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 €1100.00** last weekend and in **Claran €450. 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

As a Parish Community we offer our sincere sympathy to the family, relatives, and friends of Sarah O'Halloran (née Hardiman) Cloughanover, Enda Colleran, Galway City, Sharon Stewart, Bandon, Cork and Mary Newell, Kilroe, Headford. **May They Rest in Peace.**

Christmas Dues which go towards the priests of the parish will be collected at all masses on Christmas Eve/Day. There are spare envelopes at the back of the church for those who do not have an offertory box. Thank you for your continued support.



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

17th & 18th December Fourth 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 17th	**7.00pm**	Luan McCaul, 7th Anniversary Lucia Mulrooney Cleary, Anniversary Mary Margaret & Patrick Lally, Cloughanover, Anniversary John Joe O'Connor, Galway Rd, 25th Anniv. Lucy O'Brien, Anniversary
Sun 18th	**11:30am**	**Seamus King, Months mind** Pat & Eileen Audley, 9th Anniv. Liss '**Do this in Memory' Mass**
Mon 19th	**10.00am**	Christmas Triduum (1) **Confessions after mass**
Thur 22nd	**10.00am**	Private Intention
Fri 23rd	**10.00am**	Mary Biggins 2nd Anniversary
Sat 24th	**11.30-12.30pm** **9:00pm**	Confessions Private Intention People of the Parish
Sun 25th	**11:30am**	Jackie & Patricia Steed & all the decd. of the Steed Family, Headford. May Corbett, Main Street, 8th Anniversary Margaret O'Brien, Anniv. her husband Willie and her daughters Jacintha and Lucy.

Mass Intentions for Claran

Sun 18th	**10.00am**	**Patrick Fahey Months Mind** Mark Holleran, 1st Anniv. Claran. Mathias Keady & deceased of the family Michael & Margaret Lee, Anniv.
Tue 20th	**9.30am**	Christmas Triduum (2)
Wed 21st	**9:30am**	Christmas Triduum (3) **Confessions after mass**
Sat 24th	**7.00pm**	Bridget Greaney Lee RIP People of the Parish
Sun 25th	**10.00am**	Vera Murphy Donoghue, Myre Hill, Anniv. Victoria Kubaczyk Paul O'Toole, 3rd Anniversary Sean Daveron, Inchiquinn, Anniversary

Feast Days this week: Tues 20th Kilfenora: St Fachanan, Weds 21st St Peter Canisius

First Friday Calls for Christmas to the elderly and housebound will take place on Wednesday (Claran area), Thursday Headford Town calls, and Friday Headford surrounding areas.

A Simple Prayer for Christmas Dinner
Dear God, we give thanks for this time when we can all be together, we give thanks for this food which is beautiful and delicious. We give thanks for this joyful holiday when we can celebrate our Saviour and his love for us. With joy we pray. **Amen**

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.

Offertory Envelopes: Thank you to the volunteers that have come forward to distribute to their area. All remaining boxes can be collected from the Church this weekend, or before and after mass during the week.

If you did not receive a box previously and would like to, please contact the parish office.
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

Christmas Triduum Cards 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.

St Fursa Vincent de Paul wish to thank everyone who donated to our annual church gate collection. Local helpline number is 0871727873.

Card Game: Cloughanover Community Centre in aid of Corrandulla Ploughing Sunday 18th at 7pm

Clydagh National School is delighted to invite you to join us in the school hall on Monday, December 19th at 6.30pm for our Christmas production of ´Lights, Camel, Action!' All are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

Cloughanover NS will be having a Christmas music recital in the school hall next Tuesday December 20th at 1.15pm. Parents and grandparents' welcome.

Presentation College Headford will host 'Carols by Candlelight' in St. Mary's Church Headford on Monday 19th of December at 7pm featuring the School Choir & Orchestra and Headford Church Choir. Donations if desired to Music Department of PCH. All are welcome.

Western Alzheimer's: Can you spare a couple of hours per week? A little time goes along way. Become a Befriender to those living with Dementia. Full Training Provided Contact Caroline on 087-3694477 or 0949364900 Email: Volunteer@westernalzheimers.ie.

Knock Youth Leadership Programme: This programme aims to bring together a group of passionate and enthusiastic people from different Parishes, to learn youth ministry skills & to bring these skills back to their parish to set up child and youth focused faith activities /events etc. Starting February 25th. Places are limited. Contact Knock Youth Ministry on 0949375321/ youthministry@knockshrine.ie for details & application forms.

Mary's Meals – Big Family Christmas International school feeding charity, Mary's Meals, are inviting you to join their Big Family Christmas celebrations. A range of gifts are available, which will not only provide you with a wonderful Christmas gift for a loved one, but will also provide life changing school meals for a child living in poverty.
For just €18.30 a place can be set at their virtual Big Family Christmas dinner table, which will feed a child for an entire school year! This place setting can then be printed or emailed to someone as a special gift. A range of other gift cards are also available; from providing 100 meals for €9, to funding a cooking pot and stove for €250, and everything in between! Gift cards are available to download at www.marysmeals.ie or can be sent via post by calling 01 853 5163.

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.

Tús Community Work Initiative for those 12 months or more unemployed, is now taking-on participants for community work placements with host organisations in the locality. Completion of the scheme provides employers with evidence of work experience, a reference, and a CV. For more, phone 091 875732 or 087 9335477, or email tusadmin@grd.ie.

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.

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.

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.

iDonate
Making Giving Easier

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.