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

Parish Office Hours 10am to **2pm** Monday – Friday.

Notices for Newsletter Deadline is 12noon on Wednesday. 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**, please phone the office if you would like to be included in the list 35448.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Mon. 9.15 - 11am & 7-8pm and Tues 6.45 - 8pm in **St. Mary's Church Headford**
Tues 10-11am, Weds 10-11am and Thurs 6-7pm
St. Mary's Church, Claran.

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

Offertory Collection: in **Headford** €1010 last weekend and in **Claran** €350**. Thank you.**

Headford & Claran Parish is committed to the protection of all children and young people. The Parish Safeguarding Policy is available on https://www.tuamarchdiocese.org/diocesan-safeguarding-policy/ Safeguarding Officers are PJ Newell and Maura Moran.

Altar Candle Intentions for April:
Headford Bernie & Jimmy Sweeney and Maureen Hynes Intentions
Claran: Ann O'Toole & Family Intentions

Ministers for April Headford
Readers: Sat 7pm Deirdre King
Sun 11.30am: Mary McHugh
Ministers of the Eucharist:
Sat. 7pm: Mary Fahy**,** Geraldine Hannon
Sun 11.30am Mary McHugh
Baskets: Sat 7pm Mary Fahy, Declan McDonagh. **Sun 11.30am** James Moran, Siobhan Waldron
Ministers for April Claran
Readers: Helena Hastings
Minister of the Eucharist: Mary Fahy, Carmel O'Malley

Feast Days: Mon 7th Sain John Baptist de la Salle, **Tues 8th** St. Dionysius, **Weds 9th** St. Waldetrudis, **Thrus 10th** St. Fulbert, **Fri 11th** St. Sanislaus, **Sat** 12th St. Julius.

We as a parish community offer our sincere sympathy to the family, friends and relatives of **Fr. Michael O'Malley,** Cork and late of Carnaseer, Dunmore and **Fr. Peter Anthony Hughes (Columban Fathers)** Dalgan Park, Meath and Cleggan, Co. Galway. May he rest in peace.

We kindly ask that you book anniversary Masses a good bit in advance (at least one month) rather than leaving it to short notice. We try to only take 4 intentions per weekend Masses and 1 for weekday masses and we ask that you be understanding if your preferred date is not available.

Badminton in PCH Gym on Monday 7th open to all. Juveniles 7pm-8.15pm. Adults 7.30pm-8.45pm. Last session before Easter. Easter Egg competition (optional) for anyone interested in a more competitive game. Phone/text Helen 086 2441006 or Dolores 087 6291553.

Easter Triduum Cards are available in the Parish Office: 5 Cards for €10, the Triduum of Masses will be said Mon 14th April in Headford Church, Tues 15th April & Weds 16th April in Claran Church.

Parish of Killursa & Killower

5th & 6th April 2025, Fifth Sunday of Lent
Fr. Ray Flaherty PP – 35448 info@headfordchurch.com
Website: www.headfordchurch.com Online Streaming on Churchtv.ie/headford, churchtv.ie/claran or Headford Parish on Facebook

Mass Intentions for St. Mary's Church, Headford & Claran

Sat 5th	**7.00pm**	Noreen Creaven, Anniversary The Decd. of the Scanlon family
Sun 6th	**11.30am**	The People of the Parish Ivor O'Connell Anniversary Patrick & Kate O'Connell, Ballyconlought, Anniv. & their grandson Ivor O'Connell RIP
Mon 7st	**10.00am**	Ray Joyce RIP (Mass Card)
Fri 11th	**10.00am**	Thanksgiving Mass
Sat 12th	**10.00am** **7.00pm**	No Mass Kathleen & Matt Murray, Ballyhale 2nd & 38th Anniv Jimmy Walsh, Main Street, Anniv. & all the decd. of the Walsh family.
Sun 13th Palm Sunday	**11.30am**	'Do this in Memory' Mass Joseph Daly, Dublin & Headford and the decd. of the Mullins & O'Malley families.

