

CONFESSIONS FOR CHRISTMAS

You are invited to the Cathedral on Monday evening for Christmas confessions (7.30 pm). Several priests will be present. This is part of your Christmas preparations.



THIS WEEK

TUES 16-WED 24: LAS POSADAS — a nine day Mexican Christmas tradition based on the story of Mary, Joseph, and their search for a safe place to stay before Jesus was born.

THURS 18: ST FLANNAN, patron of Killybegs diocese, lived in the seventh century and was a son of the king of Thomond; a great preacher.

SAT 20, INTERNATIONAL HUMAN SOLIDARITY DAY (UN), a day to celebrate our unity in diversity; a day to remind governments to respect their commitments to international agreements;

OFFICE HOLIDAYS

The Family of Parishes office closes for Christmas holidays on 18 December. Bookings for Masses of Christmas-New Year should be made this week.

☆ POINT TO PONDER ☆

‘Prayer is the infallible means to obtain from God everything we desire’

— ST VINCENT PALLOTTI

FINANCE CORNER, 7DEC

AUGHADOWN: €830

8TH DEC €205

CASTLEHAVEN €605

(Development Fund €735)

RATH & THE ISLANDS : €679

SKIBBEREEN: €1,460

CLERGY

• Fr Kevin O'Regan Co-PP

(MODERATOR) PHONE: 028 22878

• Fr Bernard Cotter Co-PP (EDITOR)

Email frbernard1984@gmail.com

TEXT/WHATSAPP: 087 901 0627

• Fr Evin O'Brien CC, Family of parishes. PHONE: (028) 22877

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Alcoholics Anonymous in West Cork: 087 611 4946.

Pieta Hse Helpline 1800 247 247; or text **HELP** to 51444.

St Vincent de Paul, Skibbereen: 087 918 2698

Samaritans: 116 123 free.

Women against Violence Helpline 1800 203 136

FAMILY OF PARISHES OFFICE

TO BOOK MASSES, ARRANGE WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS, ANNIVERSARIES, ETC.

CONTACT THE FAMILY OF PARISHES' OFFICE, 1 NORTH ST, SKIBBEREEN.

Open: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday: 10 am -1 pm

• Phone **028-22828** • EMAIL stciaranas@gmail.com •



St Ciarán & All Saints
FAMILY OF PARISHES

NEWSLETTER

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

SUNDAY 14 DEC 2025 THIRD ADVENT VOL 4: 15

ELEVEN DAYS TO CHRISTMAS PUDDING!

This December, I have been pausing more, reflecting at the manger and the Cross. This Christmas, we can all pause, not just to remember a birth, but to receive a promise. In Jesus, God stepped into our world not with fanfare, but with humility;

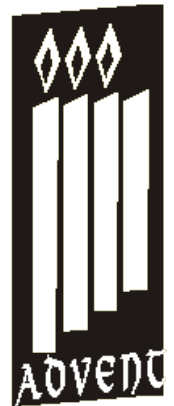
Not with power, but with peace;

Not with distance, but with presence.

Emmanuel—God is with us:

- In every uncertainty, He is our anchor.
- In every sorrow, He is our comfort.
- In every joy, He is our song.
- In every silence, He is our whisper of hope.
- In every waiting, He is our assurance.
- In every brokenness, He is our healer.
- In every celebration, He is our reason.
- In every fear, He is our courage.
- In every question, He is our truth.
- In every step, He is our guide.

The Light of the World has come!



Rev Susie Gallagher

WEST CORK CIRCUIT, METHODIST CHURCH



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 13 December 2025

- Saturday – 6.30pm** -Rosie Dwyer, North Street.
Patrick, Kathy and John O’Sullivan, Glandore Road, Leap.
Mary O’Leary, Market Street and Pat Cleary Market Street
- Sunday – 11am** Nora Leonard, Assumption Place.
Vera McCarthy, Skibbereen and Caheragh.
Sean Hourihane, Ballyalla.
Alma Karanauskiene, Month’s Mind.
- Monday – 9.30am** - John and Mary Murphy, Bauravilla.
- Tuesday – 9.30am** - Billy Lombard, Assumption Place.
- Wednesday** - **No Mass**
- Thursday – 9.30am** – Paddy, Sheila, Thomas and Mike Herlihy, Coolnagurrane.
- Friday - 9.30am** - The Burns family, North Street.
- Saturday – 6.30pm** - John Long, Lisalohorig.
Members of the Legion of Mary.
Michael Martin Crowley, Bunalun.
- Sunday – 11am** - Hester O’Brien, First Anniversary.
James and Elizabeth Murphy, Coolnagurrane.
Carmel O’Driscoll, Pound Hill, First Anniversary.

Our Advent Penance Service takes place on **Monday 15 December at 7.30pm** in the cathedral.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral every Monday and Friday from **10am to 6pm**.

Confessions will be heard **after morning Mass** on **Tuesday 16, Thursday 18, Friday 19** December and on **Saturday 20 December** from **10am to 12 noon**.

Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards are available in the Parish Office until 17 December. The office will be closed from December 18 to January 5th.

