

Oops!

CORRECTION: Last week's biography of St Brigid in this newsletter gave her a very short life-span indeed. Most sources regard AD 454 as her year of birth and AD 524 as her year of death — 70 years later. — EDITOR

THIS WEEK

MON 5: ST AGATHA. Died as a martyr in Catania in Sicily. Patron of bell-founders.

- *Bank holiday in honour of St Brigid.*

TUES 6: ST PAUL MIKI & HIS COMPANIONS, Franciscans and Jesuits, put to death on crosses, in Nagasaki, Japan in 1597.

- *World Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation (UN)*

WED 7: ST MEL, patron of Ardagh & Clonmacnois, (its cathedral is at Longford). Mel, one of the earliest Irish saints, is said to have come to Ireland with St Patrick.

THURS 8: ST JOSEPHINE BAKHITA. Born in the Darfur region of Sudan in 1868. Captured as a young girl and sold several times in slave markets, she experienced cruel servitude. Freed in Italy, she became Christian and a Religious, serving all classes.

- *Today is International Day of prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking.*

SAT 10 : ST SCHOLASTICA, twin sister of St Benedict, patron of twins.

- *Next Sunday, 11 Feb, is World Day of the Sick (Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gbnait).*

- **Wed. 14 February is Ash Wednesday.**

OUR COMMUNITY THIS WEEK

Notice re Family of Parishes Office

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

NB: Office closed Mon. 5 & 12 Feb.

Open Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays from 10 am to 1 pm. Phone 028-22828.

EMAIL: stciaranasFOP@gmail.com

FINANCE CORNER (21-28 JANUARY)

Aughadown

21 Jan. €830; 28 Jan. €825

Castlehaven & Myross

21 Jan. €550; 28 Jan. €1,040

Diocesan Needs (first quarter): €485

Kilmacabea:

21 Jan. €990; 28 Jan. €785

Rath & the Islands:

21 Jan. €595; 28 Jan. €655

Skibbereen:

21 Jan. €1,175; 28 Jan. €1,225

• *A special collection will be taken at all Masses on next Sunday 11 February for the Lourdes Invalid Fund. This collection subsidises the Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes for individuals whose health and/or means would otherwise prevent them from travelling to Lourdes. Your support is greatly appreciated.*

☆ POINTS TO PONDER ☆

- Don't let yesterday take up too much of today.
- Strive for progress, not perfection.

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 EMAIL: frbernard1984@gmail.com
- Fr Evin O'Brien CC — PHONE 028-22877



St Ciarán & All Saints
FAMILY OF PARISHES

NEWSLETTER

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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 4 FEB. 2024 VOL 2: No 21

Each of our parishes celebrates Confirmation in 2024. Maura O'Flynn reminds us why that matters....

CONFIRMATION GIVES US A PLACE ON THE TEAM

The Sacrament of Confirmation is an important milestone in the life of a Catholic. We are welcomed into the faith community at baptism — but the Sacrament of Confirmation 'confirms' our baptism. These two sacraments mirror one another in several ways:

- At baptism our parents and godparents hold our baptismal candle for us, It symbolises the light of faith in our lives. At the Ceremony of Light, celebrated in the weeks before Confirmation, parents hand over that candle, that light of faith, to their child — because they now take responsibility for their own faith.

- Our parents choose and give us a name at Baptism. In Confirmation we choose a name for ourselves as we become adult members of the faith community. This can be a lovely time of discussion in a family, when a young person is choosing the name they wish to take.

- In baptism we are anointed with the oil of chrism, blessed by the bishop on Holy Thursday. In confirmation we are sealed with Spirit as the celebrant anoints us once again with chrism.

- Our sponsors stand with us at baptism and promise support. On Confirmation Day, they are with us again; one of them may sponsor us for that sacrament too.

Baptism is our admission into a life of faith — but Confirmation gives us a place on the team, with the support of the Holy Spirit. To be an effective team member, we just need to pray for help.

Maura O'Flynn [CATECHIST]
ST CIARÁN & ALL SAINTS COMMUNITY

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

IN OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES 2024

MON 26 FEB: **Kilmacabea**

MON 11 MARCH: **Skibbereen**

THURS 18 APRIL: **Aughadown**

WED 24 APRIL: **Rath & the Islands**

FRI 26 APRIL: **Castlehaven & Myross**



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 3rd February 2024**

Saturday – 6.30pm Frank and Anna McCarthy, Coronea
William and Mary O'Regan, Schull and Dominic
Hodnett, Skibbereen

Sunday - 11am Noel Cotter, Coronea, Month's Mind
Sean Connolly and Sharon Connolly, Oldcourt
Mary Teresa Lynch, Coolnaclehy.

Monday - 9.30am Michael McCarthy, Riverdale.

Tuesday - 9.30am John and JuliaAnn O'Regan, Gortnaclohy.

Wednesday – 9.30am People of the Parish

Thursday – 9.30am Jerry and Eileen Forde, Douglas.

