

# 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  
13<sup>th</sup> July 2025  
*15<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the year*

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

One body, one spirit, in Christ

## ROSSCARBERY - NICE TO MEET YOU!

*Rosscarbery parish lies to the east of Clonakilty. This is the sixth and final in a series of brief articles presenting our six parishes in turn submitted by Ross Historical Society. (Ed.)*

Rosscarbery has a great sense of pride of place and community involvement, making it a great place to live in or visit.

Ross can trace a long and varied history back to the foundation of a monastery by St Fachtna around 570. Since then, education has played a major role in our community. St Mary's Priory was founded in the late 12<sup>th</sup> century as a recruiting house for The Schottenklosters of Southern Germany and Austria.

Today Ross is a vibrant, active community as can be seen from the many organisations and clubs in our midst. Carbery Rangers and Ross Ladies GAA clubs are a huge part of life, and are very involved in Scór competitions during the winter, giving us many great memories.

The Steam Runners, named after T J O'Mahony, world champion at 440 yards in 1888, cater for all ages and also have an active walking group. Pitch and putt and road bowling are also very popular in the community.

Ross was named Ireland's Tidiest Village in 2022, rewarding the hard work of The Tidy Towns Group. Ross Social Services organises a meals-on-wheels service twice a week for the district, and an Active Retired group on Fridays. The local History and Heritage Association keeps our rich history alive through talks and field trips.

Rosscarbery is home to many who played an important role in history. Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa, Michael Collins and Tom Barry, Dr Dan O'Donovan and Fr John Power are just a few.

St Fachtna's Parish Church dates from 1819, replacing the earlier church of Ross Rock. The earlier building is still in use today, as a national school. Lisavaird church dates from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and Carrigfadda Church from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. St Fachtna's Cathedral, the smallest Cathedral in Ireland, has been a site of Christian worship for over one thousand years.

The estuary in Rosscarbery was silted up as a result of a tsunami in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and today is used for leisure activities, especially the Warren beach.

*Come and visit us! During the summer mass is celebrated in Rosscarbery Parish Church (P85 Y270) on Saturdays at 7.00pm and Sundays at 11:30am.*

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### Fundraiser for Rathbarry N.S.

The School Parents' Association presents Bingo on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 8.30pm in Ocean View, Owenahinch. Prize fund €1,000.00

## PARISHES' NEWS & EVENTS

### Family of Parishes Holy Year

#### Pilgrimage to Rome

Two places remaining. Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September to Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September. Contact Karen at Barter's Travelnet. (021) 4851700.

### Benduff Memorial Mass

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 8.00pm in Benduff Quarry. If weather is inclement, Mass will be in St Fachtna's church, Rosscarbery.

### Clon Parish Church Cleaning

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July after 10.00am Mass.

### Timoleague Mass for the dead

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

## Recently deceased

Elma Lyons, Derivereen, Rossmore. Breda O'Shea, Borrisokane, Tipperary, and Clonakilty. Mary O'Brien, Tower and Clonakilty. Hannah (Pearl) Gleeson, Inis Cuain, Clonakilty, and St Luke's, Cork. Eleanor Moloney, Lislevane.

## Offertory collections 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> July

Ardfield	€425
& Heating Collection	€410
Barryroe	€1360
Clonakilty	€5390
Kilmeen	€426.50
Rosscarbery	€1535
Timoleague	€1910

## Diocesan Purposes Collection 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> July 2025

The Diocese provides vital support to our parishes in many areas, including Education, Religious Faith Formation in schools, Mission and Ministry, Youth Ministry, Safeguarding, and Stewardship and Governance. We also offer guidance in practical matters such as Data Protection, Finance, and Property. This work is possible only because of your generosity. In April, the Diocesan Quarterly Collection

raised €48,661 - a contribution for which we are deeply grateful. The next Diocesan Quarterly Collection will take place on the weekend of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

## PARDON ME?! WHAT WAS THAT AT MASS?

A question a reader might ask: 'Recently I heard somebody talk about the pulpit in the church. I thought pulpits were dropped a long time ago. Can you tell me what the proper names of the different structures in the sanctuary are, please?'

The area in the church which has these structures is commonly called the sanctuary, but is also given the name 'presbytery' as it's where the priests are for most of the Mass.

The main structure or monument in our churches is the altar, having the shape of a table at which one may stand. While we sometimes say 'altar' for the whole area once bordered by altar rails, 'altar' refers to the table-like structure on which the bread and wine are placed. The altar is specially dedicated to be used exclusively in divine worship, and part of the dedication is its anointing with the fragrant oil of chrism. It is still customary to place relics of the saints beneath the tabletop of the altar. Since the altar is the place for offering a sacrifice to God, our altars recall Christ himself who, as priest, offered himself, as

the offering. We bow to the altar as the ordinary way of venerating it.

The structure, or monument, where passages from the Bible are proclaimed is called the 'ambo'. It was originally a large structure containing a raised platform approached by steps, and was considered to recall the empty tomb. At one stage, churches had several 'ambones', one for each kind of reading: epistle, psalm, Gospel, the epistle on the bishop's left, Gospel on the bishop's right, as he presided behind the altar. These kinds of ambones largely disappeared from our churches in Western Europe in the fifteenth century, but there are still some around. We brought back the ambo in the 1960s, although without expecting the complication of having several ambones. Present ambones should offer us a place to conveniently have passages from the Bible proclaimed in a dignified manner.

Another restoration from the past is the place for the priest to preside, pray and preach. In new churches, this is preferably directly behind the altar (like in the North Cathedral for the bishop himself).

You'll have noticed I've omitted some more structures: the credence table and the tabernacle.

The credence table provides a place for items for Mass to be kept before they are needed from the Offertory onwards: the missal, chalice, bread, wine, water, cruets, etc. It is called 'credence' because until recently the bread and wine for

a bishop's Mass were tested for poison before being placed on the table, and so one could believe ('credo' in Latin, hence credence) them to be safe to consume.

The tabernacle, a word meaning 'tent', may be placed in the sanctuary in order to reserve consecrated hosts left over from Mass for communion of the ill and housebound and to permit us to pray before the reserved Blessed Sacrament.

I mentioned pulpits earlier. Pulpits, similar to amboes but the pulpit's design was to emphasise the

preacher allowing him to be seen from the waist up, were born in the market square in the twelfth century. Preaching was frequently done in the town centre rather than in church or during a liturgical celebration. Originally movable, wooden structures, they were brought inside churches at a time when there was no seating for those who gathered. With people standing around in the body of the church, the pulpit made for a very different focus to the monuments in the sanctuary.

Fr Fergus R

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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, Co-PP. (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

### **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

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**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.