



## BANTRY FAMILY OF PARISHES NEWSLETTER

### BANTRY PARISH, CAHERAGH PARISH, GOLEEN PARISH, MUINTIR BHaire PARISH, SCHULL PARISH

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#### THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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#### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK:

Catholic schools across Ireland will celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2026 from 18–24 January under the theme ‘Catholic Schools – Normal Lives, Called to Holiness’ Inspired by the words of Pope Francis on Saint Carlo Acutis, the theme emphasises that holiness is not reserved for a select few, but is a universal calling “Holiness does not mean performing extraordinary things, but doing ordinary things with love and faith,” Pope Francis said, reflecting on the young Italian whose life of friendship, study and digital creativity was rooted in a deep love of the Eucharist. Catholic Schools Week aims to highlight the distinctive role of Catholic education in forming young people who understand their lives as purposeful and grounded in faith. The theme echoes Pope Francis’ exhortation Gaudete et Exsultate, which teaches that each person is called to holiness through love and witness in everyday circumstances. More on [catholiceducation.ie](http://catholiceducation.ie)

#### DATES FOR THE DIARY

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February: Feast of St. Brigid  
 Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February: Ash Wednesday  
 Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March: Feast of St. Patrick  
 Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March: Palm Sunday  
 Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April: Good Friday  
 Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April: Easter Sunday

#### CONFIRMATION 2026

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb: Schull – Ballydehob N.S.  
 Mon. 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb: Caheragh  
 Mon. 9<sup>th</sup> March: Bantry Town Schools  
 Mon. 23<sup>rd</sup> March: Bantry Country Schools  
 Thurs. 26<sup>th</sup> March: Durrus - Muintir Bhaire Schools  
 Mon. 27<sup>th</sup> April: Schull – Schull N.S & Goleen N.S.

**MEALAGH VALLEY COMMUNITY HALL AGM** takes place on Monday 19th of January @7pm. Everyone is invited to attend. If you or someone you know would like to join our committee, new members are always welcome. New committee members are vital for fresh ideas to the hall and help our little community hall get stronger and stronger.

#### Resolution for the New Year

**"Do something beautiful for God. Do it with your life. Do it every day."** - Mother Teresa

#### Music Ministry Afternoon

Choir directors, choir/music group members, organists, musicians, and individual singers are warmly invited to Songs of Praise, an afternoon dedicated to reflection, prayer, and spiritual nourishment. The event will take place on Sunday 1 February 2026 (2:30pm) at the Cathedral of St. Mary and St. Anne. Music plays a vital role in our worship often demanding time, energy, and commitment. This gathering offers a space to pause, give thanks, and be renewed through sacred song, scripture, and shared prayer, in the beautiful setting of the Cathedral. This afternoon is for all who are involved in music ministry to come together to learn new music, reflect, listen, and lift our voices in praise, followed by an opportunity to chat over light hospitality. This is a free event. Donations will be gratefully accepted on the day to help cover costs. Booking is essential to facilitate hospitality. Go to [corkandross.org](http://corkandross.org) to register.

#### Died Recently:

We extend prayers & sympathy to the families, relatives & friends of:  
**Patricia Slocombe (née Tomlinson) – Dromleigh, Bantry**  
**Cornelius (Cornie) Mc Sweeney – Lisheens, Kealkill**  
**Joan Murphy (née Singleton) – Donemark, Bantry / Mallow, Cork**

#### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) takes place each year from 18 to 25 January. This year WPCU takes Ephesians 4 v 1-13 as its central text which includes the words “There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling.” (Ephesians 4:4). The World Council of Churches prayers and reflections for WPCU 2026 have been prepared by the faithful of the Armenian Apostolic (Orthodox) Church, along with their brothers and sisters of the Armenian Catholic and Evangelical Churches. These resources draw upon centuries-old traditions of prayer used by the Armenian people, along with hymns that originated in the ancient monasteries and churches of Armenia, some of which date as far back as the fourth century.

