Parish of Abbeyside, Ballinroad & Garranbane

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Cycle A

13th September 2026

Planning a wedding?

Please contact the Parish Office to inquire about available dates. As a reminder, couples must give at least 6 months' notice to the parish to complete marriage preparations and give at least 3 months' notice to the Civil Registrar before the wedding date.

Only the Accord pre-marriage course is accepted in our Parish.

Please visit **www.accord.ie** to book.

Are you living in the Parish and getting married elsewhere?

If so, you will need to get your prenuptial enquiry forms completed by Fr Ned. This should be done 6-8 weeks before the wedding.

Don't forget to contact the office to arrange the meeting.

Community Monument Fund – Abbeyside Cloghás Restoration

Weeding at height!

Yet to climb the scaffold, I took these few snaps on Eileen's phone (my own was at home charging). The sight of the ivy and scrub tidily left in various piles caught my eye and prompted a photoshoot, as it will be soon taken away and dumped. Hard to believe how much growth there has been on the wall of our Cloghás, roots intruding between the stones. These selfsame roots cannot be entirely removed, as to do so would risk destabilising the whole structure. Some small stones were loosened in the process and are left on the scaffold to be returned to their rightful place, embedded in lime mortar. The top of the walls will also be stripped of weeds, and a limecrete capping installed to strengthen the structure. The tools of the trade can be seen during tea break.

More next week!!

And more importantly, thanks for your interest and support, which is so heartening.

Fr Ned.

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Waterford & Lismore Diocesan Youth Fundraiser Golf Classic

Over 20 teams took part in the Waterford & Lismore Diocesan Youth fundraiser Golf Classic on Monday 7th of September in Faithlegg golf club. We were delighted to sponsor a team and along with a team from Garranbane our Parish was very well represented on the day. The Garranbane team finished the day in 3rd place. Congratulations to all who took part.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

If you wish for your child to receive the Sacrament of Baptism, we have the following dates available.

October 3rd

October 17th

November 7th

November 28th

Please note baptism dates are offered on a first come first served basis and forms are now available online. Please contact the office with your preferred date and a baptism application link will be emailed to you.

Application forms can also be dealt with at the office.

Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate with you and we can book your child in for baptism.

Baptisms

To help us give each family the time, care and space their special occasion deserves, the earliest baptism time available will be 5.00pm.

This allows us to accommodate weddings which may be taking place earlier in the day, as well as leaving space for a funeral or burial should one be required. We hope these arrangements will enable each ceremony to be celebrated peacefully and with the dignity and care that these important occasions deserve.

Mossy McNamara, Pat Power and John Moran who represented ABG Parish at the recent Golf Classic fundraiser held in Faithlegg Golf Club.

Matt Curran, Angela Murphy and Diarmuid O'Neill who represented Garranbane at the recent Golf Classic fundraiser held in Faithlegg Golf Club.

At the presentation of prizes by Bishop Cullinane, Garranbane team Angela Murphy and Matt Curran winning 3rd prize. Organisers Fr Mark and June Hayes also in photo.

BALLINROAD HALL

We have being quitely renovating the upstairs room in Ballinroad Hall over the summer. A lot of plaster repair, flooring work along with moving electrics has allowed us to increase the room space. More details to follow over the coming weeks.

Anniversary Mass Bookings

Please contact the sacristan of the Church, you wish the mass to be said.

Abbeyside Church:

Eileen O Donovan

087-7565605

Ballinroad Church:

Ann Crowther

087-7606941

Garranbane Church:

