

# Finding Irish Ancestors: A Guide to Civil and Church Records

*Class 3: Leveraging Church Parish Records*

March 2026

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors<sup>®</sup>

A NATIONAL CENTER FOR FAMILY HISTORY, HERITAGE & CULTURE

# Meet today's presenter



Melanie McComb

Senior Genealogist

# OVERVIEW

- **Presentation (60 mins.)**
  - Church of Ireland Parish Registers
  - Catholic Parish Registers
  - Presbyterian Parish Registers
  - Published Resources
- **Q&A (30 mins.)**



*Voice of*  
Melanie McComb,  
Senior Genealogist

# Steps for Success

- Determine your ancestor's location(s)
- Determine your ancestor's religion
  - Vital records
  - Census records (immigrants who went to Canada)
- Understand the records
  - for some time periods and locations, your ancestor may appear in records of another faith
- Familiarize yourself with Ireland's religious history

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# *Faith and Family: Tracing the Religious Roots of Ireland's Past*

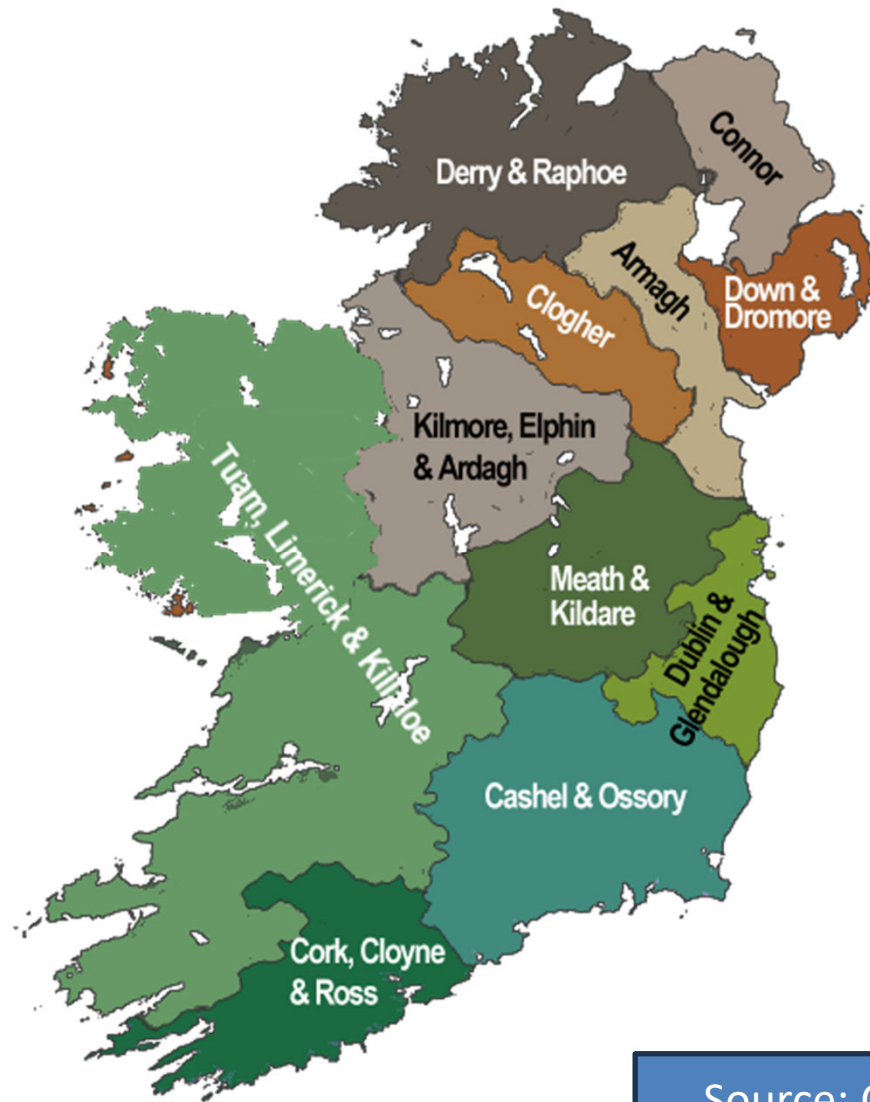


[AmericanAncestors.org/video-library/faith-and-family-tracing-religious-roots-irelands-past](https://AmericanAncestors.org/video-library/faith-and-family-tracing-religious-roots-irelands-past)

# Church of Ireland Parish Registers

# Civil Parishes

- Territorial divisions based on medieval ecclesiastical boundaries adopted by the Anglican Church following Reformation
- Formalized by the 17th century Down Survey – approximately 2,500 units
- Civil parishes consist of approximately 25-30 townlands
- Until the 19th century, the civil parishes were responsible for collecting taxes
- Did not go through the same restructuring that Roman Catholic parishes did



Source: Church of Ireland Web Site

# Church of Ireland Diocese Map

# Types of Records

- Baptismal registers
- Marriage registers
- Burial Registers
- Other types of records may include vestry minute books, bastardy bonds, records of the poor, and parish census records (to be discussed in more detail in Class 4)

# Pre-19th Century Baptism Records

- Baptisms were conducted weeks or months following birth
- Some baptisms conducted privately and recorded as such in the parish registers
  - High society individuals
  - Children near death
- Details included the following:
  - Date of baptism
  - Date of child
  - Parents' names
    - Mother's maiden name is not usually provided
  - Godparents' names

Parish of Castlet. Roche  
A.D. 1735. were Baptised  
Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> Thom: Son of Josiah  
Jones  
Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> was baptis: John  
y<sup>e</sup> son of Charles Mans  
field re  
Sept. 18 was baptis: Eliz:  
Daught<sup>r</sup> of Dr. How  
ard re  
Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> Sund. was baptis  
Mary, Daught<sup>r</sup> of Thom: &  
Eliz: Arnel  
Will<sup>m</sup>: Glavns G: F  
Anne Barry  
Ellen: Juane) G: M:  
P. 9. 22. was baptis. Mary  
Daught<sup>r</sup> of John & Brown  
James King G: F

Baptisms, 1735, Castletownroche, County Cork, FamilySearch

# *Pro Forma* Registers

- In 1807, registers started being used in Ireland to record the information for baptisms, marriages, and deaths
- The registers included pre-printed columns with headers
- Each pro forma register included a specimen page, which illustrated how the clergy should fill out the registers
- In the 1820s these registers were improved to record information such as the residence, occupation of father, etc.

