Pope Leo's prayer intention for November: for the proper use of wealth, so that we may recognize that true wealth lies not in accumulating or possessing, but in giving with love.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

When Cardinal Bob Prevost was picking a name for his papacy, Leo came to mind. Over 135 years ago, Leo XIII published Rerum Novarum on workers' rights. But back through the centuries was another Leo, always called 'the Great'. This quiet scholarly man was the one who met Attila the Hun at the gates of Rome and persuaded the attacker to go away. Leo the Great courageously worked for peace, as our Leo also does.

Pope St Leo the Great (feast day Tuesday 10 November) pray for our current Pope Leo (XIV), and pray for us.

Finance Corner 01/11/2026

Aughadown: €745
Castlehaven & Myross: €800
Development Fund: €980
Kilmacabea: €870
Skibbereen: €1,430
Rath: €705
Thank you for your generosity

The annual Diocesan Special Collection for Youth Ministry will take place in all parishes on the weekend of **14th and 15th November**.

CLERGY

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FAMILY OF PARISHES OFFICE

TO BOOK MASSES, ARRANGE WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS, ANNIVERSARIES, ETC.
CONTACT THE FAMILY OF PARISHES' OFFICE, 1 NORTH ST, SKIBBEREEN.
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St Ciarán & All Saints
FAMILY OF PARISHES
Newsletter
(for the parishes of Aughadown, Castlehaven & Myross, Kilmacabea, Rath & The Islands, and Skibbereen)

8th November 2026 32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time Vol.5:10

Is there a hell?

A few years ago, the Church revised the words of the Creed. That prayer used to speak of Christ 'descending to the dead' after His own death. In the revised wording, Christ 'descended into HELL'. Some found this unsettling, till they remembered how much hell persists on earth; where there is war and destruction, rape and all the terrible abuse of people. Christ descended to those dark places and remains, defeating darkness with his redeeming power.

When life here is over, is there a hell in the afterlife too? If there is light, there must be shade, if there is heaven, there must be hell too. But how many people does the merciful God permit to enter it? Only God knows.

The catechism puts it succinctly: "God predestines no one to go to hell; for this, a wilful turning away from God is necessary, and persistence in it to the end." (# 1037)

And how likely is that, when a person leaving this world meets the love of God, perhaps for the first time? Can the depths of evil be swept away in that moment, through the victory Christ has won? This mystery will be revealed only in eternity.

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