Liam Carroll

086-8552595

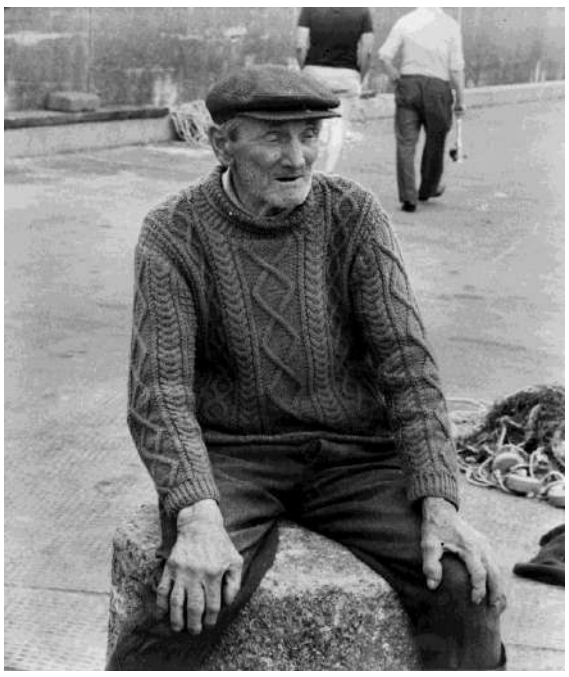
Geraldine Carroll

087-6742191

WILLIE CAREY Voices From Abbeyside's Past WEEK 2

First published in 1984 the Abbeyside Parish Newsletter was one of the main ways parish news and memories were shared.

The interviews they published with villagers offer a vivid glimpse into the people, traditions and everyday life of the Abbeyside at that time.



Willie Carey, sitting on a bollard at Helvick Pier, circa 1975.

Photo: Michael Freyne via Waterford County Museum.

WILLIE CAREY

– IN PROFILE

Born in Upper Helvick on 19th November 1892 this ninety-three-year-old man-of-the-sea is still "hale and hearty" as we found him in the cosiness of his home at 45 Murphy Place, Abbeyside when we went to talk to him last week.

Willie, who has served as a harbour pilot for a long number of years was also a sailor but is clearly identified in the minds of all who know him, as a fisherman.

He had three brothers, Nicholas who was killed in the great San Francisco earthquake, having been there only a week at the turn of the century. Tom died in Coventry and his brother John and sister Bridie died at home.

When we asked him about his early life, he told us.

"I first got involved in the sea and fishing with my father and brothers when I was only fifteen. When they started building the pier at Helvick in 1914. I got a job there for a half dollar a day, but I stayed with it for just one day and went back to fishing and boats. That was the only day that I worked on land in Ireland. The rest of my life here was spent and worked in boats..."

Does this mean that you worked on land in another country?

"I went to sea for a while in British ships – trips to South America, and so on, but on one occasion when I couldn't get a ship, I walked all the way to London from Swansea looking for work, just after the first war. On the way to London I worked with the odd farmer, harvesting, just to earn enough to keep fed and watered for the journey. I didn't find work in London, so I walked down to Southampton and then back to Swansea where I got a ship."

How long did you keep going to sea?

"Six years or so. I came home for a break and was induced to do a bit of salmon fishing with my brother John. We were doing so well that I stayed at it and soon bought a boat."

Were times ever tough at the fishing business?

"Of course there were bad times, especially during the great strike when there was no transport. We were harvesting lobster at the time and were forced to sell two ton and five cwt. of live lobster to Michael Clancy, Fish Merchant, for a five-pound note and we were lucky to get it."

You did a lot of piloting in your day; did you like that?

"Yes, it was very interesting. I remember on one occasion when the weather was very bad, I walked from Helvick to the Quay to bring out a ship, but the skipper would not risk going out so I had to walk back to Helvick and all this was before my breakfast. I walked regularly to and from Helvick into Dungarvan and Abbeyside."

When did you first come to Abbeyside to live?

"In 1927, the year I was married to Margaret Honan. I have lived between here and Helvick since."

Onlookers have remarked on the dangers you let yourself in for when going way out, riding the big waves in a small boat. Were you ever frightened?

"Never. You are never in danger in a small boat. I often went as far as Ardmore, but with so many known safe inlets along the coast, you can always make shore if you see a storm coming."

Is the weather any different now from what it used to be?

"Yes, you don't have any real hot summers now. I remember having to row out with food and water to some of the bigger Helvick boats which were unable to move because of the awful calm. They would be caught there for up to ten days."

What was the furthest you ever went in a small boat?

"With my brother John and a retired policeman from Shanghai I rowed a boat from the pier in Helvick to New Ross with a boatload of mackerel and then rowed back."

Did you ever play games or get involved in sports during your life?

