Mass Times may need to be changed at short notice,
Confessions: By appointment

Parish Office Hours **10am** to **2pm**. For Mass Bookings, Arranging Baptisms, Certs, Weddings, Mass Cards. (for both churches)

Notices for Newsletter Deadline is 12noon on Wednesday. Either drop into office or Email to info@headfordchurch.com It is not always possible to publish all notices due to space, so parish takes preference.

Baptisms: **1st Sunday & 3rd Saturday** of each month with prior notice.

First Fridays or a **Hospital visit**, phone office *093 354448*

Holy Face Devotion on **Tues. 6.45-7pm** in **Headford**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on **Mon. 9.15am –11am, & 7pm–9pm, Tues. 7pm-8pm.** in **Headford.** On **Tue 10-11am** & **Thurs 10am-11am and 6pm-7pm** in **Claran**

Offertory Collection in **Headford €825.00** last weekend and in **Claran €440. Thank you.**

Headford & Claran Parish is committed to the protection of all children and young people. Safe Guarding Officers are PJ Newell and Maura Moran .

Holy Hour on Parish Radio & Headford Church every Friday 3-4 pm with **Divine Mercy** and **Stations of the Cross**. All are Welcome.

Altar Candle Intentions for December: Headford Intentions of the O'Brien family Clooneen. **Claran** Intentions of Carmel O'Toole and family, Curramore.

Ministers for December Headford: Readers: **Sat 7pm** Cathy Cunningham **Sun 11.30am** Siobhan Waldron **Ministers of the Eucharist** : Sat. **7pm** Mary Margaret Kyne, Donnacha Roache, Michael Hughes Sun **11.30am** John McHugh, Mary McHugh **Baskets: Sat 7pm**: Declan McDonagh, Mary Fahy, **Sun.11.30am**: James Moran, Margaret Moran, Bridget Hynes.
Ministers for December Claran: Reader Sun 10am: Helena Hastings
Minister of the Eucharist: Tom Darcy, May Kenny

First Friday Calls: will take place in the week leading up to Christmas**.** If you would like your name added to the list please call Sharon on 093 35448.

First Week of Advent: serves as a call to repentance.

Second Week of Advent: reminds us that living an upright life alone is not enough. We must submit ourselves in humility to the will of God.

Third Week of Advent: is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.
A beautiful Advent Tradition: Bambinelli Sunday, Blessing the Christ Child takes place on the Third Sunday of Advent, **Dec 11th**). ***Please bring your Baby Jesus to the church to be blessed next Sunday.***
The blessing of the Bambinelli [Baby Jesus figurines] as they are called in Rome, reminds us that the crib is a school of life where we can learn the secret of true joy.

The Fourth Week of Advent: our final days of preparation before Christmas, we ask Christ to forgive us for our sins and, through His grace, to create us anew when He comes. This week is also a time to reflect on our Advent journey.

Parish of Killursa & Killower

03rd & 04th December Second Sunday of Advent
Fr. Ray Flaherty PP – 35448 info@headfordchurch.com
Website: www.headfordchurch.com Parish Radio 108fm. Facebook Page
Headford Parish Web cam: Churchtv.ie/headford, churchtv.ie/claran

Mass Intentions for Headford

Sat 03rd	**7.00pm**	Damien Walshe, Keekill, 6th Anniversary Delia Rabbitte, Ellen Fahy & Tom Fahy, Thanksgiving Mass
Sun 04th	**11:30am**	Padraic Halloran, Ballycolgan, 1st Anniversary Margaret O'Flaherty RIP Maura O'Connell (nee Walsh) USA & Formally Millpark, Claran RIP Private Intention
Mon 05th	**10.00am**	Joe & May Kyne, Cullen
Thurs 8th	**7.00pm**	People of the Parish
Fri 09th	**10.00am**	Nina Buhl Anniversary
Sat 10th	**10.00am** **7:00pm**	Michael Moloney, Deerpark, RIP Joe Concannon 1st Anniversary John Abbott & his sister Betty Abbott, RIP Margaret Stankard, 2nd Anniv, Paddy Stankard, 4th Anniversary Gabriel Joyce 17th Anniv. & his wife Nelly Joyce Special Intention for someone who is ill
Sun 11th	**11:30am**	Mary & Michael O'Connor & decd. of the family. Thomas & Mary Forde & Family James McDonagh, Windfort, Anniversary James Hynes, Crosswood, Anniversary. People of the Parish