# 19th Century - Present Baptism Registers

- Date of birth
- Date of baptism
- Date of child
- Parents' names (including mother's maiden name)
- Parents' residence
- Father's occupation
- Name of officiant who performs ceremony

**Page**

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of *Dungarvan*  
in the county of *Waterford* in the Year 18 *40*

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents' Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
<i>10/40</i> <i>October</i> No. <i>16<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Friedrich</i>	<i>Daniel</i> & <i>Rebecca</i>	<i>Hickey</i>	<i>bon-</i> <i>ma-</i> <i>hon</i>	<i>Witch-</i> <i>man</i>	<i>Hepher</i> <i>Dickson</i>
<i>October</i> No. <i>23</i>	<i>George</i>	<i>George</i> & <i>Anne</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Cork</i>	<i>Engi-</i> <i>ner</i>	<i>Hepher</i> <i>Dickson</i>
<i>Novem<sup>r</sup></i> No. <i>22</i>	<i>Anne</i>	<i>Barton</i> & <i>Eliza</i>	<i>Under</i> <i>son</i>	<i>Dun-</i> <i>garvan</i>	<i>Pro-</i> <i>jector</i>	<i>Hepher</i> <i>Dickson</i>
<i>11</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>11</i>

Baptism Register, 1840, Dungarvan, County Waterford, Virtual Treasury of Ireland

# Pre-19th Century Marriage Records

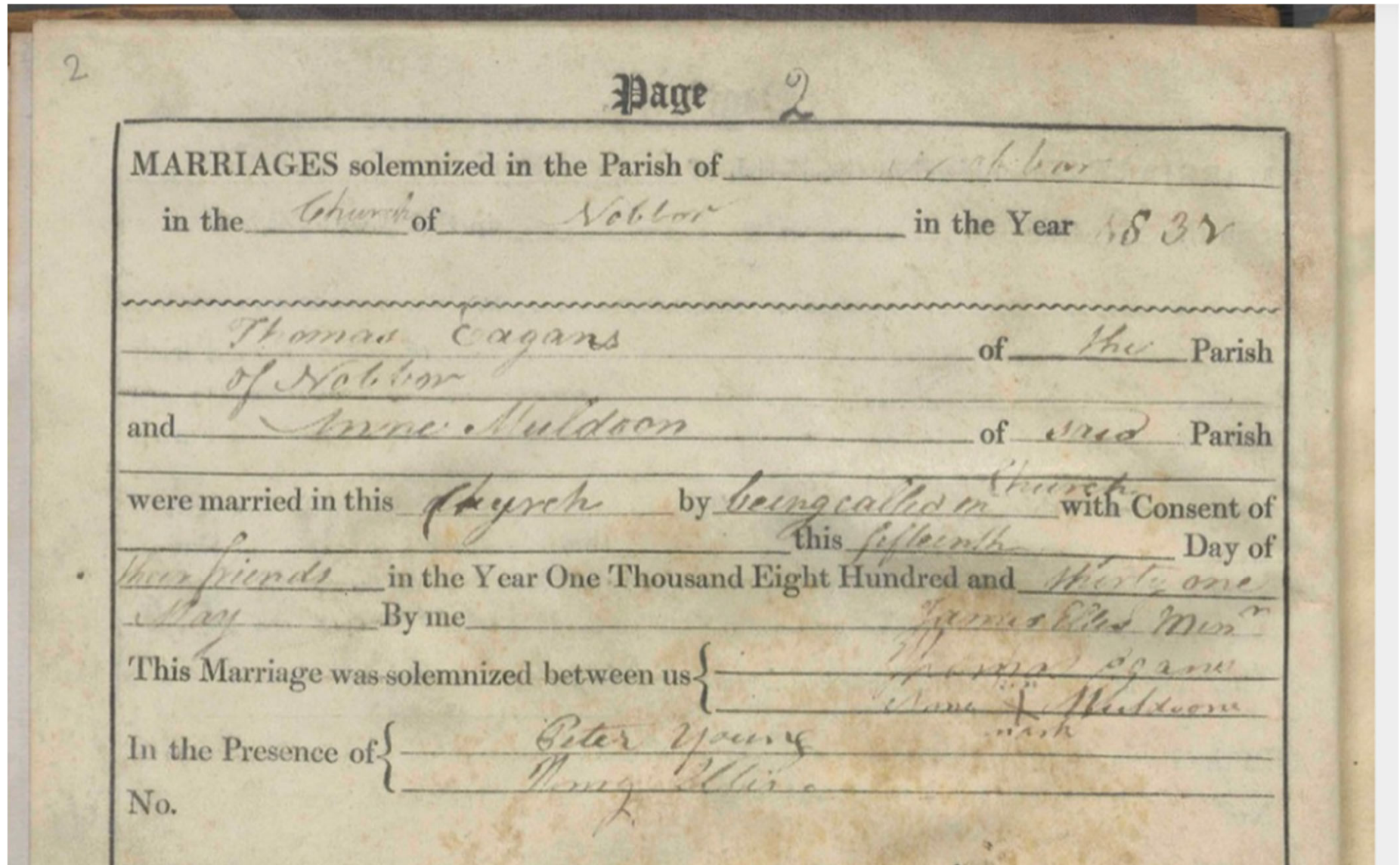
- Weddings would traditionally take place at the bride's parish church
- Details included the following:
  - Names of the parties
  - Date of wedding

Castlet<sup>n</sup> Par<sup>sh</sup> 1738 :  
Married.  
Mond. Sept 4<sup>th</sup> were marr  
n<sup>m</sup>. Verling & Martha Rober  
  
Mond. Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> were married  
Humph<sup>y</sup> Kaiser &  
Kathrine Grady.