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

Weekday Masses - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 9.30am. The **Rosary** is prayed before each Mass and on **Thursday** it is said for the special intention of vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood.

Hospitality Morning in the Presbytery on Monday after the 9.30am Mass. All Welcome.

Lake Cross Grotto - Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in the rosary at the Grotto on Sunday last. We are very grateful for the donations made to the lighting fund. To all who donated during the year "míle buíochas". A Happy Christmas and New Year to all.

Christmas offering envelopes are available at the doors of the church. Your support is greatly appreciated.

The Parish Tax Back Scheme - If you’ve generously given €250 or more to Skibbereen Parish in a calendar year, you could make your donation work even harder by letting the Parish claim some of the tax that you’ve already paid to Revenue! How it works: The tax back scheme allows our Parish to claim more than 40% in tax back on a year’s donations totalling over €250, at no cost to you. Do you qualify? If you pay any Irish tax, either PAYE or self-assessed, and you live in Ireland, then you probably do! In order to claim any tax back, you need to have donated a minimum of €250 in any one year. It doesn’t matter if you’re PAYE or self-assessed for us to be able to claim back your tax paid.

If you didn’t get the forms yet, and wish to participate in the scheme, forms are available at the back of the main aisle of the church or from the parish office. Please return the completed forms to the parish office and arrangements will be made for you to receive your box of envelopes. For any questions you may have please contact the parish office on 028 22828 or email skibbereenparish@gmail.com.

Skibbereen Community School carol service takes place in **St Patrick's cathedral** on **Tuesday 16 December at 7pm**. All are welcome.

The local branch of the Irish Red Cross has organised a street collection for **Friday 19 December**. All monies collected are sent directly to Irish Red Cross HQ in Dublin, which in turn helps communities in war zones and natural disaster areas across the world



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

Priest on Duty/Emergency – 086/7852262

Mass Intentions

Saturday 13th December

4.45pm Sherkin

Sunday 14th December – Third Sunday of Advent

9.30am Rath – Gerald Grace, Ballymacrown

Billy Andy & Sonny Andy O'Driscoll, Knockanaulty

Patrick, Maisie & Sr Kathleen Taylor, Spain, Baltimore

Patrick & Eily O'Regan, Castle View, Baltimore

10.00am Cape Clear – Michael & Josephine Brosnan & Family

Monday 15th December – 10.00am – Rath – Mary Devlin and her son Barry Devlin

Wednesday 17th December – 10.00am – Rath – Neasa O'Briain and family, (Hourihane) Skibbereen and Howth

Saturday 20th December

4.45pm Sherkin

Sunday 21st December – Fourth Sunday of Advent

9.30am Rath – Jackie Carey, Ballymacrown

Kieran & Hester Cotter, Baltimore and Cape Clear

Connie & Agnes O'Driscoll, Lackahane

10.00am Cape Clear – Ciaran G O'Drisceoil, Lisamona

Weekday Masses – Mass on Monday 15th and Wednesday 17th December is at 10am.

Christmas Confessions – **Monday 15th December at 7.30pm** in St Patricks Cathedral, Skibbereen. Several priests will be present.

Eucharistic Adoration in Sacred Heart Church, Rath on Wednesday evenings from 7pm-9pm. All are welcome even if only for ten minutes, half an hour or an hour to spend time with the Blessed Sacrament.

Adoration of the blessed sacrament in the Cathedral every Monday and Friday from 10am to 6pm. There are scheduled hours available for adoration, but all are welcome for any period of time.

Advent Lectio Divina – The Office of Mission & Ministry will be offering the final online Lectio Divina session for Advent on **Wednesday 17th December from 7.30pm to 8.30pm.**

These will be an opportunity to pause, pray with Scripture and prepare for the coming of Christ. These online sessions are open to everyone. With limited places available, registration is essential. Contact us via <https://tinvurl.com.mission-ministry> or by ringing 021-7355517.

Rotas are available in the sacristy for the period January to June 2026 for Church Cleaning, Ministers of the Word, Communion Ministers.

Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards are available in the Parish Office, Skibbereen until 17th December.

Baltimore Community Market Christmas Fair every Sunday in December from 11am to 1pm in Baltimore Sailing Club. Join us for great food, crafts, free treats, coffee and a raffle and lucky dip in aid of Baltimore Play School.

Baltimore Meals on Wheels needs Drivers –

Meals on Wheels is a brilliant service that enables people to continue to live in their own homes, when they and their families cannot cook meals every day. Cara House in Skibbereen provides the fabulous service of producing the meals for both the Skibbereen and Baltimore areas.

Volunteer driver delivers the meals, and we need more drivers.

The Baltimore run covers the Baltimore Road out of Skibbereen and surrounding townlands. You will meet some lovely people who will really appreciate you. To volunteer or find out more text Jonnie on 087/1120721.

Baltimore Community Newsletter Christmas 2025 is now available to buy in Caseys, Bushes and Camiers Shop.

Christmas Craft Market – Wednesday 17th December from 2pm to 7pm in Skibbereen Community & Family Resource Centre, North Street, Skibbereen P81 ND89. Food, Crafts, face painting and more, fun for all ages.