

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Our catechist, Maura O'Flynn, has a new email address. Please note it:

maura@mauraoflynn.ie

THIS WEEK

TUES 27: ST GREGORY OF NAREK. Born in Andzevatsik in Armenia, he entered the monastery at Narek and lived there for the whole of his life. An abbot and mystic devoted to the Blessed Virgin, he died in AD 1003.

FRI 1 MARCH: ST DAVID (Patron saint of Wales). Born on a clifftop during a fierce storm, he founded monasteries in Wales, Brittany and southwest England, possibly including Glastonbury. He died on this day in AD 589. His words '*Do the little things in life*' is still a well-known maxim in Wales.

FINANCE CORNER (18 FEBRUARY)

Aughadown: €1,040 **Castlehaven:** €1,005

Kilmacabea: €845 **Skibbereen:** €1,635

Rath & the Islands: €745

OUR COMMUNITY THIS WEEK

Monday 26th Feb marks the anniversary of **Fr Kieran Collins** (RIP 1993) former PP Castlehaven & Myross. May he rest in peace.

Family of Parishes Pilgrimage

Our diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place from 20 to 25 September 2024, ring Joe Walsh Tours for details: 01 241 0800.

• *Bishop Fintan*

would like if people from our Family of Parishes would travel as part of that pilgrimage. If you would be interested in joining, please contact the Parishes' Office.



FAMILY OF PARISHES OFFICE

TO BOOK MASSES, ARRANGE WEDDINGS, CHRISTENINGS, ANNIVERSARIES ETC, CONTACT THE PARISHES' OFFICE, SKIBBEREEN.

Office open on Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri:

10 am-1 pm. Phone 028-22828 (Annette)

Email stciaranasFOP@gmail.com

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Confessions are heard every Saturday, from 10 to 11 am in St Patrick's Cathedral, North St, Skibbereen.

FORTY DAYS OF LENT:

Continue the journey to Easter

- DAY 11, MON 26: No gossip today.
- DAY 12, TUES 27: No screens after tea.
- DAY 13, WED 28: Be patient.
- DAY 14, THURS 29: Remember Leap Year Day 2020 and the changes since, losses and gains. Thank God for all.
- DAY 15, FRI 1 MARCH: Pray for the sick and housebound this First Friday.
- DAY 16, SAT 2: Care for our common home; turn off lights, recycle, re-use.

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: kilmacabeparish@gmail.com

• Fr Bernard Cotter Co-PP, Union Hall

TEXT OR WHATSAPP: 087 901 0627

• Fr Evin O'Brien CC — PHONE 028-22877



COMMUNITY OF
**St. Ciarán and
All Saints**

St Ciarán & All Saints
FAMILY OF PARISHES

NEWSLETTER

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT25 FEB. 2024VOL 2: NO 24

HAS LENT BECOME EASIER OR HARDER? IT'S UP TO YOU.

In Ireland in years gone by, Lent was a very austere time. Weddings were forbidden and people refrained from drinking and dancing. Most people practised self-denial by giving something up.

Observance of Lent has been modified since the Second Vatican Council to allow greater individual choice — with mandatory fasting only on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. People are expected to fast on these two days and abstain from meat.

Originally Catholics were allowed one small meal per day in Lent but eventually

the one-meal restriction was lifted, and new practices emerged, like the idea of giving up some luxury or need as a personal sacrifice for the season. 'Giving something up' became the centrepiece of Lent.

However, the essence of Lent remains largely unchanged from its earliest history, as a period of penitential preparation for Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday and provides for a 40-day fast (Sundays are excluded) in imitation of Jesus Christ fasting in the wilderness.

Lent is mentioned in Canon V of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicea in 325. So since apostolic times, a period of preparation and fasting has been observed before Easter, a time of preparation of candidates for baptism and a time of penance for sinners. Lent is a time for us to refresh, refo- cal, and renew our faith.

☆ POINTS TO PONDER ☆

- 'Keep your face towards the sunshine and the shadows will fall behind you.'
- 'Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things in life' — *St David of Wales*
- 'He who talks much is *sometimes* right.'

June Kelly

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL, SKIBBEREEN



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: skibbereenparish@gmail.com no later than 5pm Tuesday. **Mass Intentions from Saturday 24th February 2024**

Saturday – 6.30pm Breda Forde, Mill Road, First anniversary.
Denis Kelleher, Home Rule Terrace.