Marriages, Castletownroche, County Cork,  
FamilySearch

# 19th Century – Present Marriage Registers

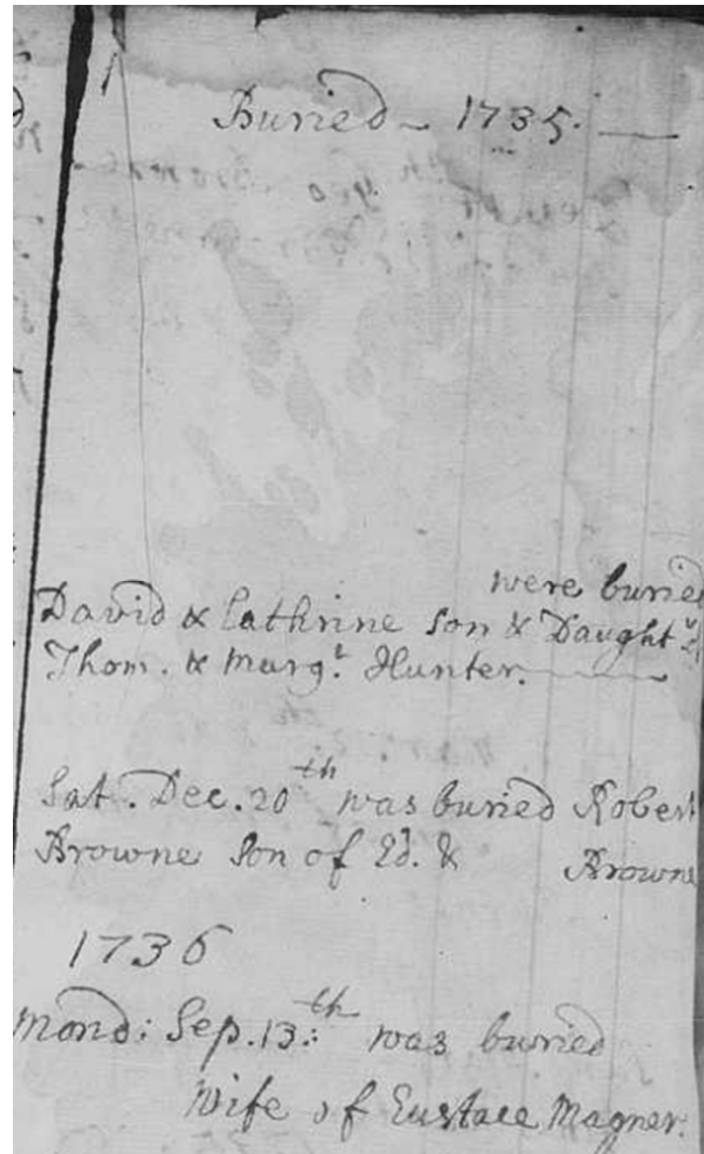
- Details included the following:
  - Names of the parties
  - Date of wedding
  - Addresses of the parties (usually the name of the parish)
  - Names and addresses of witnesses
    - Often members of the family
- Parties could sign the register or make a mark if they were illiterate



Marriage Register, 1832, Nobber, Meath Diocese, Virtual Treasury of Ireland

# Pre-19th Century Burial Registers

- Name of deceased
- Date of burial
- Family relationship (not always stated)
  - Names of parents if child died young
  - Name of spouse (mostly for women's burials)



Burials, 1735, Castletownroche, County Cork, FamilySearch

# 19th Century to Present Burial Registers

- Name of deceased
- Age of deceased
- Date of burial
- Address (usually the name of the parish)
- Family relationship
  - Names of parents if child died young
  - Name of spouse

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**Page**

BURIALS in the Parish of Dungarvan  
in the County of Waterford in the Year 18 41

Name.	Abode.	When Buried.	Age.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
Maurice Surreen	Ballynabon	Feb 14	50	R. P. Kehoe
Margaret Milan	Abbeyside	19	2	Do
No. William Stout	Dungarvan	20	96	Do
James Ward	Do	27	49	Do
Miles Lang	Do	28	3	Do
No. Mary Deane	Do	28	51	Do
Katherine A. Hean	Do	March 10	51	Do
Margaret Carroll	Do	15	70	Do
No. James Keane	Do	20	55	Do
Henry Dickey	Do	22	74	Do
Conrad Keane	Kilrush	27	50	Do
No. William Myler	Ballyscullan	April 8	21	Do

Burials, 1841, Dungarvan, County Waterford,  
Virtual Traasury of Ireland

# 1922 Fire

- It is estimated approximately 1,000 sets of Church of Ireland parish registers were destroyed
- They were sent to Dublin for safekeeping at the Public Records Office following the 1869 disestablishment of the church
- Registers that remained in local parish custody survived





English Gaeilge (Irish)

Search Records Record Sources ▾ Genealogical Research ▾ FAQ News Feedback

## Search Online Records

Search in:  Civil Records  Church Records  All Records

First name  Last name

Exact name matches only

Location

Enter a *County, Civil registration district or Church area*

Year range  -

Event type:  Birth  Marriage  Death  Baptism  Burial

Advanced options ▾

irishgenealogy.ie



English Gaelige (Irish)

[Search Records](#) [Record Sources](#) [Genealogical Research](#) [FAQ](#) [News](#) [Feedback](#)

## Search Online Records

Search in:  Civil Records  Church Records  All Records

First name  Last name

Exact name matches only

Location

*Enter a **Church Area**  
Please select a valid location from the dropdown*

Year range  -

Event type:  Marriage  Baptism  Burial

Advanced options

irishgenealogy.ie



## Church Records

Access is available to a large volume of pre 20th century records of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, that in many instances pre-date the Civil Registration. These include:

- Transcripts of the baptism and marriage records of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Kerry to c. 1900
- All Roman Catholic baptism, marriage and burial registers for Dublin City
- All surviving Church of Ireland baptism records
- Marriage and burial registers for Dublin City

## Civil Records

Access is available to the General Register Office (GRO) civil records. These include:

- Birth register records – 1864 to 1925
- Marriage register records – 1845 to 1950
- Death register records – 1871 to 1975

Non-Roman Catholic Marriages are recorded from 1845 and Roman Catholic Marriages are recorded from 1864.

