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 €1220** last weekend and in **Claran €340. 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 October:
Headford: Intentions of the Newell Family
Claran: Intentions of the Lee Family.

Ministers for October Headford
Readers: Sat 4th 7pm: Fintan O'Malley
Sat 11 – 25th 7pm Rita O'Shea
Sun 11.30am: Sharon Joyce

Ministers of the Eucharist:
Sat. 7pm: Geraldine Hannon
Sun 11.30am Siobhan Waldron

Baskets: Sat 7pm Mary Fahy, Declan McDonagh Sun **11.30am** Andy Curran, Redmond Newell

Ministers for October Claran
Readers: Helen O'Neill
Minister of the Eucharist: Nessa Cosgrove, Mary Gillon

Feast Days: Mon 13th St. Edward the confessor, king, **Tues 14th** St. Callistus, **Weds 15th** St. Teresa of Ávila, **Thurs 16th** St. Hedwig, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, St. Richard Gwyn, **Fri 17th** St. Ignatius of Antioch, **Sat 18th** St. Luke, Evangelist.

Galway Hospice Dance: Ard Ri house hotel Milltown Rd Tuam 17th October @9pm-11pm Music by the fantastic Mike and Sandra. Lots of spot prizes. Any inquiries please contact Galway Hospice on 091770868

PRAYER FOR ST. CARLO ACUTIS

Oh God, Our Father, thank you for giving us Carlo, a life example for the young and a message of love for everyone.

You made him become enamoured with Your Son Jesus, Making of the Eucharist his "Highway to Heaven". You gave him Mary, as a most loving Mother, and, with the Rosary, you made him a poet of her tenderness. Receive his prayer for us.

Above all, gaze upon the poor, whom he loved and helped. Grant for me too, by his intercession, the grace that I need ... And make our joy fulfilled, placing Carlo among the Saints of your Church, so that his smile may shine again for us in the glory of your name. **Amen**

Parish of Killursa & Killower

11th & 12th of October 2025, The Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
FEAST DAY OF ST. CARLO ACTUIS

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

Sat 11th	**7.00pm**	Jim Concannon, Anniversary Teresa (Tess) & John Keady, Bridge St. (A) Maida Schalks, Anniv & her husband Kee's Private Intention Marty Lee, Farron, (A)
Sun 12th	**11.30am**	**'Do this in Memory' Mass** Thomas & Patricia O'Rafferty (A)
Mon 13th	**10.00am**	Joe Owens RIP (M.C)
Fri 17th	**10.00am**	Private Intention
Sat 18th	**10.00am** **7.00pm**	Private Intention Nancy Higgins & Martha Glynn (A) Tom Monaghan, Galway Rd. (A) Kieran Gleeson, Cong Rd. (A)
Sun 19th	**11.30am**	Margaret O'Flaherty, 3rd Anniversary Pattie Lally, Cloughanover, & the decd of the family

Mass Intentions for St. Mary's Church, Claran

Sun 12th	**10.00am**	**'Do this in Memory' Mass** Fursey & Julia Flynn, Ower
Tue 14th	**9.00am**	Private Intention
Wed 15th	**9.30am**	No Mass
Sun 19th	**10.00am**	Christina Walsh Months Mind Michael Walsh, 6th Anniversary John Gerard Lee Months Mind & his Mum Nora Lee 18th Anniversary

Abbreviations: (A) Anniversary, **(P.I.)** Private Intention, **(S.I.)** Special Intention, **(M.C.)** Mass Card, **(B.R.)** Birthday Remembrance, **(G.W.)** Get Well/Healing, **(M.B)** Mass Bouquet.

World Mission Sundy *Our weekly collection on Sunday the 19th of October will go directly to World Mission Sunday.* Right now, missionaries desperately need your help. In many poorer parishes in Africa, Asia, and Latin America missionaries are serving on the front line. They already do so much, walking hand-in-hand with marginalised communities, long before and after any emergency. You can show missionaries you care by supporting World Mission Sunday. Your prayers and generosity will change lives. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

Volunteers needed: Last year it cost the parish €450 to post uncollected offertory boxes. We are seeking individuals that would like to volunteer to deliver boxes in their townland/area. The boxes will be ready at the end of November.

Adult Faith Formation classes take place each Wednesday evening at 7.30pm in the Parish Martyrs Room (new meeting room beside the parish of, 093 35448 or email: info@headfordchurch.com or call into the office H91XA4A.

Headford & District Association invites you to a Family Friendly Table Quiz Saturday, 18 October 2025 – St Fursa's Parish Hall, Headford**.** This event is a fundraiser for the Headford & District Association, an entirely voluntary group that organises community events, oversees local projects, and raises funds for initiatives such as the much-loved Christmas lights. All ages are welcome — gather friends, family, or neighbours, and join us for a fun, sociable evening while supporting a great cause.

Catholics are invited to pray for a special gathering that will take place in Kilkenny on 18 October, called a Pre-Synodal Assembly of the Catholic Church in Ireland. This assembly is an important event on the journey towards a National Synodal Assembly to be held in 2026.

