

# CLONAKILTY FAMILY OF PARISHES

# Newsletter

Clonakilty Family of Parishes comprises the parishes of Ardfield, Barryroe, Clonakilty, Kilmeen, Rosscarbery, and Timoleague.

Parishes' Office (023) 883 5654.

Sunday  
7<sup>th</sup> September 2025  
23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the year

Urgent Calls 086 876 0608

[www.OneFaith.ie](http://www.OneFaith.ie)

One body, one spirit, in Christ

## WHY SUNDAY MASS MATTERS – A SUMMARY OF THE BISHOPS' PASTORAL LETTER

As we journey through this Jubilee Year of Hope, the Irish Bishops invite all Catholics to reflect on the importance of Sunday Mass and, for those who have not yet returned, to do so with renewed joy.

From the earliest days of Christianity, Sunday has been the **day of the Lord**: the day of resurrection, rest, and Eucharist. At Mass, we encounter Christ in His living presence, are nourished in body and soul, and strengthened to live as disciples. Far from being merely an obligation, Sunday Mass is a **privilege and a gift**, drawing us into God's love in a personal and communal way.

### Communion

Sunday Mass unites us as the **Body of Christ**. In gathering, we affirm our shared identity as Christians and strengthen the bonds of unity, solidarity, and love. As Pope John Paul II taught, none is as community-forming as the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist.

### Participation

The Eucharist is not only personal prayer but **communal worship**. Every member of the Church has a role to play, and our physical presence matters. While livestreams and recordings may help, they can never replace the joy of being together around the Lord's table. We give thanks for priests and all who serve in liturgical ministries, and we especially encourage young people to return as Altar Servers, enriching both their own faith and the life of the parish.

## Mission

The Mass also sends us forth. Strengthened by Christ's Body and Blood, we are called to be **missionary disciples**, bringing the hope and joy of the Gospel into the world.

Since the pandemic, many have struggled to return to Mass, yet the Church is strongest when gathered together. We invite you to reflect: *What does Sunday mean to you? How can you enrich your experience of Mass? How can you help your parish community flourish in faith?*

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### Clonakilty Community Care

Thursday night club in St. Fachtna's hall will resume on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm.

### Anam Cara West Cork

The organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Face to Face Parent Support Evening for bereaved parents on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm in the Fernhill House Hotel, Clonakilty.

### Clonakilty Bereavement Group

We are offering you support over a five-week period commencing on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 8.00pm in Clonakilty. Bereavement of all kinds is included, not just that from a death. For more information please contact 023 8835654.

## PARISHES' NEWS & EVENTS

### New schedule of Sunday Masses

It is expected that a new schedule of Sunday Masses for the thirteen churches in our family of parishes will be finalised this coming week and announced next weekend. With fewer people attending Sunday Mass than when our churches were built,

and the resultant fewer numbers of priests assigned to parish ministry, it is becoming impossible to maintain celebrations of Sunday (or Saturday evening) Mass in every church building every weekend. Over the summer, and indeed for the major ceremonies of the Easter Triduum earlier this year, the six parochial churches were prioritised. Following a great deal of feedback received over the summer, and with additional consultation during this coming week, a Sunday Mass schedule will be teased out and agreed upon. That will take into account the reduced numbers of volunteers in our parishes (Sacristans, Servers, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Choirs and Musicians, Cleaners, etc.) and the five priests for six parishes, with the proviso that a priest becoming indisposed cannot cause Mass to be cancelled, something those who book month's minds and anniversaries will especially appreciate.

### Autumn Offerings

Parishioners in Cork and Ross are known for their generosity towards their pastors. 100% of the income of a priest in a parish in our diocese

comes directly from parishioners. The major part of that income is from the four 'offerings' or 'dues' in the Autumn, at Christmas, in the Spring, and at Easter, in addition to the November Novena Offerings.

The Autumn Offerings are due in early September. Envelopes are available in the churches and, for those who use them, in their box of Offertory Envelopes. The offerings in one of the specially marked Autumn Offerings envelopes can be dropped into the offertory baskets. The priests appointed to our six parishes thank you most sincerely in advance for your generosity.