Due to data protection, birth records are only accessible when over 100 years old, marriage records are only accessible when over 75 years old and death records are only accessible when over 50 years old. Records are updated every year to include an additional year of records.

irishgenealogy.ie



## Search Online Records

Search in:  Civil Records  Church Records  All Records

First name  Last name

Exact name matches only

Location

CIVIL REG. COUNTIES	CHURCH LOCATIONS
No matches	Kerry

Year range  -

Event type:  Marriage  Baptism  Burial

Advanced options

Day  Month

Mother's Surname *(Birth records only)*

irishgenealogy.ie



## Burial record for FRANCES DOUPE of CHURCHILL on 27 February 1881

Area - KERRY (COI), Parish/Church/Congregation - BALLYNAHAGLISH

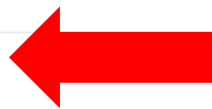
[« Back to results](#)

Name:	Frances Doupe
Address:	Churchill
Age:	29
Date of Death:	25 February 1881
Occupation:	
Diocesan Area:	KERRY (COI)
Parochial Area:	BALLYNAHAGLISH

### About the record

Book Number:	N/R
Page:	1
Entry Number:	N/R
Record Identifier:	KY-CI-BU-1213

[View record image](#)



[Page 1<sup>st</sup>].

BURIALS in *Ballinahaglish Churchyard*  
in the Diocese of *Ardferd* in the Year 1880

Name.	Abode.	When Buried.	Age.	By whom the Ceremony was Performed.
<i>Joseph M'Carthy</i>	<i>Blennerville</i>	<i>May 7<sup>th</sup> 1880</i>	<i>32 years</i>	<i>W<sup>m</sup> Dan Wade Rector of Ardferd</i>
No.				
<i>John Shea</i>	<i>Blennerville</i>	<i>died 2<sup>nd</sup> of August 1880</i>		
No.				
<i>Mary Hilliard</i>	<i>Listowel</i>	<i>died 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov buried 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 1880</i>	<i>50<sup>+</sup> years</i>	<i>W<sup>m</sup> Wade Rector of Ardferd</i>
No.				
<i>15 459.4.1</i> <i>Elizabeth M'Carthy</i>	<i>Tralee</i>	<i>died 22 Feb buried on the 24<sup>th</sup> Feb</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>W<sup>m</sup> Dan Wade Rector of</i>

*1880*

*1881*

Burial Register, Ballinahaglish Church, County Kerry, Ireland 1880, Irishgenealogy.ie

<p>Frances Doupe</p> <p>No.</p>	<p>Churchill</p>	<p>dies 25<sup>th</sup> Feb buried 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 1881</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>W D Wade Rector of Ardferst</p>
<p>Albert Charles a twin Burridge</p> <p>No.</p>	<p>Barrow Coast guard Station Fenit</p>	<p>August 12 1885</p>	<p>6 months</p>	<p>W D Wade</p>
<p>Kate Hilliaro</p> <p>No.</p>	<p>Billeragh Listowel</p>	<p>Oct 17<sup>th</sup> 1885 (died to 15<sup>th</sup>)</p>	<p>58 years</p>	<p>Wm Dan Wade Rector of Ardferst</p>
<p>James Patrick Burridge x (twin brother of above)</p> <p>No.</p>	<p>Barrow Coast Station Fenit</p>	<p>Oct 25 1885</p>	<p>8 months</p>	<p>W D Wade Rector of Parochial Union of Ardferst &amp; Treasurer of Cathedral Chapter</p>

Burial Register, Ballinahaglish Church, County Kerry, Ireland 1880, Irishgenealogy.ie

## Index to Church of Ireland diocesan marriage licenses

ADD TO PRINT LIST


























<b>Authors</b>	<a href="#">Church of Ireland</a> (Added Author) <a href="#">Ireland. Public Record Office</a> (Author)
<b>Format</b>	Microfilm 35mm
<b>Publication Date</b>	1951
<b>Publisher</b>	Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah
<b>Place of Publication</b>	Salt Lake City, Utah
<b>Physical</b>	15 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.
<b>References</b>	(Digital Collection) <a href="#">Ireland, diocesan and prerogative marriage license bonds indexes, 1623-1866</a>



### Notes

Microfilm of original records at the Dublin Public Record Office.

Although these licenses were issued by the established Church of Ireland, they were issued to Catholics as well as Protestants who chose to be married by license. Most of the actual licenses were destroyed in the 1922 fire at the Public Record Office; only the indexes survived.

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	Image Group Number (DGS)	Format
Armagh Diocese (A - Miller) 1727-1845	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	British Film	100859	7246526	 
Armagh Diocese (Miller cont. - Y) 1727-1845	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	British Film	100860	7246527	  
Cashel & Emly Diocese 1664-1857	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	British Film	100861	7246528	  
Clogher Diocese 1709-1866	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	British Film	100862	7246529	  
Cloyne Diocese 1630-1866	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	British Film	100863	7246530	  
Cork and Ross Diocese 1623-1750	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	British Film	100864	7246531	 
Cork and Ross Diocese 1751-1845 Vol. 1 Abbot - Fleming, Margaret Vol. 2 Fleming, Martha - Morris, Catherine	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	British Film	100865	7246532	  
Cork and Ross Diocese 1751-1845 Vol. 3 Morris, Charles - Zwickey, Henry	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	British Film	100866	7246533	  
Down, Connor and Dromore Diocese 1721-1845 Dublin Diocese 1672-1741	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	British Film	100867	7246534	  

2837 500 10/33 A.T.&Co.Ld.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE OF IRELAND.

Marriage Licence Bonds, Diocese of Cork and Ross

PERSONS NAMES.			YEAR.
<i>Ashwick</i>	<i>Bartholomew and</i>	<i>Elizabeth Recraft</i>	<i>1746</i>
<i>"</i>	<i>Jane and</i>	<i>Elias Woodworth</i>	<i>1712</i>
<i>Astwick</i>	<i>Ellen and</i>	<i>Edward Stokes</i>	<i>1704</i>
<i>Astwood</i>	<i>Nicholas and</i>	<i>Gill Cooper</i>	<i>1625</i>

Diocesan Marriage Index, Cork and Ross,  
[FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org)



Search > Birth, Marriage & Death > Ireland, Church of Ireland Search Forms for Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1731-1870

# Ireland, Church of Ireland Search Forms for Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1731-1870

**Search**  Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)

Last Name

**Birth**

Year

[Add Range](#)

**Location**

**Any Event**

Month

Year

[Add Range](#)

## Browse this collection

To browse this image set, select from the options below.