Mass Intentions for St. Mary's Church, Claran

Sun 6th	**10.00am**	The People of the Parish Private Intention
Tues 8th	**9.30am**	Get Well Mass (Mass Card)
Weds 9th	**9.30am**	Brigid Greaney Lee Birthday Remembrance
Sun 13th Palm Sunday	**10.00am** **7.30pm**	'Do this in Memory' Mass The People of the Parish Carmel O'Donoghue, 3rd Anniversary A Lenten Reflection

First Friday Calls to the sick and the housebound will take place during Holy Week, Mon 14th April Claran, Tues 15th April Headford Surrounding area, Weds 16th April Headford Town.

CATHOLIC MOTHERS IRELAND RETREAT DAY: Join us for a day of Spiritual Restoration, Inspiring Talks, Holy Mass, Prayer and Confession in Gillooly Hall, Sligo Town, Co. Sligo on SATURDAY 3rd MAY 2025. This all-day Retreat will run from 10am – 6pm. Email catholicmothers@outlook.ie for more information or to book your place.

A Penitential Service for all the Local Parishes will take place in Headford Church (instead of Shrule Church) on Monday the 14th of April at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

A Lenten reflection, Journeying with Jesus as we prepare for Holy week. Claran church at 7.30pm. Palm Sunday 13th April. All are welcome.

Kylemore Abbey Retreats 2025: Easter Triddum *17th 20th April led by the Benedictine Community.* **Centring Prayer Retreat** 9th – 11th May, 15th – 17th August Led by Fiona Quinn OP. **Icon Writing Retreat** 27th July – 2nd August, 24th August – 30th August, 14th Sept – 20th September Tutor Dr. lucho Alvarez. **Advent Preparation Retreat** 28th – 30th November led by the Benedictine community. From more information please contact retreats@kylemoreabbey.ie or phone 095 52098.

Coill na nÓg – Claran Community Childcare,Easter Camp H91 Y443. Two weeks of fun filled activities to enjoy the Easter Break. We will have Easter Egg hunt, Sports, Games and Competitions, Arts, Crafts and Baking. 9am – 2pm (€25 a day/ €110 a week) Part Time and Full day care available: 7.45am – 6pm. (hot meal and healthy snack provided daily) NCS also accepted. Call/text 0876903212 or clarancommunitychildcare@gmail.com

Knockroon NS would like to thank all who supported their card drive on Sunday 30th March. All funds raised go towards our new room, Seomra an Dúin.

Healing Voices - An evening with the Schola Cantorum Basilicae takes place in the **Chapel of Reconciliation at Knock Shrine** on Friday April 11th from 8pm to 9pm. The programme will include some of the Schola's favourite sacred music pieces, complementing the chapel's peaceful atmosphere. Admission is free and all are welcome. See www.knockshrine.ie for more information.

Are you caring for a loved one at home with additional needs? A spouse, partner, child, close relative or neighbour? Then you are a family carer! Become a member of Family Carers Ireland, the national charity supporting Ireland's 500,000+ family carers **nationwide. Contact 057 93** 70221 and hear how we can support you or view www.familycarers.ie.

Newport Church Concert - The Four Seasons The Irish Chamber Orchestra featuring Henning Kraggerud on Violin and Aoife NicAthlaoich on Cello will perform The Four Seasons by Vivaldi in Newport Parish Church on Sat April 12th at 7.30pm. Tickets available from irishchamberorchestra.com.

St. Pio Relics to visit Holycross Abbey (E41PH01): Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th May. Veneration and ceremonies from 10am to 8pm on Saturday and 9am to 8pm on Sunday (incorporating our annual St. Pio Pilgrimage on Sunday from 1.30pm). All are welcome. Contact 0504-43124 or hbparishoffice@gmail.com for information

Footsteps Preschool Glencorrib. Enrolment now open for 2025 preschool children. ECCE, NCS and Daycare available. Open evening Thursday, 10th April @ 6pm. Contact Helen 0861717833.

