

# 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.**

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026  
First Sunday of Lent

**Urgent Calls 086 876 0608**

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

One body, one spirit, in Christ

## YOU GAVE UP A WORD FOR LENT?

At the end of 10.00am Mass in Barryroe last week, the children preparing to begin receiving Holy Communion took down from the ambo their decorated 'Alleluias' which they had prepared in school and placed them in a basket. Yours truly covered them (the artwork!) with a violet cloth and took them out of the church. The recessional hymn was Seek ye first, full of Alleluias.

We were repeating what was very commonly done in the Middle Ages as a reminder that Lent is not just about more prayer, more alms-giving, and more fasting, but also changing the *way* we pray together.

Our Roman tradition, for example, drops the word *Alleluia* – meaning *Praise-ye Yah(weh)* or *Praise-ye the God who protected us from the angel of death in Egypt* throughout Lent. Alleluia means to recall joyfully God's great work of protecting the Hebrews from death, and for Christians this was brought to a final and perfect stage in Our Lord's destruction of death itself on Good Friday and rising to a new glorious life on Easter Sunday. ....*continued over...*

We Romans began Lent last Wednesday. Our Syro Malabar, Syro Malankar, Coptic and Ukrainian neighbours began two days earlier. Tomorrow, Catholics in the diocese of Milan and the few remaining parishes of the Old Hispanic tradition (aka Mozarabic) in Toledo begin Lent today. Beginning Lent on a Wednesday is a uniquely Roman tradition. It was in order to have 40 weekdays (Monday to Friday) during the season, omitting Sundays, and concluding with Holy Saturday, giving 47 days. Since Vatican II, we've upgraded the Easter Triduum so it begins as Lent ends on Holy Thursday evening, making our Lent 45 days long. We're encouraged to keep up our penance until the Easter Vigil, however, keeping exactly 40 days of 'fasting'.

Alleluia is a Passover word (the angel passed over the houses of the Hebrews) and so for us an Easter word. Giving *Alleluia* up for Lent allows it to return to our common prayer on Easter night with all the more joyous atmosphere.

Notice the detail of the absent Alleluia before the Gospel during Lent. Its absence is most obvious before the Gospel where the congregation's refrain changes. In other moments where the word occurs it is also dropped too. Lent is a journey to Easter, where we can celebrate more joyfully with *Allelnias* if we have given them up for Lent.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### **Clonakilty Bereavement Group**

Are you grieving? Clonakilty Bereavement Group is a safe and secure place in which you work through your grief. We are offering you support over a five-week period. The Sessions are held in Clonakilty and will commence on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 8.00pm. For more information please contact 023-8835654 (9.30am-1.00pm.).

### **Daffodil Day Fundraiser**

in Darrara Community Centre Flowers & Food, an evening of floristry, nutrition & wellness on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 8.00pm. Tickets €15. Call 086 3903597. All proceeds in aid of Daffodil day Clonakilty.

### **Epilepsy Awareness Day**

In Ireland today, over 45,000 people live with epilepsy. For further information, please visit [www.epilepsy.ie](http://www.epilepsy.ie). Purple Day (or Epilepsy Awareness Day) will take place on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March.

### **The liner *Cardiff Hill***

Timoleague Historical Society presents its story. The liner, en route from Argentina to Cork, sank at the Seven Heads Peninsula during a ferocious storm over 100 years ago. Feverish speculation and theories as to how the 28 crew were lost, as well as the precious cargo on board, make this an unmissable night that will shine a light on the social and economic infrastructure of the area at the time. Suggested donation of €5 at the door of Timoleague Community Hall at 7:30pm on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Luka Bloom does Timoleague**

Church of the Ascension, Church of Ireland, Timoleague, P72 T282, on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 8.00pm. To book tickets search "Luka Bloom" on Eventbrite.

## PARISHES' NEWS & EVENTS

### **Conversation with the Bible**

Thursdays in the parish centre, 7.00pm to 8.00pm. Contact John 086 8178248.