**Parish name**

- [Abbeyfeale to Aughnamullen, Badoney Upper to Buttevant](#)
- [Badoney Upper to Buttevant Part 2, Cahernarry to Currin, Dalkey to Dysartgalen](#)
- [Dalkey to Dysartgalen Part 2, Easkey to Inishargy, Kanturk to Killeavey or Mullaghglass](#)
- [Kanturk to Killeavey or Mullaghglass, Killeedy to Knocktopher, Laghey to Lynally, Macully to Myshall](#)

## Related data collections

Ancestry.com

Date of receipt, 12/1/21.

EXTRACT FROM PARISH REGISTER  
(FOR MEMBERS OF FORMER ESTABLISHED CHURCH ONLY.)

Full Name of Applicant, Catherine Mahan

Address, Miss Kate Mahan.

c/o Mrs Taylor,

Full Names of Father and Mother of Applicant, Clogheen.

*registered (as)  
18-1854  
Kilmallock*

George Mahan

Catherine Guy

Cahir, Co Tipp.

Parish or Church in which Applicant was baptized, Iny Kilmallock

Year of Baptism or Birth,

C1848 or 1849 (Mount Coote)

*see letter*

6-58 AB

Register searched by

*And Patrick J. Patrick & Kilquane*

Certificate copied by

*see*

Certified by

9-14 B

Despatched to Applicant's Address

*Return S.C.*

*in Kilmallock or  
St Patrick & Kilquane*

*No C.R. > 51.*

*& of 1851*

*[Signature]*

*Write Rev. William  
O'Donnell P.P. Clogheen, Co Tipperary  
Return 2nd or 3rd and  
inform him that the particulars  
required have been added  
thence [Signature]*

Extract for Parish Register, Church of Ireland, Ancestry.com



[Return to RCB Library](#)  
[Anglican Record Project](#)

[How the project came about](#)

## Anglican Record Project

The Anglican Record Project, which is the work of Mark Williams, is an ongoing endeavour to make the registers of baptism, marriage and burial from Church of Ireland parishes available in a digital format (ie as indexed transcripts). The Project feeds into the Library's long-term goal of digitizing and indexing all of its parish registers for a worldwide audience.

[churchofireland.org/about/rcb-library/anglican-record-project](http://churchofireland.org/about/rcb-library/anglican-record-project)



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Clonegal [Moyacomb] *St Fiac's Church* (Carlow/Wexford/Wicklow, Ferns)

**Baptisms** – 1792–1903

**Marriages** – 1792–1906

**Burials** – 1792–1903

Original registers at RCB Library

*Note: All entries for this parish have been included in a separate master index for Bunclody Union, which is available [here](#)*



Delgany (Wicklow, Glendalough)

**Baptisms** – 1666–2000

**Marriages** – 1666–2000

**Burials** – 1666–2000

Original registers in local custody and subsequently deposited at RCB Library.

*Note: All entries in the five volumes have been included in a separate master index, available [here](#)*

Derryloran (Cookstown) parish church (Armagh)

Volume 1: Baptisms – 1796–1842; Confirmations – 1824, 1828, 1833, 1837, 1840

Volume 2: Baptisms – 1843–1896; Confirmations – 1843, 1846, 1849, 1852, 1856

[churchofireland.org/about/rcb-library/anglican-record-project](http://churchofireland.org/about/rcb-library/anglican-record-project)



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# Bunclody Union (Ferns)

How the project came about



[churchofireland.org/about/rcb-library/anglican-record-project](http://churchofireland.org/about/rcb-library/anglican-record-project)

An Index to the Parish Registers of the Newtownbarry (Bunclody) Union may be downloaded as a PDF by clicking [here](#).

To view the register transcripts for each church, please click on the relevant link below.

**Newtownbarry - St Mary's Church**

Baptisms 1799-1903

Marriages 1799-1903

Burials 1799-1903

**Barragh - St Paul's Church**

Baptisms 1799-1805 And 1831-1879

Marriages 1799-1805 And 1830-1903

Burials 1799-1805 And 1838-1878

**Clonegal - St Fiac's Church**

Baptisms 1792-1903

Marriages 1792-1906

Burials 1792-1903

[churchofireland.org/about/rcb-library/anglican-record-project](http://churchofireland.org/about/rcb-library/anglican-record-project)

THE PARISH REGISTERS OF  
ST FIAAC'S CHURCH, CLONEGAL

BAPTISMS 1792-1831

MARRIAGES 1792-1831

BURIALS 1792-1831

TRANSCRIBED AND INDEXED

Diocese of Ferns

Counties of Carlow,  
Wexford and Wicklow

[churchofireland.org/about/rcb-library/anglican-record-project](http://churchofireland.org/about/rcb-library/anglican-record-project)

CHURCH (County, Diocese)	BAPTISMS	MARRIAGES	BURIALS
Longcross, Christ Church (Surrey, Guildford)	1847-1990	1847-1990	1847-1990
Kilgarvan, St Peter's Church (Kerry, Ardfert & Aghadoe)	1811-1850	1812-1947	1819-1850 1878-1960
Fermoy Garrison Church (Cork, Cloyne)	1920-1922		
Barragh, St Paul's Church (Carlow, Ferns)	1799-1805 1831-1879	1799-1805 1830-1844	1799-1805 1838-1878
Newtownbarry, St Mary's Church (Wexford, Ferns)	1799-1903	1799-1903	1799-1903
Affpuddle, St Laurence's Church (Dorset, Salisbury)	1728-1850	1731-1850	1722-1850
Barragh, St Paul's Church (Carlow, Ferns)		1845-1903	
Kenmare, St Patrick's Church (Kerry, Ardfert & Aghadoe)		1819-1950	
Clonegal, St Fiac's Church (Carlow/Wexford/Wicklow, Ferns)	1792-1831	1792-1831	1792-1831

[churchofireland.org/about/rcb-library/anglican-record-project](http://churchofireland.org/about/rcb-library/anglican-record-project)