Headford Environment Group's Annual Churchgate Collection will take place on Oct 18th & 19th in both churches, all money raised will go towards our local projects and events. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated.

Handel's Messiah at Knock Basilica, Saturday 22 November 2025. Featuring the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, Nicholas Chalmers – Conductor, Soprano Aoife Miskelly, Alto Anne Marie Gibbons, Tenor Andrew Gavin, Rory Musgrave, Baritone and vocal ensemble, Resurgam. Tickets available online https://knockmessiah2025.eventbrite.ie

'Whisper of God' one-day silent day retreat takes place on Saturday, November 1st in the Prayer Centre, Knock. Cost: €70 includes lunch and refreshments. For more information, contact John Farrelly, Prayer Guides Coordinator at Knock Shrine. Tel. 086 0108623 or email prayerguidance@knockshrine.ie

A workshop for Choirs at Knock Shrine with Dr. John O'Keeffe, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth and Una Nolan, Knock Shrine, will take place on Saturday, November 15th. Advanced booking is essential. Cost:€20 includes resource pack. See www.knockshrine.ie for more details.

Prayer Guidance Training Course: Interviews are now underway for the new training programme for prayer guides which begins in Knock Shrine in January 2026. For further information, dates and application form please email prayerguidancetraining@gmail.com

"Be Strong In The Lord" - HLI Ireland 32 County mission evening with relics of St Thérèse & The Holy Face. Funeral Home, St Cronan's Church, Balla, 7pm.

Looking for meaningful, flexible work? Western Alzheimer's are seeking compassionate, honest, reliable people to support individuals living with dementia in their own homes in Co. Mayo. Flexible hours – work around *your* schedule! Make a real difference, one visit at a time. Essentials: QQI Level 5 modules in Care Skills & Care of the Older. More info contact: 094 93 64900 or email careers@westernalzheimers.ie

Child & Adolescent Counselling Service Our experienced and supportive counsellors work with young people to help them navigate difficult emotions, improve communication skills and develop healthy coping mechanisms. If you know of someone who could benefit from our service, please contact us at 0949375032.

Silent Retreat: "If you but knew the gift of God..." Fr. Kilian Byrne, Foyer of Charity St. Mary's Accommodation, Knock, Co. Mayo November 24th to 30th 2025 Cost: €570 full board Contact: Kay: 089 4348901 kaylooby@gmail.com or Helen : 086 1678027/ hellywilliams@gmail.com www.foyerofcharity.ie A privileged time to come away from noise and distractions, and listen to the Spirit of God, - Who is Love. Silence, prayer, teachings & liturgy of the Church.

Prayers for the Pre-Synodal Assembly of the Catholic Church in Ireland All Catholics are invited to pray for a special gathering that will take place in Kilkenny on 18 October, called a Pre-Synodal Assembly of the Catholic Church in Ireland. This assembly is an important juncture on the journey towards a National Synodal Assembly to be held in 2026. Around 240 people will be in attendance and these are drawn from each diocese on the island, Religious Congregations and Church movements. A preparatory document, entitled *Baptised and Sent* - the fruits of listening sessions across Ireland last spring - will be the basis for discussion at this gathering, and for the next stage of the journey of renewal. Central to the document is a renewed focus on baptism as the foundation of our Christian dignity, unity, and mission and how baptism infuses the life and mission of the Church in Ireland today and into the future. You are invited to read this document by visiting www.synod.ie/baptised-and-sent-preparatory-document-available-now/ Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide the conversations at Kilkenny, and those flowing from it, as we walk together as sisters and brothers of Christ, united by our baptism and filled with hope.
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.

Irish Catholic Newspaper: Please note that the Irish Catholic Newspaper will now cost €3.50each. If you would like to receive a weekly copy, please contact Sharon 093 35448 in the office. Thank you to those who have paid their subscription this year, subscriptions can be paid in the office or put in the weekly basket.

Mary Lee's The Stranger, the dream, the bird: "Mary Lee's poetry collection is a deeply spiritual and contemplative work that offers hope and grace amid life's challenges". Last few remaining copies available in the parish office.

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…

Accord Marriage Care Service have launched their updated Marriage preparation course 'Marriage A Journey Not a Destination' Book today www.accord.ie, 01 5053112 or email marriagepreparation@accord.ie

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.

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.

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 & 1 for weekday masses & we ask that you be understanding if your preferred date is not available. ***Please note Mass times may need to be changed at short notice.***

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.

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.

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.

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.