Mass Intentions for Claran

Sun 04th	**10.00am**	Thomas Murphy, Kilbeg, 2nd Anniversary Thomas & Rita Creaven, Clydagh & all the decd. of the family Helen (Nellie) O'Toole 9th Anniversary & Bernadette Devlin
Tue 06th	**9.30am**	Tom Murphy Kilbeg, RIP
Wed 07th	**9:30am**	Mass of Thanksgiving
Thurs 08th	**10.00am**	Noel Egan & his parents Chris & Michael Egan& Father in law Tom Flynn
Sun 11th	**10.00am**	John Lydon Slieveroe 10th Anniv & Padraig Lydon Kells, 1st Anniversary Martha Glynn RIP Private Intention

Feast Days this week: Tues 6th St Nicholas, Wed 7th St. Ambrose, **Thursday 8th Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary**, Fri 9th St. Juan Diego, Sat 10th Our Lady of Loreto.

Christmas Triduum Cards now on sale in the Parish Office €3 each or 4 for €10. Masses will be held in Headford on Monday the 19th of Dec at 10am and Tues & Weds 20th & 21st Dec at 9.30am in Claran.



The Immaculate Conception, according to the teaching of the Catholic Church, was the conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. Mary was conceived naturally but God kept her soul immaculate, i.e. free from original sin.

TAX Rebate Forms -To avail of the tax rebate for 2022 it is necessary to have the forms submitted by the end of 2022. The monies received are goes towards the running and maintenance in both Headford and Claran Churches. If you would like the forms sent out to you, please contact 09335448 or email: info@headfordchurch.com

Solas Family Resource Centre would like to thank all who supported our recent Church Gate Collection. Headford/Claran €1080 Caherlistrane/Corner Chapel €425 – Total collection €1505

Progressive 25 fundraising card game in Castlehackett N.S, Sun 04 Dec, 7pm. Great prizes and raffle plus refreshments provided on the night. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Headford Dementia Café will hold a Christmas party, Monday 5th Dec, 11-12:30 in Headford Parish Hall. We will have local musicians performing, tea/coffee, mince pies and Christmas carols. All welcome.

Headford Town Team would be delighted if you could join us for the launch of our Community Survey Report, the results of the survey undertaken in early 2022, on Monday next, 5th December at 8pm in The Angler's Rest Hotel . All are welcome.

Claran National School 'Christmas Concert' Wed 7th & Thus 8th Dec. @ 6.30pm. All are welcome. If you wish to purchase tickets please contact Yvonne in the office anytime between 9am - 1.20pm daily; 093 35922 / office@clarannationalschool.ie.

Corrib Male Singers are holding a fundraising Christmas Concert in aid of the group and Solas in St. Fursa's Hall Headford on Friday night December 9th at 8pm with special guest Sarah Brookfield. Tickets can be had from any member of the group, from the Solas office and at the door on the night. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Can anybody that is interested in quoting for the installation of windows and doors in the church office, please request details and information from info@newelleng.ie before the 9th December 2022.

Christmas Fair at Kilcoona N.S. Sunday **11th** Dec. from **12 to 4pm**. Bake sale, books, crafts, family fun, raffle and lots more! An important fundraiser for our school. All are welcome and we look forward to seeing you there!

After School Educator Needed! Coill na NoÓg, Claran Community Childcare. Hours 1.30 -6pm Call/text Helen 087 6903212 or email clarancommunitychildcare@gmail.com

The Galway Hospice Tree of Lights Celebration takes place at Galway Hospice, Sunday, 4th December at 5pm for the first time since 2019. To sponsor a light on the Galway Memorial Tree, visit www.galwayhospice.ie/lights, or call 091-770868.