### **Send your Prayer Petitions to Lourdes**

The Cork and Ross Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place from September 19<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> this year. You might like your prayer petitions to be brought to Our Lady's Grotto in Lourdes. At the back of Clonakilty church, you will find some Prayer Petition Sheets and a pen. Please feel free to fill these in and return to the sacristy or parish office. The parish will then forward them to be brought to Lourdes

### **OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)**

An information meeting for anyone interested in becoming a Catholic, whether already baptised or not, will be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 7.30pm in Clonakilty Parish Centre. This will be followed by a

course to prepare interested adults to enter the Catholic Church through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist.

### **Sycamore and Foundations in Theology**

A programme exploring the fundamentals of our Christian faith for young adults aged 18-35 will be returning on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September from 5.45pm to 8.00pm in Mardyke House, Cork.

### **Discernment Group Gatherings for men interested in the Diocesan Priesthood**

A series of monthly gatherings will take place for men aged between 18 and 40 who are considering the Diocesan Priesthood. Each month at these gatherings there will be an opportunity for input, time of reflection and prayer. The first of these will take place in Mardyke House (T12 W8RP) on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup> of September, from 10.00am to 2.00pm. There will also be the opportunity to have a Spiritual Director to accompany you on your discernment journey. If you are interested or know somebody else that might be, further information and registration can be obtained by emailing Fr Cian O'Sullivan on [vocations@corkandross.org](mailto:vocations@corkandross.org)

### **Canonisations in Rome**

This Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> September, Carlo Acutis (1991-2006) & Pier Giorgio Frassati (1901-1925) will be added to the list – the canon – of saints at a ceremony in Rome over which

Pope Leo will preside. The two men have been nominated as Patrons of Youth.

### **Collections 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> August**

Ardfield	€460
Barryroe	€1020
Clonakilty	€4815
Kilmeen	€387.93
Rosscarbery	€
Timoleague	€725

### **Rosary for Our Lady's Nativity**

At Courtmacsherry grotto on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm, and in Timoleague church on the same evening at 8.00pm. Timoleague church's patronal feast day is the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

### **Poor Clares Vocation afternoon**

on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2025 from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

### **Gougane Barra Sunday**

On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September. Confessions at 1.30pm followed by Rosary at 2.30pm with Mass at 3.00pm to celebrate the Jubilee Year of Hope.

### **Recently Baptised**

Harry Richard Pelter, Desert & Michael Nicholas Stone, Clogheen Grove.

### **Recently Deceased**

Martha Healy, Rossmore, Clonakilty & Macroom.

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**Family of Parishes' Office.** Open Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 1.30pm. Eircode P85 P793. (023) 883 5654 [office@onefaith.ie](mailto:office@onefaith.ie)

**Urgent calls** throughout the family of parishes: 086 876 0608

**Baptisms and Weddings** – Book through [www.OneFaith.ie](http://www.OneFaith.ie)

**Funerals** – arranged through Undertakers. Volunteer lay funeral ministers assist families prepare the funeral Mass and they preside at liturgical prayer on the evening before the Mass.

### **Priests' Contacts**

Fr Tom Hayes, Co-PP and Moderator, VG. (023) 883 3165. [tom.hayes@corkandross.org](mailto:tom.hayes@corkandross.org)

Canon John Kingston, AP. (023) 883 9114

Canon Martin O'Driscoll, Co-PP. (023) 884 8168

Fr Fergus Tuohy, SMA, CC. [fergus257@gmail.com](mailto:fergus257@gmail.com)

Fr Fergus Ryan, OP, CC. (023) 884 0188 & 087 204 0576. [priest@barryroe.ie](mailto:priest@barryroe.ie)

Clonakilty priest on duty: 087 682 8076

### **Autumn schedule of Sunday Masses *pro tem***

**Ardfield** P85 DD40 @ 10.00am

**Barryroe** P72 T206 @ 10.00am

**Clonakilty** P85 NT22 @

7.00pm Saturday,

Sunday @ 8.30am and 11.00am

**Rossmore** P85 V832 @ 11.00am

**Rosscarbery** P85 Y270 @

7.00pm Saturday, 11.30am Sunday

**Timoleague** P72 TF89 @ 11.30am

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*We expect to announce a new schedule of Sunday Masses next weekend*

**Samaritans:** 116 123; [jo@samaritans.ie](mailto:jo@samaritans.ie) (several days may pass before you receive an email in reply). **Society of St Vincent de Paul,** Clonakilty: 086 029 5142.