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.

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 35448* **First Friday will take place Easter Week.**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Mon. 9.00am – 10am, Tues. 9.00 – 10am Tue 10-11am Weds 10am-11am and Thurs 6pm-7pm Claran Church

Adoration Every Friday 3-4pm with Divine Mercy and Stations of the Cross. St. Mary's Church Claran. Also available on churchtv.ie & Facebook

Offertory Collection: in **Headford €505.00** last weekend and in **Claran €545. Thank you.**

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

Altar Candle Intentions for May: Headford Fadden Family, Castleview **Claran** Michael & Marian Creaven.

Ministers for April
Readers: **Sat 7pm** Rita O'Shea **Sun 10am**: Stephanie Cahill **Sun 11.30am** John McHugh

Ministers of the Eucharist:
Sat. 7pm Declan McDonagh
Sun 10am: Martina Walsh, Nessa Cosgrove **Sun 11.30am** Donnacha Roach, John McHugh

Baskets: Sat 7pm Declan McDonagh, Mary Fahy

As a Parish Community we offer our sincere sympathy to the family, relatives, & friends of John Conneely, Outherard, brother of Barbara Toher, Owerbeg, Mary Gibbons, Louisburgh, Mother of Fr. Richard Gibbons & Barbara Mulry (formerly Crosswood) funeral details at a later date. May they rest in peace.

Headford Church Renovations: Renovations are still ongoing, with a new opening date of May.
All ***masses and devotions*** will continue in Claran Church. I would like to take the opportunity again to Thank you all for your help and support with the fundraising. I appreciate your understanding for the inconvenience caused.

Volunteer Readers, Ministers the Eucharist & Offertory Basket Collectors needed. We are very short on Readers for Saturday evening mass. If anyone would like to volunteer their time, please contact the parish office 093 35488.

Please note Mass times may need to be changed at short notice.

First Friday Novena to the Sacred Heart & Divine Mercy Chaplet: *Friday 5th May 9-10am Claran Church*

First Saturday Devotions to our Lady of Fatima: *9-10am Claran Church 6st May. Rosary & Fatima Prayers followed by Mass.*

Parish of Killursa & Killower

29th & 30th April Fourth Sunday of Easter
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 & Claran

Sat 29th	**7.00pm**	**Fursey Walsh, Months Mind**
Sun 30th	**10.00am**	John Abbott RIP John Joe O'Connor, Birthday Rem.
	11.30am	Katie, Michael & Ann Prendergast, Rem. Jim & Mary Bane, Keernaun, Rem. Paddy Joyce, Headford, Anniversary John Molloy, Ower, Anniversary
Mon 1st May	**10.00am**	Private Intention
Tue 2nd	**10.00am**	No Mass
Wed 3rd	**10.00am**	No Mass
Fri 5th	**10.00am**	No Mass
Sat 6th	**10.00am**	Private Intention
	7.00pm	Bridget & Michael Curran, Ballycolgan, Anniv.
Sun 7th	**10.00am**	**People of the Parish** Brendan Hannon, 7th Anniversary & the members of the Hannon Family.
	11.30am	**People of the Parish** Mary Kelly, Corofin, Anniversary

Feast Days: Mon 1st St. Joseph, **Tues 2nd** St Athanasius, **Wed 3rd** SS Philip & James, **Thurs 4th** St. Conleth **Fri 5th** St Asaph, **Sat 6th** St Petronax, St. Edberto of Lindisfarne.

Tuam Cancer Care: would like to thank everyone who supported the annual church gate collection on the 15th & 16th of April. The collection raised a generous **€641.60** for Tuam Cancer Care. We greatly appreciate your support.

HopeSpace - a free support service for children and young people in Galway city and county who have been bereaved has opened recently. You can contact HopeSpace by phone at 091 342566, by email support@hopespace.ie or through the website at www.hopespace.ie. HopeSpace is only the second such service in Ireland (there is already a children's grief centre in Limerick). Please pass the word on and contact HopeSpace if you have any questions or need help.

Donal Walsh 10th Anniversary Mass and Youth Pilgrimage: On May 11th (10am-3pm), we will welcome children and young people from all over Ireland to join us at **Knock Shrine** to celebrate the life of Donal Walsh and to reflect on his message to us all, to **Live Life!** Booking is essential - contact youthministry@knockshrine.ie/0949375321 for more information or to secure your school or youth groups attendance.

Knock Shrine Monthly Mini Vigil, **Friday 5th May** Join us for peace and prayer at the Friday Mini-Vigil at Knock Shrine on the 5th May. Confessions will take place from 8pm-9pm and Vigil from 9pm until Midnight in the Parish Church. Mini Vigils will continue to take place on the first Friday of the month. See www.knockshrine.ie for further details.