Offertory Envelopes for the coming year are being prepared at present. If you are not receiving a box and would like to, please contact the parish office. When the boxes are ready to be distributed I would appreciate if someone from each village/station area would volunteer to deliver to their area as the boxes cannot be left in the churches outside of mass times. Areas divided as follows:
Carnakib, Knocklahard, Annakeen, Carnacrow, Clydagh/Logawania, Kilbeg, Carrowbeg, Claran, Owerbeg, Owermore, Ower, Cloonkeely, Rinnanock, Inchquin, Greenfileds, Slieveroe, Curramore, Carheens, Headford Town, Castleview, Galway Rd, Meadow Hill, Eallagh Est, Cordarra, Cong Rd, Culleen Corsssnaun, Farren, Ballyconlaught, Liss, Rockhill, Cloneen, Farren, Ballyconlaught, Liss, Rockhill, Cloneen, Windfort, Keernaun, Mountross, Rafee, Ross, Eallagh, Oaklands, Lettera, Crosswood, Keelcoil, Cahermanally, Clouhganover, Ballyhale.

Bank Transfer: If you would prefer to donate weekly online please see Bank details below. Please put your name/box number in the reference section and contact the office to let Sharon know you will not need a box.

Bank details are as follows: **St Mary's Church Headford** BIC BOFIIE2D IBAN Details IE27 BOFI 9038 7528 9740 34
St Mary's Church Claran BIC BOFIIE2D IBAN Details IE62 BOFI 9038 7528 9727 25

Holy Water: If people would like water to be blessed, please leave in a sealed container with name behind the Altar & it will be blessed and can be collected the next day.

St Vincent de Paul: Please help our local conference by donating to www.svp.ie/stfursaheadford

Pilgrimages 2023: Fatima: May 11th 2023 7 nights ex Dublin (reduction if paid before Dec 5th) Contact John B 093 28337 or Call 01 2410800

Medjugorje & Cavtat: June 28th 7 nights (4+3), ex Dublin with transport arranged from Claremorris (reduction if paid before Dec 5th). Contact John B 093 28337 or call 01 2410800

Corofin Medjugorje Pilgrimage 24th – 31st May 2023. Spiritual director Fr Ciaran Blake. Lead by Dymphna Glynn. Booking available now. Call Dymphna 085 8197155 or Marian pilgrimages on 01 878 8159.

Headford Bridge Club invites all Bridge players to join their club at Angler's Rest Hotel every Tuesday at 7.15 p.m. for a fun and social event. Contact Ann at 0876007624. Would you like to learn? Then contact Marlene O'Connor, a wonderful Bridge teacher at 0871335830

Meals4Health Galway: Delivers Freshly Cooked Meals to your door suited to the specific dietary requirements of the older person. Phone 091354000 for more information or visit www.meals4health.ie

Senior Citizens Christmas Party: Claran ICA propose to host the Senior Citizens Christmas Party again this year in Claran Community Centre on 11th December 2022. In order to do this in a safe, post Covid environment, we need to know numbers of those interested in attending as places may need to be limited. Please contact either Ann on 087-9674744, Norah on 087-2507407 or Mary on 087-9444746 before 6th November, to book your place.

Safe Guarding and Diocesan Vetting is up for renewal for the Parish, would everybody that this would effect please take a renewal form, complete and return to office. Thank you

Dates for First Holy Communion:
Cloughanover N.S. –Headford – Sat. 29th April 2023 at 11.30am
Headford N.S. – St. Mary's Headford – Sat. 6th May 2023 at 11.30am
Claran N.S. - Claran – Saturday 13th May 2023at 11.30pm



Weekly Offertory Contribution: Should anyone wish to set up for a weekly/monthly direct debit, or bank transfer, instead of receiving the offertory box please contact the office and let us know, this will help us save on the cost of printing when we are ordering the boxes in the next few weeks

Baptism: With Covid restrictions lifted Baptism's will now be on a shared basis. Baptism's take place on the first Sunday and third Saturday of each month

Parish Office . You can contact us by phone or email and we will get back to you. We can arrange masses and mass cards over the phone and post them out to you, we are now in a position to take card payments over the phone. Office Hours: **Mon to Fri 10.00am – 2.00pm**

Headford Adult Learning Centre: Abbey House, Unit 2, Main St, Headford, Co. Galway. Classes available in the following for beginners to level 3: Computers, iPads, and Smart Phone, Music Appreciation, Book Club, Communications, Digital Media, Climate Justice, Career Preparation. English for Speakers of Other Languages. Also help with Reading Writing and Spelling. Phone 093 34746, 093 26609 or call in to the Centre.