BAPTISM	NAME	PARENTS	ABODE/REMARKS MIN'R
8 Apr 1798	Charles HUTCHINS	Rob't/Elizabeth	
~~ ~~~ 1798	John WILLIAMS	John/Elizabeth	Monaug~~~
~~ ~~~ 1798	Catharine FORSTER	) Isaac/Eliz'th	) twins,
	Mary FORSTER	)	) Clonegal
~~ ~~~ 1798	Edw'd JENKINSON	William/Ann	Coolroe
~~ ~~~ 1798	William FORSTER	Thomas/Mary	Ballyredmond
~~ ~~~ 1798	William YOUNG	William/Elenor	
~~ ~~~ 1798	Barbara MURPHY	Arthur/Barbara	Clonegal
~~ ~~~ 1798	Alice TWAMLEY	Peter/Henrietta	P/Coolkenno
~~ ~~~ 1798	Hawtrey BROWNE	Rev John/Catharine	P/Kilrush
~~ Oct 1798	Sarah HOPKINS	William/Susannah	Clonegal
~7 Apr 1799	Elenor BEAGHAN	Laurence/Mary	Ballyred'd
~~ ~~~ 1799	Mary PLUMMER	Ralph/-	Clonegal
~~ ~~~ 1799	Mary MANORGAN	John/Judith	Clonegal
~~ ~~~ 1799	Ann WALKER	Thos/Jane	Clonegal <sup>1</sup>
29 Sep 1799	Benjamin DIXY	James/Jane	Park
29 Sep 1799	Letitia YOUNG	Will'm/Elenor	Newry
29 Sep 1799	Rob't FORSTER	Isaac/Elizabeth	Clonegal
27 Oct 1799	William DAGG	William/Jane	Ahold
27 Oct 1799	Maria SEABROOK	Edward GOFF/Mary	Clonegal, a basta~~
24 Nov 1799	Cath'e SMYTH	John/Mary	Abbydown
30 Dec 1799	Susannah STERNE	John/Mary	Cloneg~~
12 Jan 1800	Susannah COLLIER	Thos/Rachael	Militia
6 Jan 1800	Samuel USHER	John <sup>2</sup> (/Mary)	
23 Feb 1800	Mary TACKABERRY	John/Ann	Abby~~
3 Mar 1800	Wm Henry DOWSE	R'd H'y/Martha	

## Clonegal Parish Registers



## Digitised Church Records Available in PRONI

The following digitised church records are now available to view onsite at PRONI.

### Church of Ireland

- Christ Church, Derrriaghy, (CR1/1), Lisburn, Co. Antrim
- Annalong Parish Church, (Kilhorne), (CR1/12), Co. Down
- Christ Church, (CR1/13), Belfast

[nidirect.gov.uk/articles/digitised-church-records-available-proni](https://nidirect.gov.uk/articles/digitised-church-records-available-proni)

## Church of Ireland

- Christ Church, Derriaghy, (CR1/1), Lisburn, Co. Antrim
- Annalong Parish Church, (Kilhorne), (CR1/12), Co. Down
- Christ Church, (CR1/13), Belfast
- Magheracross Parish Church, (CR1/20), Ballinamallard, Co. Fermanagh
- Knockbreda Parish Church, (CR1/24), Belfast, Co. Down
- Donaghedy Parish Church, (CR1/26), Co. Tyrone
- Christ Church Cathedral, (CR1/35), Lisburn
- Derryvullan North parish church, (CR1/37), Co. Fermanagh
- Seagoe Parish Church, (CR1/49), Co. Armagh
- Craigs Parish Church, (CR1/55), Cullybackey, Co. Antrim
- St Matthew's Parish Church, (CR1/65) Shankill, Belfast, Co. Antrim
- Donaghcloney Parish Church, (CR1/103), Co. Down
- St Columb's Cathedral (CR1/113), Londonderry
- Derryloran parish (CR1/114), Co. Tyrone
- St. Anne's Cathedral (CR1/115), Belfast
- Drumcree parish (CR1/116), Co. Armagh
- St. Andrew's parish (CR1/117), Hope Street
- St Mary Magdalene parish (CR1/118), Donegall Pass, Belfast
- Dromore Cathedral (CR1/119). Dromore. Co. Down

[nidirect.gov.uk/articles/digitised-church-records-available-proni](http://nidirect.gov.uk/articles/digitised-church-records-available-proni)

- St. Luke's (CR1/120), Mullaghglass, Co. Armagh
- St. George's parish (CR1/121), High Street, Belfast
- St Patrick's parish (CR1/122), Ballymacarrett, Belfast, Co. Down
- Christ Church, Lisburn, (CR1/123), Co. Antrim
- Magheragall Parish Church, (CR1/124), Lisburn, Co. Antrim
- St Mark's Parish Church, (CR1/125), Ballysillan, Belfast, Co. Antrim
- St James' Parish Church, (CR1/126), Dunaghy, Cullybackey, Co. Antrim
- Killagan Parish Church, (CR1/127), Cullybackey, Co. Antrim
- St Columba's Parish Church, (CR1/128), Kings Road, Belfast, Co. Down
- St John the Evangelist Parish Church, (CR1/129), Orangefield, Belfast
- St John the Baptist Parish Church, (CR1/130), Ballyrashane, Co. Londonderry
- Ballinderry Parish Church, (CR1/131), Lisburn, Co. Antrim

[nidirect.gov.uk/articles/digitised-church-records-available-proni](http://nidirect.gov.uk/articles/digitised-church-records-available-proni)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Virtual Record Treasury of Ireland. The background is a dark, atmospheric illustration of a library or study with bookshelves and hanging lamps. In the top left corner, there is a logo with the text "Virtual Record Treasury of Ireland" and the Irish phrase "Maoinechiste Annála Samhalta na hÉireann". To the right of the logo is a button labeled "Browse the Treasury" with a grid icon, and a hamburger menu icon. The main heading "Search the Treasury" is displayed in large white font. Below the heading is a search bar with the placeholder text "Enter a keyword, person, place or reference number", a dropdown menu for "All categories", and a blue "Search" button. At the bottom left of the search bar area are three buttons: "FAQ", "Glossary", and "Help". At the bottom right is an "Advanced Search" button.

virtualtreasury.ie



PROI ETC 4/1

## Parish Registers and Parochial Returns

[↔ Navigate from here](#)