Thursday – 7pm Service of Light and Reconciliation for St Patrick's Boys' N.S. on Thursday 8th February at 7pm.

Friday - 9.30am Eileen Collins, Lake Marsh.

Saturday – 6.30pm Pat Connolly, Deelish.
Dan Griffin, Cork Road and his late wife Josephine.

Sunday - 11am Denis Dempsey, Shepperton.
Theresa and Patrick O'Donovan, Lissanroe.
Aidan Jennings, Baltimore Road, First anniversary.

Weekday Masses Monday to Friday at **9.30am**. The Rosary is prayed before each morning mass.

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 a tea or coffee and a chat.

Cork and Ross Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024 launched. This year's Lourdes Pilgrimage will take place from **Friday 20th to Wednesday 25th September**. If you'd like to join the Diocesan Pilgrimage as a helper this year, please contact **085 2525040** or email lourdes@corkandross.org

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.

Congregational Singing – A small group of people have come together to encourage **congregational singing at our 6.30pm Saturday Vigil Mass**. The idea is simple, sheets of well-known hymns will be distributed throughout the congregation and one or two people will begin the singing of a hymn encouraging everyone to sing. The hope is that this will enhance our liturgical celebration. As the saying attributed to St Augustine says, *“To sing is to pray twice”*.

Skibbereen Community Playgroup CLG. & Afterschool Club - Open Day @ Preschool - Saturday 10th February 2024 from 10am - 12 noon.

AGM & Enrolment Night - Wednesday, 28th February 2024 @ 8pm at Skibbereen Community Playgroup, Gortnaclohy, Skibbereen. P81YN32. All Welcome.

Breakthrough Cancer Research Annual West Cork Lunch is taking place on **Saturday 10th February 2024 at the West Cork Hotel, Skibbereen.**

Enjoy a drinks reception on arrival and a delicious three course lunch with special guest RTE star **Brendan Courtney**. We'll have an afternoon of wonderful music and dancing with fabulous goody bags to take home, amazing raffle prizes and stalls to browse to treat yourself or your loved ones. All the proceeds will go support Breakthrough Cancer Research. Tickets are €75.00 and available Mary@breakcancer.ie or 021 4226655. Help us Make More Survivors.

RATH & THE ISLANDS BALTIMORE, WEST CORK

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

Mass Intentions

Sunday 4th February – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30am Rath – Hannah & Denis Whooley, Ballylynch

John Joe & Kathleen O’Driscoll, Ballymacrown

10.00am Cape Clear

Monday 5th February 10.15am Rath – Teddy Collins, Reengaroga

Wednesday 7th February – 10.15am Rath

Friday 9th February – 10.15am Rath – Curley Cronin, Dunmanway

Saturday 10th February

4.45pm – Sherkin

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

Weekday Masses – Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10.15am

Confessions by appointment.

Parish Pastoral Council meeting on Tuesday 6th February at 7.30pm in the meeting room in Rath Church.

Second Collection – next weekend 11th February for the Lourdes Invalid Fund

First Friday Calls - 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.

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.

2024 Enrolment and Open Day takes place in Rath NS on Friday, Feb 9th from 2-4pm. More information to be found on the school website www.rathnationalschool.com

Rath Vintage Club will hold their annual threshing on **today Sunday 4th February** from 2.30pm in Lackaghane. Proceeds to local charities. All Welcome.

Bauravilla Cheval next **Sunday 11th February**. All Proceeds to Co Action. Registration from 11.30am and leaving at 12.30pm from The Showgrounds, Skibbereen. Please support a great cause.

Breakthrough Cancer Research Annual West Cork Lunch is taking place on Saturday 10th February 2024 at the West Cork Hotel, Skibbereen, Cork. Enjoy a drinks reception on arrival and a delicious three course lunch with special guest RTE Star **Brendan Courtney**. We'll have an afternoon of wonderful music and dancing with fabulous goody bags to take home, amazing raffle prizes and stalls to browse to treat yourself or your loved ones. All the proceeds will go to support Breakthrough Cancer Research. Help us Make More Survivors. Tickets are €75.00 and available Mary@breakcancer.ie or 021 422 66 55.

Book of Remembrance.

St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Skibbereen will be 200 years old in 2026. Be part of the Bicentenary Celebrations, leaflets, which are available in the Cathedral and locality, invite you to remember family, friends & neighbours in a Book of Remembrance that will be on permanent display in the Cathedral from 2026 and to contribute to the first stage of our celebration of the Bicentenary; to have in place a Conservation Management Plan. Many more exciting plans and events will be announced later. Please Support.

Bicentenary Book.

One plan we have is to have a book to celebrate the 200 years of the St. Patrick’s Cathedral. Several local historians have been invited to contribute an article for publication on various aspects of the Cathedrals’ history. It has also been suggested that we would invite people to submit personal stories that you may have about the cathedral; it may be your memories of a special day; Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Marriages, and even funerals, etc. These articles will be given to an editorial team who will choose the articles to be included. So, why not put pen to paper and be part of this book.