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**

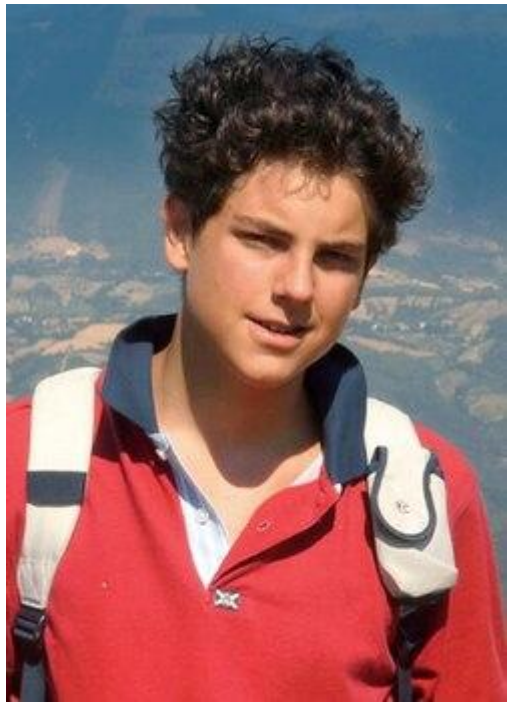
The Drop-In Listening Service at Knock Counselling Centre is open to anyone. If you feel the need to talk to someone in confidence, you can 'drop -in' (no appointment necessary) on Thursdays. The drop-in service begins at 11am with final sessions no later than 3pm. This is an open and accessible service 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.

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.

Adult Faith Formation classes take place each Wednesday evening at 7.30pm in the New Meeting Room. An introduction into the teachings, traditions and beliefs of the Catholic Church. If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or know someone who might be or would like to renew your faith, don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office: Phone 093 35448 or email: info@headfordchurch.com or call into the office H91XA4A.



Carlo Acutis was born May 3, 1991, in London, where his father was working. Just a few months later, he moved with his parents, Andrea Acutis and Antonia Salzano, to Milan, Italy.

From a young age, Carlo had a special love for God, even though his parents weren't especially devout. Antonia Salzano, his mom, said that before Carlo, she went to Mass only for her first Communion, her confirmation, and her wedding.

As a young child, Carlo loved to pray the rosary. After he made his first Communion, he went to Mass as often as possible at the parish across from his elementary school. Carlo's love for the Eucharist also inspired a deep conversion for his mother. According to the postulator promoting his cause for sainthood, he "managed to drag his relatives, his parents to Mass every day. It was not the other way around; it was not his parents bringing the little boy to Mass, but it was he who managed to get himself to Mass and to convince others to receive Communion daily."

Salzano spoke to "EWTN News Nightly" in October 2023 about her son's devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. She said: "He used to say, 'There are queues in front of a concert, in front of a football match, but I don't see these queues in front of the Blessed Sacrament' ... So, for him the Eucharist was the center of his life."

Carlo's witness of faith as a child led adults to convert and be baptized. Rajesh Mohur, who worked for the Acutis family as an au pair when Carlo was young, converted from Hinduism to Catholicism because of Carlo's witness. Carlo taught Mohur how to pray the rosary and told him about the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Mohur said one of the things that most impressed him as a non-Christian was the witness of Carlo's love and concern for the poor — how he interacted with the homeless man who would sit at the entrance of the church and would bring Tupperware dishes filled with food out to people living on the streets.

Carlo was not afraid to defend Church teaching, even in situations when his classmates disagreed with him. Many of Carlo's high school classmates remember Carlo giving a passionate defense for the protection of life from the moment of conception when there was a classroom debate about abortion.

Carlo was a faithful friend. He was known for standing up for kids at school who got bullied, especially kids with disabilities. When a friend's parents were getting a divorce, Carlo made a special effort to include his friend in the Acutis' family life. With his friends, he spoke about the importance of going to Mass and confession, human dignity, and chastity.

Carlo was fascinated with computer coding and taught himself some of the basic coding languages, including C and C++. He used his computer skills and internet savvy to help his family put together an exhibition on Eucharistic miracles that has gone on to be displayed at thousands of parishes on five continents. His spiritual director has attested that Carlo was personally convinced that the scientific evidence from Eucharistic miracles would help people to realize that Jesus is present in the Eucharist and come back to Mass.

Carlo loved playing video games. His mother recalls that he liked the Nintendo Game Boy and GameCube as well as PlayStation and Xbox. He had conversations with his gaming buddies about the importance of going to Mass and confession and limited his video game playing to no more than two hours per week. Carlo also liked Spider-Man and Pokémon.

Before his death in 2006, he offered his sufferings for Pope Benedict XVI and for the Church, saying: "I offer all of my suffering to the Lord for the pope and for the Church in order not to go to purgatory but to go straight to heaven."

Carlo died on Oct. 12, 2006, and was buried in Assisi, Italy.

Pope Francis recognized a second miracle attributed to Carlo's intercession in a decree on May 23, 2024. The miracle involved the healing of a 21-year-old girl from Costa Rica named Valeria Valverde, who was near death after seriously injuring her head in a bicycle accident while studying in Florence in 2022. The first miracle that led to his beatification involved the healing of a 3-year-old boy in Brazil in 2013 who had been diagnosed with a malformation of his pancreas since birth.

Hundreds of thousands of pilgrims from around the world have visited Carlo's tomb since his canonization was announced. His remains rest in the Church of Santa Maria Maggiore at the Sanctuary of Spogliazione (or of the Stripping) in Assisi, the home of St. Francis and St. Clare.bCarlo Acutis became a saint on Sept 7th 2025.

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