This Week : Sunday 21 April, World Day of Prayer for Vocations. 23 April: St George, Patron of England. 24 April: St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, patron saint of lawerys. 25 April: St Mark Evangelist. Anzac Day. 27 April: St Ascius, disciple of St Patrick, Patron saint of the diocese of Elphin.

Points to ponder *Attitude is a little thing but makes a big difference. *The things you take for granted, someone else is praying for. *If it's important to you, you will find a way. If not you'll find an excuse.

*When life gives you more than you can stand, KNEEL.

Thinking about the Diocesan Priesthood? There is a special "Come and See" afternoon for men aged between 18 and 40 who may be thinking about Priesthood for the Diocese of Cork and Ross. It will take place from 2-5pm on Sunday April 28th in Mardyke House, Cork City (T12 W8RP). The afternoon will include time for prayer, reflection, discussion and a social dimension. For more information email vocations@corkandross.org

Finance Corner Sunday 14 April Aughadown: €825 Castlehaven and Myross: €1050 Kilmacabea: € Skibbereen: €1545 Rath: €457

Useful contact Numbers

Alcoholic 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

FAMILY OF PARISHES OFFICE TO BOOK MASSES, ARRANGE WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS, ANNIVERSARIES, CONTACT THE PARISHES' OFFICE, SKIBBEREEN: Mon, Wed, Thurs. Fri: 10 am-1 pm. Phone 028-22828Email stciaranasFOP@gmail.com

The parish office will be closed on Friday April 26.

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



I hear the Lord call my Name.

All baptised Christians are CALLED to be followers of Christ, disciples learning from Him, to make "His kingdom come on earth". There are many ways of responding to this CALL, the Vocation to Religious Life is just one way. It is a personal response to the CALL felt in the depth of one's heart.

It is a journey in faith to join a Religious Community and to profess publicly to live by the VOWS of:

Poverty - devoting our time, talents and resources to making God known and loved. Chastity - living a celibate life in right relationship with others and with all of creation. essence of Religious Life is still relevant. Obedience - being attentive to God's Will in the signs of the times and as revealed through prayer.

Of course we are all sinners and we sometimes fail in our response but as Pope Francis says :

"God, who calls us to give Him our all, offers us the light and the strength needed to continue on our way".

Along with Apostolic Religious, who devote themselves to various Ministries. there are Contemplative Religious, who devote their lives entirely to Prayer.

In the past 'nuns' were distinguished by Religious Dress, living in big Convents and involved in hospitals, schools and social Ministries. Over the past fifty years Vocations have dropped dramatically but the We continue to endeavour to grow in love of God and to witness to the 'Good News', "The Lord of life, who loves us so much, is always present. He does not abandon us". (Pope Francis).

Sr. Genevieve Hurley, RSM.



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 20 April 2024 **Saturday – 6.30pm** John and Mary Murphy, Bauravilla. Billy Hurley, Gortnaclohy. John Daly, Ardagh, Coronea, Month's Mind Sunday - 11am Kathleen Ring, Coronea Drive. Geraldine Hurley, Poundlick. Get Well Intention. Monday – 9.30am Tuesday – 9.30am Jeremiah and Annie O'Neill, Coolnagurrane. Wednesday - 9.30am People of the Parish. Thursday - 9.30am Tom and Mae Barry, Goleen. Friday – 9.30am Special Intention. Saturday – 6.30pm Billy Hurley, Gortnaclohy. Charlie and Hannah Davis. Home Rule Terrace. Sunday - 11am John and Margaret McCarthy, Derrygool & The Abbey. Special Intention.

We extend our condolences to the family of Seán Lucey of Bishopstown, Cork and Skibbereen who died recently. May he Rest in Peace.

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).

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

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

Confessions on Saturday at 10am to 11am.

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

Sunday 21 April is a Day of Prayer for Vocations (Good Shepherd Sunday). A shepherd is someone who makes a living looking after sheep. He/she leads the sheep to pasture and water. He looks after them and protects them from danger. When a sheep gets lost, the shepherd goes out to search for it. At night, the shepherd brings the sheep home, checking to see they are all there by counting them as they pass under his shepherd's staff. Everyone, even adults, needs someone to guide and protect them from the dangers of this world. We all have sufferings that come from within and outside of us. What we need is someone and something upon which we can put our complete trust. Jesus is that someone, our faith is that something.

This weekend the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary will be speaking at all Masses for a Mission Appeal. We welcome Sr Mary and Sr Nuala. There will be a door collection for the Missions after the Masses. Due to the visit of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary to the parish this weekend the Quarterly Collection for the Diocesan Needs will be taken up the following weekend Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 April.

Spring Station Masses - Station masses in people's homes are a tradition that we are trying to keep alive. We would again like to remind people that 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.

Meeting for all Choir members and Cantors will be held in the Presbytery, North Street on Thursday 25 April at 7pm.

A concert not to be missed! - West Cork Choral Singers, in their thirty second year, perform a concert version of the opera Dido and Aeneas by Henry Purcell on Sunday 28 April at 7.30p.m. at Skibbereen Town Hall. This is a new and exciting adventure for the choir and a most enjoyable performance is assured! Tickets: $\notin 20.00$, concessions $\notin 15.00$, children free. Further information - www.westcorkchoral.ie.

Skibbereen Geriatric Society, provides a widespread delivery of meals on wheels in town and surrounding areas, are seeking volunteer drivers for delivery of luncheons, on a rota basis. Anyone interested in this service please contact Linda Shannon 086 4093114 or at Cara House Market Street on 028 22269.

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 21st April – Fourth Sunday of Easter 9.30am Rath – Ellen Connolly, South Rath 10.00am Cape Clear Monday 22nd April - 10.15am Rath Wednesday 24th April - 10.30am Rath Confirmation Ceremony Friday 26th April - 10.15am Rath Saturday 27th April 4.45pm – Sherkin Sunday 28th April – Fifth Sunday of Easter 9.30am Rath – Annie, Frances & Joe Sheehan, Spain, Baltimore 10.00am Cape Clear

Weekday Masses – Monday and Friday at 10.15am.

There will be no morning Mass on Wednesday 24th April due to the Confirmation Confessions by appointment.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in the Sacred Heart Church, Rath for the candidates from Rath N.S. on **Wednesday 24th April at 10.30am**

Skour Well Mass, Lough Hyne – Tuesday 30th April at 7.30pm. All Welcome.

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Community Call offers a friendly call and listening service for older people, those living alone, or people living in isolated areas, predominantly in the West Cork Regine, hosted by the Local Link Bantry.

This service is provided by a team of volunteers and calls can vary from five to fortyfive minutes, and even occasionally longer. Calls can be made in the morning or afternoon, at a time that suits you and is convenient to talk. We are here to Listen. The conversations are strictly confidential, and information stays within the service team.

If you are interested in this service or wish to find out more on behalf of a loved one, family member, friend, neighbor, or alternatively if you are interested in volunteering a few hours each week and wish to join our call team.

Please feel free to Contact Louise.

Mobile: 083 400 5125. Local Link Bantry Office: 027 52727. Email: Communitycall@locallinkcork.ie