First Holy Communion: Congratulations to the Children of Coughanover National School who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday.

Headford N.S. – St. Mary's Claran – Sat. 6th May 2023 at 11.30am
Claran N.S. – St. Mary's Claran – Saturday 13th May 2023at 11.30pm

Family Support Drop in Clinic: Are you dealing with a difficult issue at home? Do you need a friendly ear to voice your concerns? Solas Family Resource Centre in conjunction with Tusla and Foroige are offering a Family Support Community Drop-In Clinic on the first Wednesday of every month commencing on the 3rd of May. No appointment needed just call in for a cup of tea and a chat. We will provide a safe and confidential space to discuss your issues and concerns, we can support or link you with other services, provide information and guidance. If needs be you can contact John on 093-36446 or Eamonn on 086-1713384 for more information.

The Totus Tuus Women of Faith Conference 2023 will be LIVE on Radio Maria Ireland this coming Saturday May 6th from 2pm. Speakers include Siobhán Dunniece, Sr. Benedetta (Sisters of Merciful Jesus), Katie Ascough and Mary Anne Collins. You can follow the conference by: 1. Going online at www.radiomaria.ie. 2. Download the Radio Maria IRELAND App to your smartphone or tablet. 3. Listen live via Facebook. 4. Call 01 4373277 and listen live 5. Listen through your TV on SAORVIEW Channel 210

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. For more, phone 091 875732 or 087 9335477, or email tusadmin@grd.ie.

N. E. Galway PTAA will be having a Pioneer Remembrance Mass and presentation of silver and gold pins and Fr. Cullen medals (60 years) on Thurs. May 25th in The Ard Ri Hotel, Tuam, at 7.30pm. If a Pioneer from your family or centre passed away since, and you would like them prayed for at Mass, please let us know, by May 18th. If you have completed 25, 50 or 60 years membership and would like to receive a pin or medal call 0860758184 before May 18th. Cost of pins / medals €50. Tea and refreshments will be served afterwards.

Darkness into Light 2023: takes place at sunrise on Saturday 6th May @ 4.15am. This year's walk/run will start and finish at Presentation College, Headford D91 D516. Register online at www.darknessintolight.ie to help raise funds for Pieta.

Trocaire Boxes: Please return all Trocaire Boxes, to the Church or the Parish Office, by Friday 5th May.

Parish Office: The parish office will be closed 1st & 2nd of May & also the 8th -12th of May.

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.

Meals4Health - Galway – Delivers Fresh Delicious Affordable Meals to your door suited to the specific dietary requirements of the older person. Supporting Independent living in the comfort of your home Phone 091354000 for more information or visit www.meals4health.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.

Offertory Envelopes: All remaining boxes have been delivered.
If you did not receive a box and would like to, please contact the parish office 093 35448 or email info@headfordchurch.ie

Bank Transfer: There are a number of transactions that have no name or box number in the subject line. If this is you, could you please contact the office so that we can allocate it to your name and box number.

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.

Would you like to become involved in the parish: We are always looking for people to read at mass, please call into the sacristy after mass or during parish office opening hours or email info@headfordchurch.com. **Parish Volunteers are always welcome**. We are also very grateful and would like to thank those faithful people who are helping us out at present.

For those who would like 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
Church Gate Collections: Anyone looking to organise a church gate collection must organise a permit with An Garda Síochána and notify the parish office in advance.

Headford Further Education and Training Centre, Unit 2, Abbey House, Main Street, Headford, Ph: 093 34746. **Free classes**: Reading, Writing, Numeracy, Communication, Computers, iPads, Digital Media, ESOL English.

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.

World Youth Day 2023. World Youth Day is a Catholic international event, attended by Pope Francis, and held every three years. It will take place next August 1-6, 2023, in Lisbon, Portugal. The Archdiocese of Tuam will participate in this exciting pilgrimage and is inviting young adults (18-35) to join with us for a week of prayer, faith, and friendship. If you are interested or would like more information, please email: tuam2lisbon23@gmail.com or chat to your local priest.

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.

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.

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

Moveable Feasts in 2023/24

	2023	2024
Ash Wednesday	**22nd February**	**14th Feb**
Good Friday	**7th April**	**29th March**
Easter Sunday	**9th April**	**31st March**
Ascension	**21st May**	**12th May**
Pentecost	**28th May**	**19th May**
Trinity	**4th June**	**26th May**
Corpus Christi	**11th June**	**2nd June**
First Sunday of Advent	**3rd December**	**1st December**

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.

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 able 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.

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.

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 being 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.

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 are 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.

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.

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.

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."