Mass Bookings: Please note that due to high volume of mass bookings, we would strongly advise to allow two to three months in advance for booking anniversary masses so you can get the dates you would like. Also Please note that mass times can change at any time so it is advisable to watch out for the newsletter weekly.

Cycling Club: Would you like to join a cycling club and head off on a leisurely cycle, meet here in Headford, everybody is welcome please contact Carmel O'Malley for further details on 0863767063

WESTDOC: New Westdoc phone number will be **0818 360 000**. Please save the new number to your mobile phone or keep it near your landline. Please remember when phoning Westdoc to have your Eircode close to hand and your Medical Card Number if applicable.

Additional Tús Places There are currently vacancies in a variety of Tús roles in the local area. Tús is a community work placement for those 12 months or more unemployed and in receipt of Jobseeker's Allowance, with participants receiving a top-up payment. Completion of the scheme provides employers with evidence of work experience, a reference, and a CV. If you are interested, phone 091 875732 or 087 9335477, or email tusadmin@grd.ie.

Mass Cards: Are available in the parish office. A selection of mass cards for different occasions: Sympathy, Birthday Remembrance, Get Well, Mass Bouquet, Thinking of you etc. Some of these offerings, together with the intentions are been forwarded to Missionary priests to celebrate individual Masses as requested. It would be impossible to say all these masses in the parish.

Senior Line Freephone: If you are an older person and would like someone to talk to, particularly since Covid-19, consider phoning Senior Line. We are Ireland's national confidential service for older people. We are open every day of the year from 10am-10pm. We are older people too, trained to listen and support. We would love to hear from you. Freefone 1800 80 45 91.

Chime : Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Outreach at Tuam Primary Care centre. Contact Tony Dolan for more information or an appointment 086 83413

The Drop-In Listening Service at Knock Counselling Centre is open to anyone. If you feel the need to talk to someone in confidence, you can 'drop -in' (no appointment necessary) on Thursdays. The drop-in service begins at 11am with final sessions no later than 3pm. This is an open and accessible service to help those who find themselves in need of support. Find out more by contacting Knock Counselling Centre; T. 094 93 75032 E. counsellingoffice@knockshrine.ie

Communion at Home: We are very conscious that many parishioners have been unable to receive Communion since the lockdown. Many of you join with us for Mass via the Webcam, Facebook and on Parish Radio. House calls including First Fridays are not permitted during Phase 5 Lockdown (emergencies excepted). We can however bring Holy Communion to your front door Contact Parish Office for details and to arrange day and time.

Chy3 Charity Donations Scheme: Thanks to all who have returned forms. It's still not too late to sign up. Only requirements is you need to be donating €250.00 or more to the Church in each calendar year. Please consider doing so as it is a substantial income for the church and it costs you no more than your usual contributions each week. Your PPS no. is forwarded to revenue along with the amount donated in your envelopes and revenue takes care of the rest. If you would like further information contact the presbytery also the forms are available at the Church doors please feel free to take one fill it up and return to office. Thanks to all who have signed up to the scheme so far

Bereavement Support: Losing a loved one is always a difficult experience. During Covid many support services were missing but from February 2nd, the weekly Bereavement Support Group will resume every Wednesday morning at 11am in the Family Centre at Knock Shrine. These meetings aim to help those who are grieving to find healing, hope and comfort. All are welcome. Further information from Monica Morley on 094-9375320.