## Church choirs-musicians

Thank you to the almost 30 choristers who participated in the two-hour workshop. We reviewed how the singing of the 'fixed' parts of the Mass is going and including the congregation, as well as singing Eastertide hymns old and new. We hope to be more aware of the fifty-day season of Easter this year with more Easter hymns at Mass and maybe some baptisms too.

## Maranatha

is a full-day faith-based, high energy music event for young people from parishes across the diocese attending post-primary schools. Students from over half of our post-primary schools have been preparing for Maranatha 2026. This culminates in a concert in Cork City Hall on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February with over 500 young people singing together. Please support our young people by coming to this event. Tickets are €15 (plus booking fee) and are available to book on eventbrite.ie, search Maranatha.

## Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Pilgrimage to Fatima

from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September 2026 ex Cork and Dublin. Spiritual Director Fr Joe McGee, MSC. Karen in Barbers Travel: 021-4851700 or email: kcallaghan@travelnet.ie

## Catholic Faith Camp for teenagers

in Knockadoon from 7<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> June. For more information contact Fr Roche on 086 9972539.

## Recently deceased

Anna Callanan, Ballymacowen.

## Recently baptised

### Offertory 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> February

Ardfield	€945
Barryroe	€1,090
Clonakilty	€4,035
Kilmeen	€510
Rosscarbery	€1,150
Timoleague	€1,255

(Timoleague's Lourdes collection two weeks ago came to €695).

## Beagáinín Gaeilge

With St Patrick's Day approaching, why not revise some of our liturgical responses in Irish?

- And with your spirit is '**Agus le do spiorad**' in the latest version.
- Thanks be to God is '**Buíochas le Dia**' remains unchanged.

With those two responses, we can pray the dismissal rite entirely *as Gaeilge*.

Go raibh an Tiarna libh. **Agus le do spiorad.**

Go mbeannaí Dia uilechumhachtach sibh, an tAthair, agus an Mac, agus an Spiorad Naomh. **Áiméan.**

Imí gí faoi shíocháin ag glóiriú an Tiarna le bhur mbeatha. **Buíochas le Dia.**

## The end of Mass is different during Lent! The Prayer over the People

During the season of Lent since we have begun using our new editions of the Roman Missal (2011 in English, 2017 in Irish) the concluding part of Mass (the blessing) has an additional prayer added to it. The prayer is ancient, it is an example of a very sober Roman way of praying – different to the solemn blessings and their three *Amens*, and it was used up till Vatican II when it was dropped during Lent, that is until recently. Now we have a different prayer for every Sunday and weekday of Lent, as well as Good Friday. It is obligatory on Sundays, and optional on weekdays. Listen out for it at Mass. It will be preceded by *The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. Bow down for the blessing.* It will be followed by *And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you, and remain with you for ever* to which we answer *Amen*. Priests can forget it...so patience, please!

**Spring Dues** for the parish clergy's income are scheduled for today. As the income for clergy falls with overall falling Mass attendance we thank those who continue to support the less frequently supported spring and autumn offerings.

### 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

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** Darrara Tuesdays, 7.00pm to 8.00pm.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will not take place again in Clonakilty Church on Fridays until March due to ongoing building works.

### Mass schedule for Winter-Spring 2025-2026

#### Parish Churches every Sunday

**Ardfield** at 10.00am

**Barryroe** at 10.00am

**Clonakilty** at 7.00pm Saturday,

Sunday at 8.30am and 11.00am

**Rosscarbery** at 6.00pm Saturday,

Sunday at 11.30am

**Rossmore** at 11.00am

**Timoleague** at 11.30am

#### Monthly Masses March 2026

Saturdays at 7.00pm

28<sup>th</sup> February (stet) in **Bealad**

7<sup>th</sup> March in **Clogagh**

14<sup>th</sup> March in **Rathbarry**

Sundays at 9.30am

1<sup>st</sup> March in **Darrara**

8<sup>th</sup> March in **Lisavaid**

15<sup>th</sup> March in **Courtmacsherry**

First Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in

**Carrigfadda**