Solas Family Resource Centre are organising a multi-cultural event celebrating diversity in our community taking place on Saturday 12th April in St Fursa's Hall, 2-4pm and we are inviting everyone to bring a dish from their culture/country of origin to share. There will also be live music and children's activities. It promises to be a lovely event and to show that we are stronger together and there is unity in diversity.



My loving Lord,
it's so hard to love the world sometimes
and to love it the way Jesus did seems impossible.
Help me to be inspired by his love and
guided by his example.
Most of all, I want to accept that I can't do it alone,
and that trying is an arrogance of self-centeredness.
I need you, dear God, to give me support in this journey.
Show me how to unlock my heart
so that I am less selfish.
Let me be less fearful of the pain and darkness
that will be transformed by you into Easter joy.

Mayo Ploughing Championship is on Sunday 13th April. This year it will be held on Carras Farms eircode H54 TW94. Ploughing starts at 12 noon, gates open from 8 am. Lots to see, trade stands, sheep dog trials, dog show, live music by Breakfree. Bouncy castles and attractions for children also.

Parish Office: The New Parish Office and Meeting Room are now open. The Office is located behind the Parochial House in Headford and is open 10am – 2pm Monday to Friday 093-35448. All are welcome.

Would you like to read at mass? Or help collect the baskets? We have a wonderful group of volunteers, but our numbers are dwindling, and more helps is always needed. If you'd like to find out more or put your name forward, please contact Sharon in the office on 093 35448 or info@headfordchurch.com or pop into the Sacristy after mass.

Tuam Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock, Sunday, May 4th, 2025 Ceremonies commence at 2.30 p.m.

Tuam and Killala Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: led by Archbishop Francis Duffy, August 29th to Sept 4th, 6 nights. Contact 01 2410800 for details and booking.

Trócaire: Due to poor access to healthcare, food and clean water many families and communities in Guatemala are already living in extreme poverty, and life is a constant struggle. Please support communities and families through the **Trócaire box appeal this lent & pick up a box from either of our churches and the parish office.**

Adult Faith Formation: sessions take place every Wednesday in the new meeting room behind the parochial house 7.30 - 9pm. For more information, please contact the parish office 093 35448 or just show up. All are welcome.

"Live Life to the Full" National Youth Retreat at Knock Shrine: On May 8th students from all over the country will gather in Knock Shrine to celebrate the life of Donal Walsh and to reflect on his message - to 'Live Life!'. If you are interested in learning more about the day or registering a group, please email youthministry@knockshrine.ie.Whisper of God'

Silent Servants of the Divine Mercy: Colum and Seosamh are two young men with nonverbal autism. They spell to communicate. They have had a prayer ministry for some years now and have a Facebook page called Silent Servants of the Divine Mercy. They invite people to like the page and send their prayer intentions to them. They then pray and offer their sufferings for all the prayer intentions. They also recently started a sodality called Silent Servants of the Divine Mercy Sodality. The Sodality holds a monthly online prayer meeting on Zoom. The hope is that other people who cannot attend a prayer meeting in person can join them in praying for the intentions of the Silent Servants. They particularly invite other silent people or people with disabilities. Everyone is welcome. The next meeting will be held next Sunday the 30th of March at 7pm. The meeting will be approximately 30 minutes. Please send a text to 086 4134847 if you are interested in attending the meeting. The day before the meeting we will send out a Zoom link for the meeting.

Rainbows Group Support: As part of the supports we offer children and young people in Solas FRC, we are very pleased to be able to provide support for those who may have experienced a bereavement or family change following parental separation, through the introduction of the Rainbows Programmes. Meeting others of a similar age and in a similar situation can be very supportive and helpful for children and young people. If you are interested on behalf of your son or daughter, please email rainbows@solasfrc.ie or phone 086-2323433 for more information.

Easter Triduum Retreat: Come and stay for 3 nights with the Benedictine Community of Kylemore Abbey to learn about and celebrate the Easter Triduum. Arrive Holy Thursday, April 17th between 4pm and 5.30pm Depart after Easter Sunday Mass, April 20th. Three nights' accommodation and meals for €150. For more information or for bookings please email retreats@kylemoreabbey.ie or call +353 95 52098.