Bealach Nua: We are a recovery oriented family peer support service which offers families/friends of people with mental health challenges an opportunity to engage with family peer supporters through individual, group work, wellness days and information evenings. For further information or to access the service please call 094 9049392 or Fran 086 0450835/Noel 087 9749288

We welcome more people into our Church. I appreciate your ongoing support and the commitment of so many parishioners in helping keep our parish church safe for everyone. Please use the same guidelines below until otherwise stated. ♦ Please maintain 1 metre social distance. ♦ Face masks can be worn if you like. Please use hand sanitizer as you enter the church. ♦ Holy Communion will be distributed as before, please observe one way system which will be announced at Masses. Holy Communion will be distributed on the hand only. ♦ Mass leaflet/newsletter available at church doors. ♦ Shaking hands as "a sign of peace" or at other times is discouraged. ♦ Collection boxes at church doors for weekly/dues envelopes ♦ Please leave the Church in an orderly fashion No congregating by people before /after any service in the Church or Church grounds. ♦ Please use hand sanitizer as you leave the Church. We have moved into a new phase against Covid 19 with a strong emphasis on personal responsibility and mutual respect.

Welcoming a return to full public worship Bishops stated, "As the remaining Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted, it is encouraging to see a return to full public worship in our parishes, and the resumption of all aspects of Church and community life. At the heart of the life of our parish communities is the Sunday Mass. When we gather for the Eucharist on the Lord's Day, we do so to express our joy in the Risen Lord and to unite with our brothers and sisters in the Church in thanksgiving and praise to God. This is a communal celebration which shapes us as a community of faith, life and charity." We pray in the Mass that it is 'indeed right and just, our duty and our salvation' to give thanks to the Lord, and the Sunday Eucharist is our greatest act of thanksgiving. During the Season of Lent, we encourage everyone to return to Sunday and weekday Mass in our churches, welcoming each other back as we gather once more together. From Easter Sunday, 17 April, this will once again be deemed an essential expression of faith for all in our Church in Ireland. As always, those whose health is vulnerable or who are unwell will not be under any obligation to attend Mass, and should keep themselves safe and pray at home until they are better. "In the coming days and weeks parishes will continue to gradually lift the restrictions and mitigations which were introduced during the pandemic. We should however remain sensitive and respectful (by way of responsible social distancing and optional wearing of masks) towards those who may still feel vulnerable or anxious. For example, it is good especially in these troubled times, to invite people at the 'Sign of Peace' to make a gesture or greeting of peace to the people around them, rather than the traditional handshake. "We remain grateful to all those who risked their lives and made sacrifices in hospitals and other settings to keep us safe during the pandemic. We appreciate the commitment of priests who continued to minister the sacraments to the best of their ability, notwithstanding the risk this posed to their own life and health. In doing so, priests gave powerful witness to the faith. We also give thanks for the many people in our parishes who worked so hard to maintain our worship and parish life in the safest way possible. We keep in our prayers all who have been impacted in any way during the pandemic, especially the bereaved. As civil commemorations are planned in Ireland for the weekend of the 18 – 20 March, with a National Day of Remembrance and Reflection on Sunday 20 March, we invite all in our parish communities to unite in spirit and in prayerful reflection."

Moveable Feasts in 2022/23

	2022	2023
Ash Wednesday	**2nd March**	**22nd February**
Good Friday	**15th April**	**7th April**
Easter Sunday	**17th April**	**9th April**
Ascension	**29th May**	**21st May**
Pentecost	**5th June**	**28th May**
Trinity	**12th June**	**4th June**
Corpus Christi	**19th June**	**11th June**
First Sunday of Advent	**27th November**	**3rd December**

Knock Shrine: Visitors are welcome to attend public Mass at the following times: Monday-Friday in the Parish Church at 12 noon, 3pm & 7.30pm (Rosary at 7pm) Saturdays in the Basilica at 12 noon, 3pm & 7.30pm (Rosary at 7pm) Sundays in the Basilica at 12 noon & 3pm (Rosary at 2.30pm) Confessions are available daily from 11am-3pm in the Chapel of Reconciliation Private Prayer is available daily in the Apparition Chapel from 9am-9pm We ask you to be mindful of your own safety and that of your fellow pilgrims when you visit Knock Shrine and to respect proper advice such as wearing masks, sanitising hands and keeping the proper distance. Our ushers and stewards are on hand to assist you as you participate in the Sacraments here at the Shrine. We will continue to stream Mass daily on our website here. Full details of our opening hours and Mass times are available here.