe O'Driscoll, son and daughter of Fergal and Marie, Ballylynch into our faith community here in Rath and The Islands as they received the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday 3rd February 2024 in Sacred Heart Church, Rath.

Spring Station Masses - If you would like to host a Spring Station Mass in your home, please contact the Parish Office on 028 22828 as soon as possible.

Lectio Divina (Sacred Reading) on Saturdays mornings at 11.15am – 12 noon in the Presbytery, North Street, Skibbereen.

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament continues every Monday and Friday from 10am to 6pm both days in St Patrick's Cathedral, Skibbereen. All are welcome.

Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund Annual Collection 2024

The annual collection for the Diocesan Sick/Assisted Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund will be taken up at all masses on this weekend **10th/11th February 2024**. The Cork and Ross Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from Friday 20th September to Wednesday 25th September this year. People are encouraged to join the pilgrimage as helpers, nurses and doctors to assist pilgrims in Lourdes. Further information is available from the Diocesan website <u>lourdes@corkandross.org</u> or by telephoning 085 2525040. There has always been great support for the diocesan Pilgrimage Fund and your support and generosity on 10th/11th February is very much appreciated.

Mass for Temperance Sunday & World Day of Prayer for the Sick will be broadcast next Sunday 11th February 2024 at 11am on RTÉ TV & Radio.

Tuesday 13th February is the Feast of the Holy Face of Jesus. A holy hour will take place after the 9.30am mass until 11am in St Patrick's Cathedral. Devotional prayers to the holy face and the rosary will be recited during this hour.

Finding hope in a hopeless world – Lent 2024: This is a seven-week programme for Parish groups or individuals which will be available on the Diocesan website (<u>www.corkandross.org</u>) from Ash Wednesday (February 14th). This programme explores how we can still be people of faith and hope in today's world. It includes a series of reflections, Scripture readings and prayers, and a guide on how to use this resource in your Parish/Family of Parishes.

"Mothers and Others" is officially starting on Monday, the 12th of February from 7.30pm to 8.30pm in Rath Hall.

This is open to all women in the community, over the age of 25. It doesn't matter what your fitness level is or whether you have or haven't played football before! This is an initiative for women to come together for an hour every week, to have a laugh, a cup of tea and just get together. Please support and bring a friend! We will be in Rath Hall for a few weeks until the time changes and then we will alternate every week between Church Cross and Rath pitches.

Totus Tuus pilgrimage to Fatima - 30th August - 6th September 2024. Flights ex Cork. Cost: €815. Spiritual director: Fr. Marius O Reilly. For more information, contact Damien 087-2049048 or Marian Pilgrimages @ 01-8788159.