Church Gate Collections: Anyone looking to organise a collection at the church gates must get a Garda Permit and notify the parish office in advance. It is advisable to check the date with the Parish office as collections are not recommended on certain dates e.g. Christmas, Easter…
Light a candle online: for those who are watching online, you can now light a candle on Churchtv.ie/Headford, anytime of the day or night.

Seniorline is a confidential listening service for older people by trained older volunteers, Freephone 1800 80 45 91 Phone lines are open every day from 10am to 10pm, 365 days a year. As well as responding to individual callers, Seniorline advocates nationally for older people in Ireland, representing their needs, concerns and wishes to media, the general public, politicians and key stakeholders.

God's Influencer: A Short Biography of Carlo Acutis on sale in the parish office €10 each. 'Carlo Acutis' life was cut short in his early teens. His religious faith and sensitivity to sick people and people living with money problems shows a young man mature before his age. As his story unfolded, people both in Italy and across the globe learned of an extraordinary young man who achieved much and influenced many. In time he became known as Gods Influencer' written by Fr. Michael Collins.

Holy Water: If anyone 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.

Pastoral Council Dec 2024-Dec2027 Thank you to everyone who voted and contributed towards the selection of the new Parish Pastoral Council. From the names put forward the below have accepted to their nominations.**Claran Church:** Michelle Kenny, Martin Langan, Helena Hastings & Alan Daveron. **Headford Church:** Deirdre King, John Devlin, Mary Fahy & Tom Corbett.
Chy3 Charity Donations Scheme: Thank you to all who support the Parish through this scheme. In 2024 we entered a new cycle with this donation scheme and all forms (enduring certs) need to be resubmitted to the revenue commissioners. They are available at all exit doors of the church. Please take one and drop it back to the parish office or pop it in the collection basket at your earliest convenience.

It's still not too late to sign up. Please consider doing so as it is a substantial income for our Parish, 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 093 35448. Again, sincere Thanks to you all for continued support.

Meals4Health a Social Enterprise of COPE Galway are looking for volunteers to deliver meals to their customers on Thursday mornings across Galway City or County area? Please contact 091 354000 for details.

Adult Faith Formation: sessions take place every Wednesday in the new meeting room behind the parochial house 7.30 – 9pm. These enquiry sessions are suitable for adults who want to refresh their own Fatih, for adults who are considering joining the Catholic Faith community or adults seeking to join a church to call their own. It's an opportunity for us to accompany one another on our Faith journey. For more information, please contact the parish office 093 35448 or just show up. All are welcome.

Many Thanks to all who have sent in donations of Postage Stamps. These donations are forwarded on to Sr. Maria in the Mission Centre Dublin and help support the Missions in East Timor, Cuba and Indonesia.

Tús Opportunities: Galway Rural Development has a number of part-time administration and other vacancies now available. Supported by the Tús programme: if you are a year or more on a Jobseeker's payment and would like to contribute to a charity or community group in your locality, then this is your chance. Placements are for 12-18 months with pay and PRSI contributions recorded. Completion of the Tús programme provides future

employers with evidence of work experience, training, a reference, and a CV. For more information, contact GRD's Tús team at 087 9335477 or email tusadmin@grd.ie.

Solas Family Support Drop-in Clinic: in conjunction with Tusla and Foroige are offering a Family Support Community Drop-In Clinic on the first Wednesday of every month. Contact John on 093-36446 or Eamonn on 086-1713384 for more information.

Parish Office. You can contact the office 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**

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Moveable Feasts in 2025/26

	2025	2026
Ash Wednesday	5th March	18th Feb
Good Friday	18th April	3rd April
Easter Sunday	20th April	5th April
Ascension	1st June	17th May
Pentecost	8th June	24th May
Trinity	15th June	31st May
Corpus Christi	22nd June	7th June
First Sunday of Advent	30th November	29th November