

#### ANNIVERSARY

**Sun 6 April: Fr Michael O'Donovan  
(RIP 2020), former CC Skibbereen**

#### FORTY DAYS OF LENT:

- **DAY 29, MON. 7:** Keep the speed limit
- **DAY 30, TUES. 8:** Listen to others.
- **DAY 31, WED. 9:** Say your favourite prayer, and your least favourite.
- **DAY 32, THURS 10:** Try not to talk about yourself.
- **DAY 33, FRI. 11:** No sugar today
- **DAY 34, SAT 12:** Turn off all screens an hour before bed.
- **DAY 35, MON 14:** Service with Confessions 7pm today @ The Cathedral.

#### ☆ POINT TO PONDER ☆

"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something I can do." —HELEN KELLER

#### POPE'S INTENTIONS APRIL 2025

##### — for the use of new technologies

"That the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times."

#### FAMILY OF PARISHES OFFICE: To arrange masses, weddings,

baptisms, anniversaries etc. contact the Office, 1 North St, Skibbereen:

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri: 10 am -1 pm. [OPEN HOLY WEEK, CLOSED EASTER WEEK]

• Phone 028-22828 • Email stciaranasFOP@gmail.com •

#### FINANCE CORNER (30 MARCH)

Aughadown: €820 (diocesan €535)

Castlehaven: €655 (diocesan €285)

Kilmacabea €835

Rath & the Islands: €485

Skibbereen: €1,490

(Diocesan needs , Quarter 2: €850)

#### CLERGY

- *Fr Kevin O'Regan Co-PP*  
(MODERATOR) PHONE: 028 22878
- *Fr Terry O'Brien MSC,*  
*Co-PP, Leap*  
*kilmacabeaparish@gmail.com*
- *Fr Bernard Cotter Co-PP*  
*Castlehaven (Union Hall)*  
*TEXT/WHATSAPP: 087 901 0627*
- *Fr Evin O'Brien CC*  
*Skibbereen, PHONE 028 22877*

#### USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

**Alcoholics Anonymous** in  
West Cork: 087 611 4946.

**Pieta House** Crisis helpline  
1800 247 247;

Or text **HELP** to 51444.

**St Vincent de Paul,**  
Skibbereen: 087 918 2698

**Samaritans:** 116 123 free.

**Southdoc:** 0818 355 999

**Women against Violence**  
Helpline 1800 203 136



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)

SUNDAY 6 APRIL 2025    FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT    VOL 3: 30

## IS CONFESSION GOING 'OUT OF FASHION'?

It is. Confession is less popular than ever. It has declined - a lot. Most people go once or twice a year (including me). The trouble is that sin is not going out of fashion. Just look at the news, see what's happening in the USA, in Ukraine, in Gaza. People suffer because of the cruelty of others.

This doesn't just happen abroad. Patrick Kavanagh's poem 'Epic' describes a local row:

*I heard the Duffys shouting 'Damn your soul!'*  
*And old McCabe stripped to the waist, seen*  
*Step the plot defying blue cast-steel ...*

Wherever love is lacking, people suffer. When I am the cause, I am the sinner. I need forgiveness — and the grace to make a new start. Fortunately, God gently lavishes both, without measure.



I am leading a service of reconciliation on the Monday of Holy Week (that's 14 April). It's at 7 pm in the Cathedral, Skibbereen. Several priests will be there to bring God's forgiveness - to you and me.

Come and see. We can begin again, for Easter.

**Fr Bernard** [UNION HALL]



**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](mailto:skibbereenparish@gmail.com) no later than 5pm Wednesday

### **Mass Intentions from Saturday 05 April 2025**

- Saturday – 6.30pm** Michael O'Mahony, Baltimore Road and Smorane, Month's Mind.
- Sunday – 11am** Sean Lucey, North Street and Bishopstown, First Anniversary  
Therese and Tim O'Driscoll Baltimore Road  
Moirah Cahalane, Mohonagh, Month's Mind.  
JJ (Derry) O'Donovan, formerly of North Street, Month's Mind.
- Monday – 9.30am** Eileen O'Sullivan, Union Hall, recently deceased.
- Tuesday - 9.30am** Jeremiah and Annie O'Neill, Coolnagurrane.
- Wednesday - 9.30am** People of the Family of Parishes
- Thursday - 9.30am** Carmel O'Driscoll, recently deceased.
- Friday - 9.30am** Henry Browne and Brendan Collins.
- 7.30pm** **Legion of Mary Acies Ceremony**
- Saturday – 6.30pm** Joannah Dorman, (née Thornhill) and Ellen O'Leary, (née Thornhill), formerly of Riverdale, First Anniversaries.  
Donal O'Reilly, Creagh and late of Drisheen.  
Charles and Vincent Hodnett, Rosscarbery.
- Sunday – 11am** Jack, Peg, and Mary Maher, Kilnaclasha.  
Daniel O'Leary, formerly of Market Street.  
John O'Halloran, Coronea.