"No. When I was growing up there was very little sport or games where I lived. It was all work or fishing if you could get it."

Was there ever any sadness in your life?

"There's some sadness in everyone's life I suppose. I was very sad when my wife died and when my brothers and sisters passed away."

Was fishing a paying business?

"Sometimes it was and sometimes it was poor. I fished every nook and corner of this harbour and caught salmon in all these places. Anyway it

Went, it was better than going to sea for £9 a month."

Are you glad now that you have finished with the sea?

"Who told you I was finished? I'm only waiting to get back in my boat and back out the harbour!" (at this stage Willie produced a new 800 yards long bass fishing net which he had just finished making beside the roaring fire in his very cosy kitchen. He'll bring it down to his boat (the "Guiding Star") as soon as he has it "roped")

He states that after the short rest he has had, he'll be in "mint" condition before going back on the water..

When asked what he believed to be the worst feature of life today as compared with long ago, he said the amount of dishonesty and untrust in the world was frightening.

He told us too that now his great friend and schoolmate Mike Hurley also of Helvick died recently, he was the only old-timer left in Helvick.

He now lives with his granddaughter, Ann and her husband Michael Fraher, and when we suggested that he'd be foolish to leave all this comfort to go back to the cold sea, he just said "nonsense".

We enjoyed listening to him and of course he had other tales as well.

This interview originally appeared in the Abbeyside Parish Newsletter in December 1984.

Republishing this interview about my great-grandad, Willie, has brought back so many memories for me. To everyone else he was Willie, the fisherman, sailor and harbour pilot from Helvick. To us, he was simply Pop.

Pop lived with us in Murphy Place and even though I was just a child when he died, I still remember him sitting in the front room beside the fire, making his fishing nets. He had a hook on the wall and he would sit or stand with his net needle and twine and would make his nets, just as he had done for much of his life. I can still remember the smell of his pipe, and I also remember his little trick of frightening the life out of us if we got too close to the fire. He would crack the poker off the hearth, and that was enough to make sure none of us got too close to it!!

I hope this series of interviews brings back some good memories for those who knew these wonderful characters and their stories. For me, reading Pop's interview this week has brought back memories that I was so lucky to experience as a child — memories that I will always treasure.

Lucinda

This series was compiled by Shane Tutty.

Thanks are due to Waterford City & County Archivist Joanne Rothwell for her support with this project.

Who will be up next?

Grab your copy next week to see!!!

Mass Times	**Mass Intentions**
Abbeyside Church	
Saturday 7.00pm	**Jim Riordan**
	Michael Coleman
	The O'Donovan Family
	Jim Mouire Months Mind
Sunday 9.30am	
Sunday 12.00pm	**Felix & Eoin Shields**
	Brian & John Lineen
Ballinroad Church	
Sunday 10.00am	**Maura Simms**
	Nicholas Dunphy
	Annie Fennell (Ballyvoile)
	Richard Duggan & Michael Duggan &
	Molly O'Mahony 1st Anniversary
Garranbane Church	
Sunday 11.00am	**Nell Collender**
	Paddy Collender
	Margaret Hayes Anniversary
	Deceased Members of the Hogan family
Anniversaries	**Tony Colbert**
	Nicolas Kelly
	Sean Needham
	Kevin Keohan 1st Anniversary
Died Recently	**Úna O'Dwyer (née Quigley)**
	Martin Fennell (Loughaniska)

Funeral Mass on Saturday 12th Sept 11a.m in St. Laurence's Church, Ballinroad. Burial afterwards in the adjoining cemetery.

Weekday Masses: Monday – Friday 10am Abbeyside Church. **(Subject to change due to Funerals in the Parish).**

There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacraments on Tuesday after 10am mass.

Inscription reads:

Garranbane Church 1926

Rev. W. Walsh P.P.

A Treasure from Our Parish Past

Among the objects still in use in our parish is this beautiful silver communion-bread container. Although it may look like a piece belonging to another age, it has a very practical role in Parish life today. Each time it is used at communion it provides a link to our past.

100 years and still relevant.

ABG Office Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday

9am - 1pm

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abgparish@gmail.com

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