Sunday - 11am Richard and Kerry Hodnett, Gortnaclohy.
Dr Dan O’Sullivan, Cork Road.

Monday - 9.30am John Keohane, Cullinagh.

Tuesday - 9.30am Nora Deasy, Union Hall.

Wednesday – 9.30am People of the Parish

Thursday – 9.30am Janie Keohane, Cullinagh.

Friday - 9.30am Maurice Murphy, Drishane.

Saturday – 6.30pm Archbishop Denis Hurley, Durban and Mary Crowley,
Mill Road.
James and Mary O’Brien, Home Rule Terrace.

Sunday - 11am Michael Walsh, Dunmanway
Peter Nolan RIP.

We welcome to our faith community Robbie Hurley who was baptised on 17th February 2024 in Skibbereen, parents Patrick Collins and Michelle Hurley.

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.

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

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**.

First Confessions - Our First Holy Communion children from **St Joseph’s Girls’ N.S., Gaelscoil Dr Uí Shúilleabháin, and Abbeystrewry N.S.** will be making their First Confessions on **Thursday 29th February at 7pm** at St Patrick’s Cathedral.

First Friday Calls – This week the priests of the parish will call to the sick with Holy Communion. If you know of anyone who is sick or housebound and would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick or Holy Communion, or would appreciate a visit from a priest, please contact the **parish office 028 22828**.

Second Sunday of Lent - We are invited to journey up two mountains. In the first reading we accompany Abraham and his only son Isaac as he takes him to offer him back to God. In the gospel reading the Son of God invites us, together with three of his disciples, to be transfigured in front of us. Through faith in God, Abraham, who is childless, is given a son, Isaac. Only to be asked to return him to God. Abraham’s story anticipates the passion of Jesus, the Father’s only Son, sacrificed on the altar of the cross. In the Gospel, Jesus is transfigured to allow us to see the real Son of God. The brilliance of God now shines through for us to see. Together with the disciples we often struggle to understand how this Son of God is going to be sacrificed for us. Yet with faith, which does not come easily, we profess this is truly the Son of God, the beloved, and we are called to listen to him. We trust that God, who did not spare his own Son, will certainly not abandon us.

Bicentenary Leaflets for the Book of Remembrance are still 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.

Bicentenary Committee will meet in the Presbytery, North Street, on **Monday 26th February at 8pm**.

Safeguarding meeting will be held in the Presbytery, North Street on **Thursday 29th February at 4pm**.

The **Annual World Day of Prayer** service will be held in **Abbeystrewry Church Skibbereen, on Friday, on 1st March at 8pm**. This year the prayers will give special emphasis to peace in the world. Your presence will be greatly appreciated.



Parish Office, Skibbereen - 028/22828 – Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri – 10am to 1pm.

Priest on Duty/Emergency – 086/7852262

Mass Intentions

Sunday 25th February – Second Sunday of Lent

9.30am Rath – Margaret & Jerome Minihane, Creagh

Julia & Michael Forde, Creagh and London

10.00am Cape Clear

Monday 26th February 10.15am Rath – Deceased members of the Holland Family

Wednesday 28th February 10.15am Rath – George Devlin

Friday 1st March – 10.15am Rath – Special Intention

Saturday 2nd March

4.45pm – Sherkin

Sunday 3rd March – Third Sunday of Lent

9.30am Rath – Sean Coughlan, Church Strand, Baltimore

10.00am Cape Clear

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

Confessions by appointment.

Safeguarding meeting will be held in the meeting room of Rath Church on Monday

26th February at 6.30pm.

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Finding hope in a hopeless world – Session 2. Lent 2024: Asks the question, What does Baptism mean to me? available on the Diocesan website (www.corkandross.org). 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.

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From Renaissance Florence to Michelangelo's Rome a Cultural Tour/Pilgrimage to Italy - with Group Leader Mícheál de Barra and Spiritual Director Fr. John Newman. Highlights of this tour, from **4th -13th September 2024**, include visits to Venice, Padua, Ravenna, Bologna, Florence and of course Rome where we will experience a Papal Audience and visit to St. Peter's Basilica. Fr. John will celebrate Mass for the group at various venues and shrines along the way. For further information and Booking Form contact Mícheál at 0868337681 or email michealdebarra3@gmail.com