We extend our condolences to the families of - recently deceased:  
Mary Collins (née O'Regan), Earls Court, Waterford & High Street, Skibbereen.  
Donal Coughlan, St Patrick's Place, Upper Bridge Street & Kilsarlahought.  
Mary Agnes (Úna) Crowley (née O'Sullivan "Durrihy"), Bantry.  
May they Rest in Peace.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** in the Cathedral every **Monday & Friday from 10am until 6pm** both days. All welcome.

**Weekday Masses** Monday to Friday at **9.30am**. The **Rosary** is prayed before Mass each morning and on **Thursday** it is said for the special intention of vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood.  
**Confessions** on Saturday **10am to 11am**.

**Rosary** – every **Tuesday at 8pm** at **Our Lady's Grotto, Cork Road, Skibbereen**. All welcome.

**Eucharistic Adoration** in Rath Church every **Wednesday 7pm to 9pm**.  
**Stations of the Cross** in the Cathedral every **Friday at 6.30pm**.

**Hospitality Morning** in the Presbytery, on Wednesday after the **9.30am Mass**. All welcome.

The annual **Legion of Mary Acies Ceremony** on **11 April**. Mass in the **Cathedral at 7.30pm** followed by tea in the Presbytery. All welcome.

**Divine Mercy Sunday** – The annual **Divine Mercy Novena** in **St Patrick's Cathedral, Skibbereen** on **Sunday 27 April 2025**. **Confessions at 2.30pm** and **Novena prayers at 3pm**. All welcome.

### **St Patrick's Cathedral Bicentenary 1826-2026**

Next year we will celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of St Patrick's Cathedral. A considerable amount of renovation work is required to be done to ensure that this magnificent building remains a focal point for future generations. These works will cost approximately €200,000.00, including VAT and fees in circumstances where we will have a grant of €36,000.00. The committee is arranging several fundraising events, but we encourage people to contribute and for this purpose there is a collection box in the Cathedral and every donation, big or small, will be gratefully received and appreciated. Donations can be handed in to the parish office or given to one of the priests.

**Skibbereen Flower and Garden Club, on Wednesday 9 April at 8.15pm in Abbeystrewry Hall**, demonstration with Nora Gallagher, Macroom. A great night assured. Refreshments will be served. All very welcome.

**If** your child would like to participate in the dramatization of the children's Way of the Cross on **Good Friday (18 April)** in St Patrick's Cathedral please contact **Clíodhna on 086 2362530**. Rehearsals 14/15/16 April at 4pm.



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

**Priest on Duty/Emergency** – 086/7852262

#### **Mass Intentions**

##### **Sunday 6th April – Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**9.30am** Rath – Ellen Connolly, South Rath

Charlie & Mary Davis, Ballylynch

**10.00am** Cape Clear

**Monday 7th April – 10.15am** Rath

**Wednesday 9th April – 10.15am** Rath

**Friday 11th April – 10.15am** Rath

**Saturday 12th April**

**4.45pm** Sherkin

**Sunday 13th April – Palm Sunday of The Lords Passion**

**9.30am** Rath

**10.00am** Cape Clear

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

Confessions by appointment.

**Congratulations** and every blessing to the children from Rath National School who celebrated their First Confession in the Sacred Heart Church last Monday night.

**Adoration in Rath Church** every Wednesday evening during Lent from 7pm to 9pm. All are welcome.

**Stations of the Cross** in the Cathedral every Friday at 6.30pm, during Lent

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

**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.

**Rosary at the Grotto** – If you wish to pray for peace in this troubled world, you may do so every Tuesday at 8pm at Our Lady's Grotto, Cork Road, Skibbereen. All welcome.

**Monster Charity Bingo:** Today Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April in The West Cork Hotel at 3pm, €1500 in prize money. All are welcome and all proceeds are for Marymount

**Divine Mercy Sunday** – The annual Divine Mercy Novena will be held in St Patrick's Cathedral, Skibbereen on **Sunday 27th April 2025**.

Confessions commence at 2.30pm and Novena prayers commence at 3pm. Everyone from the Family of Parishes is invited to attend.

**This year, Trócaire's Lenten campaign** focuses on Guatemala, a country which is one of the least responsible for causing the climate crisis, yet is bearing the brunt of the consequences. We tell this story through, Ilma, Julio and their family. Find out more at [trocaire.org](http://trocaire.org)

**Have you ever dreamed of walking the Camino?** Join the MSC Missions as we walk the shaded lanes and valleys of the Camino Frances walking from Saria to Santiago in Spain. We will then visit Fatima for a short pilgrimage. We are being led on this spiritual journey by Fr Tony Horgan MSC. For more details of this fundraising pilgrimage ring Valerie at 021 454 3988 or email [valerie.buckley@mscmisions.ie](mailto:valerie.buckley@mscmisions.ie)

**Gorta Shop -Volunteers needed:** Self Help Africa retail charity shop, Market Street, Skibbereen. Your help would be much appreciated. Contact Delia 028 20768 or Barbara 028 21060.

**We need new volunteer drivers for Meals on Wheels to this parish.** Rota slots can be 3 or 6 days. Each driver's turn comes around every 7 weeks or about 7 times a year. If you'd like to volunteer or just want more information, email [bcagrp.ie@gmail.com](mailto:bcagrp.ie@gmail.com).