Image	Title ▾	Reference Code	Repository	Date Range	Link Type	Quality
	Parish Register, Dungarvan (Waterford and Lismore diocese). Baptisms, 1721-1807, Marriages 1740-41. Burials 1722-41	NAI PRIV/M/5056	National Archives, Ireland	1722 – 1741	Direct Replacement	Transcription
	Parish Register, Parish Register, Inch (Dublin and Glendalough diocese). Births 1728-1826. Marriages 1727-1825. Burials 1726-1825	NAI PRIV/M/5059	National Archives, Ireland	1726 – 1826	Direct Replacement	Transcription
	Parish Register, Macroom (Cloyne diocese). Baptisms, 1735-1837. Marriages, 1736-1835. Burials, 1727-1835	NAI PRIV/M/5061	National Archives, Ireland	1727 – 1837	Direct Replacement	Transcription
	Parish Register, Castletownroche (Cloyne diocese). Baptisms, 1728-1804. Marriages, 1728-1803. Burials, 1733-1803	NAI PRIV/M/5048	National Archives, Ireland	1728 – 1803	Salved	Original
	Parish Register, Dungarvan (Waterford and Lismore diocese). Baptisms 1806-1828. Marriages 1806-1828. Burials 1806-1828	NAI PRIV/M/5057	National Archives, Ireland	1806 – 1828	Direct Replacement	Transcription
	Parish Register, Inch (Dublin and Glendalough diocese). Baptisms, 1826-1865. Marriages, 1827-1887. Burials, 1829-1896	NAI PRIV/M/5060	National Archives, Ireland	1826 – 1896	Direct Replacement	Transcription

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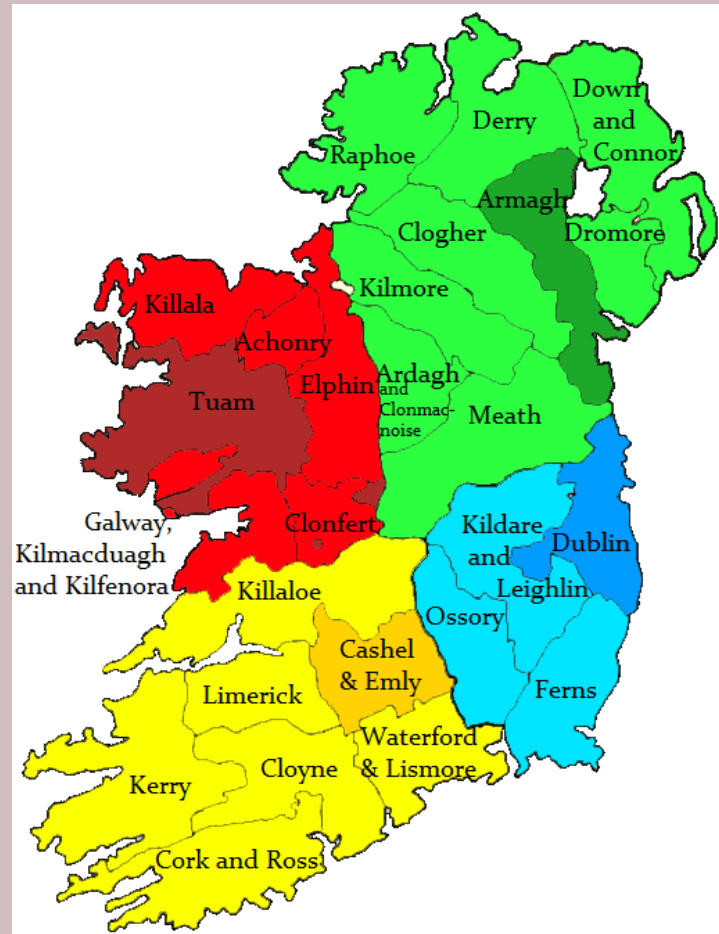
# QUESTIONS?

# Catholic Parish Registers

# Catholic Parish vs. Civil Parish

- Catholic parishes do not follow civil parish boundaries (align with Church of Ireland jurisdictions)
- Civil parishes followed medieval boundaries from earlier plantations
- Catholic parishes followed the communities where people were living
- Catholic parishes form a diocese, which is headed by a bishop; the parish is led by priests

# Catholic Dioceses of Ireland



### Catholic Parishes and Civil Parish Links - c1837

[Home](#)

▼ **Featured**

- [Browse Tools \(IrelandGen\)](#)
- [Dublin City Street Index 1834](#)
- [Dublin 1830 Valuation \(street\)](#)
- [Dublin 1830 Valuation \(surname\)](#)
- [South Co. Dublin Milestones](#)
- [RC Parish Browse & Search](#)
- [Cofl Parish Browse & Search](#)
- [Wilson's 1804 Directory - Indexed](#)
- [Tithe Location Reference](#)
- [Telephone Subscribers 1900-1901](#)
- [Registration District Map Browse](#)
- [Surname Distribution \(c1850\)](#)
- [Historic Photographers](#)
- [BMD Certs and Ordering](#)
- [RC Parish <-> Townland Db](#)
- [RC Chapel & Parish Map Search](#)
- [Townland Database](#)
- [Cofl Parish DB & Mapping](#)
- [1838 SDUK Map of Ireland](#)
- [Taylor & Skinners Maps - 1777](#)

Search Type :

Civil Parish

RC Parish

Extended Parish Search

County :

Diocese :

Name, Location or Film No. :

Barony (optional) :

Parish :

Civil Parish :

The Catholic Parish / Civil Parish / Church Mapping cross-reference data was compiled using Lewis Topographical Directory of 1837 and the Catholic Directory of 1838 as primary reference sources and matching Catholic Parishes listed in these to Civil Parishes on the 1851 Townland Database, along with the 1848 Catholic Parish directory listing (see [here](#)) and 1st Edition OSI Maps c1837-1842. Four options are available for searching this data on this page and in addition see the new [search for RC parishes near selected towns](#).

