

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
27th July 2025
17th Sunday of the year

Urgent Calls 086 876 0608

www.OneFaith.ie

One body, one spirit, in Christ

200 YEARS OF THE COURTMACSHERRY LIFEBOAT

In 1823, living in Douglas on the Isle of Man, William Hillary could see the treacherous nature of the sea first-hand. He witnessed dozens of shipwrecks around the Manx coast and saved many lives with the help of locals. (In the early 19th century there was an average of 1,800 shipwrecks a year around the coasts of UK and Ireland).

On 28th February 1823, Sir William published a pamphlet detailing his plans for a lifeboat service manned by trained crews for all of the UK and Ireland. He sent the pamphlet to the British Navy, ministers and prominent citizens, appealing for the formation of a National Institution for the Preservation of Lives and Property from Shipwreck. At the heart of this institution would be 'a large body of men [...] in constant readiness to risk their own lives for the preservation of those whom they have never known or seen, perhaps of another nation, merely because they are fellow creatures in extreme peril.'

Sir William Hillary's vision for a service dedicated to saving lives at sea became a reality on 4th March 1824 when over 30 eminent gentlemen put their names to the fledgling service at an inaugural public meeting in London. Vice-president and Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Charles Manners-Sutton, presided over the meeting. Thus the Royal National Institution for the Preservation of Life from Shipwreck was formed.

One year later in June 1825 it was proposed to place a Lifeboat in Courtmacsherry and Arklow and in December the Institution placed a new lifeboat built by William Plenty, and called The Plenty at Courtmacsherry, the first lifeboat in what is now the Republic of Ireland. The Lifeboat while manned by locals, was placed in the guardianship of the Coastguard Station.

On 5th October 1854, the Institution's name was changed to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution – the RNLI. In 1866, because of the large number of shipwrecks in Courtmacsherry and Clonakilty Bay area, the RNLI decided to build a new station specially for the Lifeboat and have a local Station Committee formed. This became a reality in February 1867 when a new lifeboat 'The City Of Dublin' was placed on station in Courtmacsherry in a new purpose-built boathouse at the seaward end of the village and now known as 'The Boathouse'.

Brian O'Dwyer, Courtmacsherry RNLI

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Courtmacsherry Harbour Festival

Saturday 26th July to Monday 4th August.

Timoleague Harvest Festival

Friday 15th August to Monday 25th August.

Newsletter Deadline

Wednesdays at 11.00am is the deadline for submission of notices for inclusion in the newsletter.

Fundraiser for Kilmeen GAA & Camogie Clubs

Kilmeen Drama Group will perform their summer comedy play 'Widows paradise' on Thursday 31st July at 8pm in Rossmore Theatre. For bookings contact 086 0760146 or 086 4018285

PARISHES' NEWS & EVENTS

Darrara Church

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament continues on Tuesday evenings 7-8pm.

Clonakilty Church

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Friday in Clonakilty Church after 10.00am Mass until 3.00pm.

Tap machines out of order

Apologies to those who have been using the tap machines in the parish church in Clonakilty and the online donate button. The parish is working to resolve the issue.

St James's Well Ardfield

Mass on this Sunday 27th at 7.00pm

Timoleague Mass for the dead

First Friday, 1st August at 7.30pm, Mass in Clogagh with prayers afterwards in Old Clogagh Graveyard and Kilmalooda Graveyard.

Teampaillín Fachtna

Rosscarbery

Mass for the Jubilee Holy Year Pilgrimage to Teampaillín Fachtna, Rosscarbery on Thursday 14th August at 7.00pm.

Mass at Mass Rock

The annual Mass at Béal an Aifrin, Meelmane, Courtmacsherry, will be held this year on the Feast of the

Coronation of Our Lady Queen of Heaven and Earth, Friday 22nd August, at 7.30pm. This Mass replaces the usual morning Mass.

Recently deceased

Eileen Hayes née Tighe, Casement Park, Clonakilty & Longford.
Annie May O'Sullivan, Ballygurteen.

Offertory collections 19th-20th July

Ardfield	€415
Barryroe	€1205
Clonakilty	€4065
Kilmeen	€260.50
Rosscarbery	€1330
Timoleague	€955

Quarterly Diocesan Needs

Ardfield	€295
Barryroe	€740
Clonakilty	€1730
Kilmeen	€230
Rosscarbery	€710
Timoleague	€525

PARDON ME?! WHAT WAS THAT AT MASS?

The 'Glory to God in the highest' is a rather unusual hymn with irregular phrases, and irregular stanzas. Where did it come from and what do the peculiar phrases mean?

The *Gloria* is an Easter hymn, sung by angels and saints in heaven, to worship God the Father and God the Son, risen from the dead. We use it on days when we celebrate the Lord's resurrection in a more intense way: our weekly celebration of Easter on Sundays, and on other feast days too.

The oldest version we have is found in an appendix to a copy of the Bible, the Alexandrinus, written about the year 400. Its inclusion in the manuscript suggests the hymn was already of great significance in the life of the Church.

The Gloria can be divided into three sections. The first is addressed to God the Father. The remainder is addressed to God the Son, with a single phrase that mentions God the Holy Spirit.

We all recognise the first couple of lines in the first section; they are from the Nativity Narrative in the Gospel according to Luke and were the words sung by the angels at Bethlehem. The remainder of this first section addressed to God the Father simply tells God that we are praising him, and a whole series of verbs are used which recall similar hymnody in the book of the Apocalypse. God the Father is also qualified with various epithets found in the Old Testament: Lord, Heavenly King, Almighty, Father.

The next paragraph starts by recalling that Jesus is only-begotten – like Isaac was only-begotten of Abraham, and mentioned at Our Lord's baptism and at the Transfiguration – and so already recalls his offering on Good Friday. Lamb of God emphasises that offering for us (for our sins). John the Baptist's identification of the Lord as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world is repeated, and Our Lord's seat at the most privileged place in heaven

emphasises that he continues to intercede for us. The remainder of the Gloria is really a repetition of what has gone before.

So the Gloria is not so much a hymn for Christmas, but a hymn recalling Our Lord's death and resurrection for our good. That's why we keep it for more festive occasions which commemorate that Easter mystery.

Many churches on the continent present the biblical aspects of our hymn over the altar or over the front door: the lamb seated, the four creatures and 24 elders who sang the words quoted in the hymn as described in Apocalypse. Irish high crosses sometimes include a version on their east sides, visible to people as they left church.

Fr Fergus R

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

Urgent calls throughout the family of parishes: 086 876 0608

Baptisms and Weddings – Book through 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

Canon John Kingston, AP. (023) 883 9114

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

Fr Fergus Tuohy, SMA, CC. fergus257@gmail.com

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

Clonakilty priest on duty: 087 682 8076

Summertime Sunday Mass schedule (till the end of August)

Ardfield P85 DD40 @ 10.00am

Barryroe P72 T206 @ 10.00am

Clonakilty P85 NT22 @

7.00pm Saturday,

Sunday @ 8.30am and 11.00am

Courtmacsherry P72 W259 @ 9.00am

Rossmore P85 V832 @ 11.00am

Rosscarbery P85 Y270 @

7.00pm Saturday, 11.30am Sunday

Timoleague P72 TF89 @ 11.30am

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