

# 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  
24<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
Pentecost Sunday

**Urgent Calls 086 876 0608**

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

One body, one spirit, in Christ

## A MAXIMUM AGE FOR BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION?

The minimum age for first communion and confirmation is sometimes raised in conversation. The international standard for both sacraments in the Roman church is the age of reason – after the seventh birthday we could say. Then arrangements are made regionally for when they are usually received.

When I go in to first communion classes after their big day I ask the children what they remember about the day, what was important and so on. And I sometimes ask the children if there is a maximum age for receiving the sacraments, or is it too late when you reach a certain age and haven't been baptised, or confirmed, or received Holy Communion. It usually stumps them. Of course, there is no maximum age.

And it's important to remember that. For older people who would like to be baptised, or simply confirmed, there are programmes in place to help them, often called the OCIA or RCIA. They're not rigid programmes, but ones which are adapted to the person's circumstances. The preference is to baptise and confirm older people at the Easter Vigil, but that's a preference. Alternative arrangements can be made. Your local priest will always be able to help with a question on this.

A child who had never been baptised was very interested in the first communion experience recently and when we were all chatting in school about the day, she asked 'why is the \*first\* communion emphasised so much?' I thought it was an excellent question. Emphasising \*first\* communion is a recent practice, brought in to impress on people the importance of beginning to receive. Previously, the emphasis was on baptism and confirmation which then allowed you to \*begin\* receiving communion. You might have guessed I've been emphasising 'starting to receive Holy Communion' rather than just 'First'

Communion. And yes, I have mentioned 'Last Communion' or 'Viaticum', communion for the dying. Don't forget to have your loved ones receive Holy Communion before they become too weak. Last Communion as 'Food for the journey' is important too and part of the last rites: confession, anointing, and viaticum or last communion.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### **Garden Fete in Kilmeen National School**

on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May from 12 noon until 2pm. All welcome.

### **Clonakilty Show**

takes place on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June

## PARISHES' NEWS & EVENTS

### **Carlo Acutis relics to Skibbereen**

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May arriving in time for 7pm Mass in Skibbereen Cathedral. Individual blessings with the relic available after Mass and late into the night if necessary.

### **Trinity holy well gathering - Castleventry**

will be held on Trinity Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May at 8pm. Choirs and musicians will perform and prayers will be said for sick members of the community, for those who have passed away and for students doing exams and for a fine summer. All are welcome and please if you so wish bring flowers to leave at the holy well in accordance with a very old tradition. Enquires to 087 2030762

### **Cork City Eucharistic Procession**

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June beginning at 3pm from the north cathedral and ending

with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at the National Monument at the southern end of Grand Parade. 2026 is the centenary of the first Eucharistic procession in the city since the suppression of Catholicism. Further details about the procession and other related events:

[www.corkandross.org/ep100](http://www.corkandross.org/ep100)

### **Rosary – Barryroe Grotto**

Nightly every evening for the month of May at 8pm.

### **Rosary – Timoleague – Our Lady's Well**

Nightly for the month of May at 8pm.

### **Rosary – Clonakilty**

Wednesday night for the month of May at 8pm at the Convent Hill Grotto.

### **All Ireland Rosary in Knock**

The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual All-Ireland Rosary Rally takes place at the Knock Shrine in County Mayo on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026. The event typically draws over 10,000 pilgrims for a full day of faith, guest speakers, a living rosary, and Mass. Posters and leaflets are in our churches with more information.

## **Lough Derg Pilgrimage**

Four-day pilgrimage leaves Cork Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 9am. Returning Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June. Booking information phone Paddy 021 4502572.

## **Preparation for Marriage & Married Couples Courses**

*Grásta* is a voluntary group of Married Couples based in Ireland. We are holding Pre-Marriage courses. We also organise courses for Married Couples. We work in partnership with other lay people, clergy and the team at the beautiful De La Salle Pastoral Centre in Co. Laois to offer enriching residential courses in a peaceful and welcoming environment. The courses are run with the approval of the Diocese and Bishop of Ossory and the Bishops' Council for Marriage and the Family.

## **Timoleague Grotto – word of thanks**

Thanks to the volunteers in the parish for painting the Grotto at the church steps recently. Your work is very much appreciated.

## **Timoleague Corpus Christi Procession**

after 11.30am Mass on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June.

## **The National Synodal Pathway**

has reached an important moment in its journey. Currently, the

working groups are meeting periodically to explore more deeply the seven priorities identified by the Catholic Church in discerning what God is asking of the Church in Ireland today. To learn more about this journey, please see <https://theway.ie/julieann-moran-shares-update-as-national-synodal-pathway-reaches-important-phase>

## **Offertory 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> May**

|             |        |
|-------------|--------|
| Ardfield    | €240   |
| Barryroe    | €1,300 |
| Clonakilty  | €3,975 |
| Kilmeen     | €405   |
| Rathbarry   | €445   |
| Rosscarbery | €1,330 |
| Timoleague  | €985   |

## **Upcoming Second Collections**

28<sup>th</sup> June: Peter's Pence (for papal charities) – on 21<sup>st</sup> in Timoleague due to an administrative error in printing boxes of offertory envelopes outside the control of our parishes.

## **Timoleague Trócaire boxes**

€960

## **Recently Deceased**

John Hodnett, Burren, Kilbrittain & Clonakilty; Mary Jane Aherne, Tawnies Lower & Cathedral Road Cork.

## **Recent Wedding**

Edelle Gallagher, Kilworth & Killian Finn, Mitchelstown who were married in Clonakilty Church.

**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

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** Darrara on Tuesdays, 7pm to 8pm.

Clonakilty on Thursdays after 10am Mass until 2pm.

### **Eucharistic schedule 2026**

#### **Parish Churches every Sunday**

**Ardfield** at 10am

**Barryroe** at 10am

**Clonakilty** at 7pm Saturday,  
Sunday at 8.30am and 11am

**Rosscarbery** at 6pm Saturday,  
Sunday at 11.30am

**Rossmore** at 11am

**Timoleague** at 11.30am

*During July & August an additional Mass  
will be celebrated in Courtmacsherry on  
Saturday evenings at 7.30pm.*

#### **Monthly Masses June 2026**

**Saturdays at 7pm**

6<sup>th</sup> June in **Bealad**

13<sup>th</sup> June in **Clogagh**

20<sup>th</sup> June in **Rathbarry**

**Sundays at 9.30am**

7<sup>th</sup> June in **Darrara**

14<sup>th</sup> June in **Lisavaired**

21<sup>st</sup> June in **Courtmacsherry** – *this is  
the final Sunday morning Mass in  
Courtmacsherry.*

First Friday of June at 7.30pm

5<sup>th</sup> June in **Carrigfada**, with anointing.

**Weekday Masses** are guaranteed only in Clonakilty parish church, Monday to Saturday at 10am. Mass intentions at those Masses are arranged between parishioners and the parish and are guaranteed. Weekday Masses outside Clonakilty are subject to change at short notice, including to cover Clonakilty 10am Mass. Mass intentions outside Clonakilty are a private arrangement with the priest and some degree of flexibility is necessary in these matters.