#### Recent Parish Baptisms: We welcome into our Christian Community

**Landon Michael Lightfoot – Exeter, Ontario, Canada**

**Durrus Bingo:** The next Bingo session in Durrus Hall will be today at 3pm on Sunday, January 11th.

**Offertory Collection 4<sup>th</sup> Jan:** Bantry: €2005      Caheragh: Not available at time of printing  
 Muintir Bhaire: €670      Schull: €806      Goleen: €570

Special collection for the Church Maintenance Fund last w/e: Bantry: € 2140      Caheragh: €  
 Muintir Bhaire: €482      Schull: €675      Goleen: €445

**Offertory Collection 6<sup>th</sup> Jan: Feast of the Epiphany:** Bantry: €805      Caheragh: €  
 Muintir Bhaire: €170      Schull: €217      Goleen: €129

Special Collection for Diocesan Needs will be taken up at all Churches this weekend in the Diocese.

#### Calendar: Mass Times and Intentions :-

##### Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Jan: After Epiphany:

Bantry: 6.15pm: Brian McAuley – Seskin

Maureen Minehane – Crowangle, Whiddy Island

Special Intention

Eve McCarthy – 1<sup>st</sup> anniv.

Kathleen Goff – Glengarriff – Birthday Remembrance

Dromore: 8pm: Michael Coughlan - Colomane West

Lowertown: 8pm:

##### Sun. 11<sup>th</sup> Jan: The Baptism of the Lord:

Bantry: 9am: Intentions of people of Bantry Family of Parishes

Jimmy O’Shea – Scrivogue, Garnish, Beara

Con Manning & his son Danny Manning - Dromacousane

##### Ballydehob: 9am:

Jeremiah & Margaret O’Brien – Dunbeacon

Dermot Ryan – Clonsilla Dubline – 25<sup>th</sup> anniv.

Private Intention

##### Durrus: 10am:

Tom Coughlan – Rathfarnham & Durrus – Months Mind

**Schull:** 10.30am: Frankie Whelton – Dreenatra – 8<sup>th</sup> anniv.

Gretta Leahy – Schull Road, Ballydehob – 6<sup>th</sup> anniv.

**Kealkil:** 10.30am: Mary Thomas – Lisheens, Kealkil

Kitty Collins – Kealkil

Seán O’Mahony - Maughnaclea

**Caheragh:** 11.15am: John Scully – Glounaphooka

Tommy Keohane - Lacka

**Kilcrohane:** 11.30am: Denis Daly – Gortalassa – 4<sup>th</sup> anniv.

**Goleen:** 12noon: Jim O’Meara – Arduslough – 1<sup>st</sup> anniv.

Donal Goggin – Kealfadda

Tim Kingston & all the Victims of the Whiddy Island

Disaster - 47th Anniv.

**Bantry :** 12noon: Sheila Harrington – Slip Lawn

Mary McCarthy – Colomane West – 4<sup>th</sup> anniv

Timothy & Kathleen Daly – Dromore

Donal Dwyer – Darkwood, Dunmanway

##### Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Jan: 1<sup>st</sup> Week in Ordinary Time:

Bantry: 10am: Nuala McCarthy – High Street

**Schull:** 10am: No booking

##### Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Jan: 1<sup>st</sup> Week in Ordinary Time:

Bantry: 10am: Cornelius O’Farrell – Slip Lawn – 7<sup>th</sup> anniv.

**Goleen:** 10am: John & Margaret Sheehan - Cannavee

##### Wednesday 14th Jan: 1<sup>st</sup> Week in Ordinary Time:

**Ballydehob:** 10am: Private Intention

Frances & deceased members of the O’Sullivan Family

Greenmount, Ballydehob

**Bantry:** 10m: Robert Evans–The Square, Bantry– 70<sup>th</sup> anniv.

##### Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Jan: 1<sup>st</sup> Week in Ordinary Time:

Bantry: 10am: John & Jane Kelly - Scart

**Goleen:** 10am: Jerry O’Shea

##### Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Jan: 1<sup>st</sup> Week in Ordinary Time:

Bantry:10am: Special Intention

**Schull:** 10am: No booking

##### Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Jan: 1<sup>st</sup> Week in Ordinary Time:

Bantry Hospital: Mass for Peace