

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.

Tenth Sunday
7th June 2026
Feast of Corpus Christi

Urgent Calls 086 876 0608

www.OneFaith.ie

One body, one spirit, in Christ

Mr Paul Ryan, Timoleague, will be ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Fintan in Timoleague parish church on Sunday, 21st June, at 3pm. Paul is married to Brid and they have adult children. The celebration is an event of our diocese and so all are welcome to join the celebration. The diocese already has three of its own deacons and Paul will become our fourth.

WHAT IS A DEACON?

Many people are familiar with priests and bishops, but fewer understand the role of the deacon in the life of the Church. Yet the diaconate is one of the three ordained ministries in the Roman Catholic Church, according to the teaching of Vatican II, alongside the presbyterate (priests) and the episcopate (bishops). Deacons play an important role in serving the people of God and helping to carry out the Church's mission.

The word *deacon* comes from the Greek word *diakonos*, meaning 'servant' or 'minister'. This reflects the heart of the deacon's vocation: service. The origins of the diaconate can be traced back to the early Church. In the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 6:1–6), seven men were chosen by the Apostles to assist in caring for the needs of the community, particularly widows and the poor. This event is often seen as the beginning of the diaconate.

A man is ordained a deacon through receiving the Sacrament of Holy Orders. There are two groups of deacons in the Catholic Church. A *transitional deacon* is a seminarian preparing for ordination to the priesthood. A *permanent deacon* remains a deacon for life and does not expect to go on to become a priest. Married men who do not intend becoming priests may be ordained deacons. All those who have been ordained deacons, however, are not permitted to marry unless they leave the ministry, be they deacons, priests, or bishops.

A deacon's ministry is often described as a ministry of Word, Liturgy, and Charity.

In the ministry of the Word, deacons proclaim the Gospel at Mass, announce the intentions during the Prayer of the Faithful, and sometimes may preach homilies. They also teach and share the faith through parish programmes, sacramental preparation, and pastoral outreach.

In the ministry of the Liturgy, deacons assist the priest during Mass also at the altar, especially preparing the chalice at the offertory and ministering Holy Communion from the chalice. They may baptise, witness marriages, preside at funeral services outside Mass, lead prayers and devotions, and bring Holy Communion to the sick and housebound. While deacons perform many important liturgical functions, they are not priests and cannot administer any sacraments a lay person cannot administer.

In the ministry of Charity, deacons are called to be visible signs of Christ the Servant. They often work closely with those who are poor, lonely, vulnerable, or in need of support. Many deacons are involved in hospital chaplaincy, prison ministry, bereavement support, and community outreach. Their role reminds the whole Church of its responsibility to serve others with compassion and love.

The restoration of the permanent diaconate was one of the important developments of the Second Vatican Council (1962–1965). Since then, thousands of men around the world have answered God's call to this ministry, enriching parish and diocesan life through their service.

An ordained deacon is, therefore, much more than an assistant at the altar. He is an ordained minister of the Church who is called to serve Christ and His people through prayer, proclamation of the Gospel, and practical acts of charity. The diaconate is a grace for the Church. Through their ministry, deacons help to build up the Church and witness to Christ's example of humble and loving service.

How can you recognise a deacon during the liturgy? Over an alb he wears a stole on his left shoulder which is fastened together above his right hip. He often wears a dalmatic over these two vestments: a tunic with sleeves which is closed at the sides and matches the priest's chasuble in style and colour. It often has vertical stripes as decoration on the garment's body. The dalmatic was originally a bishop's vestment which was granted to deacons as a sign of the deacon's close collaboration with the bishop. For more solemn celebrations of Mass, a bishop may also wear a dalmatic beneath the chasuble as bishops often did in the late middle ages until the 1960s, something which often confuses artists when they are deciding which item of clothing is which on a statue of a bishop (e.g. St Patrick) and which colour to choose for each vestment. Permanent deacons in Ireland do not usually wear clerical dress on the street, although they are indeed members of the clergy.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Clonakilty Show

takes place on Sunday 7th June in the showgrounds.

To the organisers of Clonakilty Agricultural Show, well done, despite inflation and the rising costs, they have kept the admission fee to the show on Sunday next, 7th June to €20 per family, which allows two adults and children under-12 free to the show. This year's show was late getting off the ground due to lack of volunteers to take up leadership roles, but after finally getting a team together in late April, they got 6 weeks to put the show, which normally would take six months of planning. So well done to the volunteers who because of their community spirit and the love and passion of the show, have worked very hard behind the scenes. Often this work which goes on late at night and early mornings, goes unnoticed.

Anam Cara – Meeting

the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on Tuesday 16th June at 7.30pm in the Fernhill House Hotel, Clonakilty. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was. You do not need to register in advance.

Darrara Community Centre

is delighted to welcome the acclaimed one-man show *The Man in the Woman's Shoes* by Mikel Murfi on Saturday, 29th August 2026 at 8pm. Tickets (€25) go on sale on Sunday, 7th June, after Darrara Mass from 10.30am to 12 noon at Darrara Community Centre. Complimentary bus from Clonakilty (booking essential).

Timoleague Educational Garden

is now in full bloom. Come sit and enjoy on Thursdays and Saturdays, 12 noon to 2pm.

PARISHES' NEWS & EVENTS

Cork City Eucharistic Procession

Sunday 7th 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

Corpus Christi in Clonakilty

On Sunday 14th June to mark the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, the Blessed Sacrament is taken in procession through the streets after the 11am Mass. The Church car park will only be available for parking for people with

mobility difficulties. Route: leaving via the main gate on Western Road, Tawnies Lower, Tawnies Crescent, St Paul's Close, Tawnies Grove, Western Road and returning via the main gate on Western Road. The congregation will follow the leading crucifix and candles, followed by families with children who received First Holy Communion, then the choir which precedes the canopy and the Blessed Sacrament accompanied by altar servers. Benediction at the conclusion in the church.

Timoleague Corpus Christi Procession

after 11.30am Mass on Sunday 7th June.

Padre Pio Mass - Sacred Heart Church, Rath, Baltimore

on Monday 8th June at 7pm Exposition and Rosary, followed by Mass at 7.30pm. Blessing with first-class relic of Padre Pio. Petition box with Mass offered for intentions. Please note there will be no Mass in July & August.

Monthly Masses June 2026

First Friday at 7.30pm

5th June in **Carrigfada**
with anointing of the sick.

Saturdays at 7pm

6th June in **Bealad**
13th June in **Clogagh**
20th June in **Rathbarry**

Recently Married

Chikodi Unachukwu & Kingsley Unachukwu, Nigeria who were married last weekend in Clonakilty.

Annual National Grandparents Pilgrimage in Knock

Celebrating world day for grandparents and the elderly on Sunday 26th July in Knock Shrine.

Offertory 31st May & 1st June

Ardfield	€380
Barryroe	€825
Clonakilty	€4,315
Kilmeen	€330
Rosscarbery	€1,300
Timoleague	€1,052

Upcoming Second Collection

28th June: Peter's Pence (for papal charities) – on 21st in Timoleague.

Recently Deceased

Brendan Cahalane, Tawnies Crescent & Butlerstown.

Recently Baptised

Charlie Darragh Cullinane, Kilmalooda.

Sundays at 9.30am

7th June in **Darrara**
14th June in **Lisavaird**
21st June in **Courtmac'**
– this is the final Sunday morning Mass in Courtmacsberry. In July and August there will be 7.30pm Mass on Saturdays. From September, there will be Mass at 7pm on the fourth Saturday of the month.