- Search by Civil Parish. This option allows selection of a County, Barony (optional) and Civil parish, and uses this data to check if this Civil Parish has been cross-linked to one or more Catholic Parishes. A link provides further details of the Catholic Parish (see next option). Unlinked Civil parishes include a list of nearby R.C. chapels and parishes based on map coordinates, and a link to the maps search option.
- Search by RC parish. This option allow selection of a Catholic Diocese and Parish, and shows linked civil parish data and details of chapels noted, alternate names for the parish, post town etc., along with a map showing locations on a map of Churches and Chapels associated with the parish. Links are also provided to show the locations of the churches on the Historic OSI maps, and on current Google maps. A list of nearby R.C. Parishes is also included.
- Extended Parish Search. This search accepts one or more keywords, and searches multiple fields on all linked parishes for potential matches. Fields checked include Catholic Parish Name, and any alternate names, Post Town, Chapel details, Parish Notes, names of linked Civil parishes and names and notes for any mapped churches. The search allows several keywords, with at least three characters required, and all of which must be included to result in a match. The search also checks for matches to the parish names used on NLI Films, and where the search term is numeric and 4 digits, the NLI Film reference numbers.
- Find nearest Churches and Parish based on selecting a location. This option allow selection of a location on a map in Google format, which scans the parish link data for the nearest churches. The churches located are matched to their parishes, and results shown as colour coded markers on a map. See [R.C. Church & Parishes Map Search](#)

swilson.info/rcparishlink.php

## Catholic Parishes and Civil Parish Links - c1837

Home

▼ Featured

- [Browse Tools \(IrelandGen\)](#)
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- [South Co. Dublin Milestones](#)
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- [Surname Distribution \(c1850\)](#)
- [Historic Photographers](#)
- [BMD Certs and Ordering](#)
- [RC Parish <-> Townland Db](#)
- [RC Chapel & Parish Map Search](#)
- [Townland Database](#)
- [CofI Parish DB & Mapping](#)

Search Type :	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Civil Parish	County : Donegal	Barony (optional) : Inishowen East	Civil Parish : Culdaff
	<input type="radio"/> RC Parish	Diocese : 	Parish : 	
	<input type="radio"/> Extended Parish Search	Name, Location or Film No. : 		
				Search

**Civil Parish Selected :**

County : **Donegal**  
 Barony : **Inishowen East**  
 Civil Parish : **Culdaff**

**Linked RC Parishes :**

**Parish :** Cloncha  
 Diocese : Derry  
 Part Flag : Yes  
 Post Town : Malin Donegal  
 Churches & Chapels : Lag and Aughacloy  
 Notes : aka Clonca (see also Culduff parish)

[Show Parish Details](#)

**Parish :** Culdaff  
 Diocese : Derry  
 Part Flag : Yes  
 Post Town : Culduff Donegal  
 Churches & Chapels : Bogan  
 Notes : (see also parish of Cloncha)

[Show Parish Details](#)

swilson.info/rcparishlink.php

# Penal Laws

- In 1703, the Penal Laws forbade Catholics to keep registers
- Only one priest was registered for each civil parish – the others had to leave the country
- Repealed in 1829 with the passage of the Catholic Emancipation Act

# Types of Records

- Baptismal registers
- Marriage registers
- Burials
  - Individual burials may be mixed in with other parish records
  - Registers for Cities (1740s–1750s) and Rural areas (Started mid-1850s–1860s)
- Other types of records may include confirmations, dispensations, and parish congregational records (to be discussed in more detail in Class 4)

# Infant Baptism

- Children were baptized immediately after birth, usually within a few days
- The first child was usually baptized in the mother's parish
- Very important for children who were sick and would likely die within a few hours after birth
  - Often conducted privately and noted as such in the registers

# Pre-1850s - Baptism Records

- Baptism registers include the following:
  - Child's name
  - Date of baptism
  - Parents' names (mother's maiden name is not usually noted)
  - Names of two sponsors



Baptism Register, 1750, St. Mary's, Limerick City, County Limerick, Ancestry.com

# 1850s - Present Baptism Records

- Pro-forma registers started being used
- Baptism registers include the following:
  - Child's name
  - Date of baptism
  - Date of birth
  - Parents' names (sometimes mother's maiden name is noted)
  - Place of residence
  - Names of two sponsors (one of each sex)
  - Name of officiant who performed ceremony

Anno Domini 1840				Et parentibus legitimis Matrimonii		
Nomen	Baptizati Nomen	Cognomen	Die	Mense	Nomen Patris	Materis
33	Briqitta	Kellich	16	Nov.	Joannes Kellicher Monaghan " Catharina Carran	Monaghan
34	Patricius	Connors	13	Feb.	Dignysia Connors Lichmanoff " Elias M. Connors	Lichmanoff
35	Ricardus	M. Anlyfe	20	Feb.	Ricardus M. Anlyfe " Elizabeth Connors	Connors
	Josua	Callahan	25	Feb.	Wendua Callahan " Elizabeth Connors	Connors
37	Hugo	Connors	24	Feb.	Connors Connors " Ellen Connors	Connors
38	Xionypus	Breen	23	Feb.	David Breen " Julia Connors	Connors

Die	Mense	A quo Inscriptio Parochia vel Vicaria	Patris adstantibus et o Sacerdote locantibus	Circumstantie ex Tit. Rom. apponenda, si q. d. fuerit adultus, recens concubitus, sub conditione vel pfectum Baptizatus, expositus, &c.
Die	Mense	Nomen Parochi vel aliorum Baptizatorum	Nomen Parochorum	
19	Jan.	D. O'Riordan	David Suggan " Catharina Suggan	
13	Feb.	C. O'Riordan	Eugenius M. Connors " Julia Clifford	Sub-Conditione
26	Feb.	J. O'Leary	Michael M. Callahan " Julia M. Callahan	
6	Feb.	J. O'Leary	David Callahan " Margaretta Connors	
28	Feb.	M. McMahon	Petersons Connors " Ellen Connors	was married to Mary Connors of Boherbue, Co. Kerry in 1818 Nov 17/68 by Rev. H. H. O'P.
27	Feb.	D. O'Riordan	James Breen	

Baptism Register, Boherbue, County Kerry, Ancestry.com

Nolter Numerus	Anno Domini 1880		Natus		Ex parentibus legitimo Matrimonio	
	Baptizati Nomen	Cognomen	Die	Mense	Nomina Parentum	Domicilium
33	Brigitta	Kelliher	16	Jan.	Joannes Kelliher & Catharina Curran	Meenagone
34	Patricius	Connor	13	Feb.	Dionysius Connor & Eliza McSweeney	Lichinafeola
35	Ricardus	McAuliffe	26	Feb.	Ricardus McAuliffe & Elizabeth Connor	Kubillmore
	Maria	McLellan	25	Feb.	Ricardus Sullivan & Elizabeth Kennedy	Troonanasoy
37	Hugo	Connor	24	Feb.	Joannes Connor & Ellen O'Keefe	Kuastmore
38	Dionysius	Breen	23	Feb.	David Breen & Lucia Sweeney	Toon

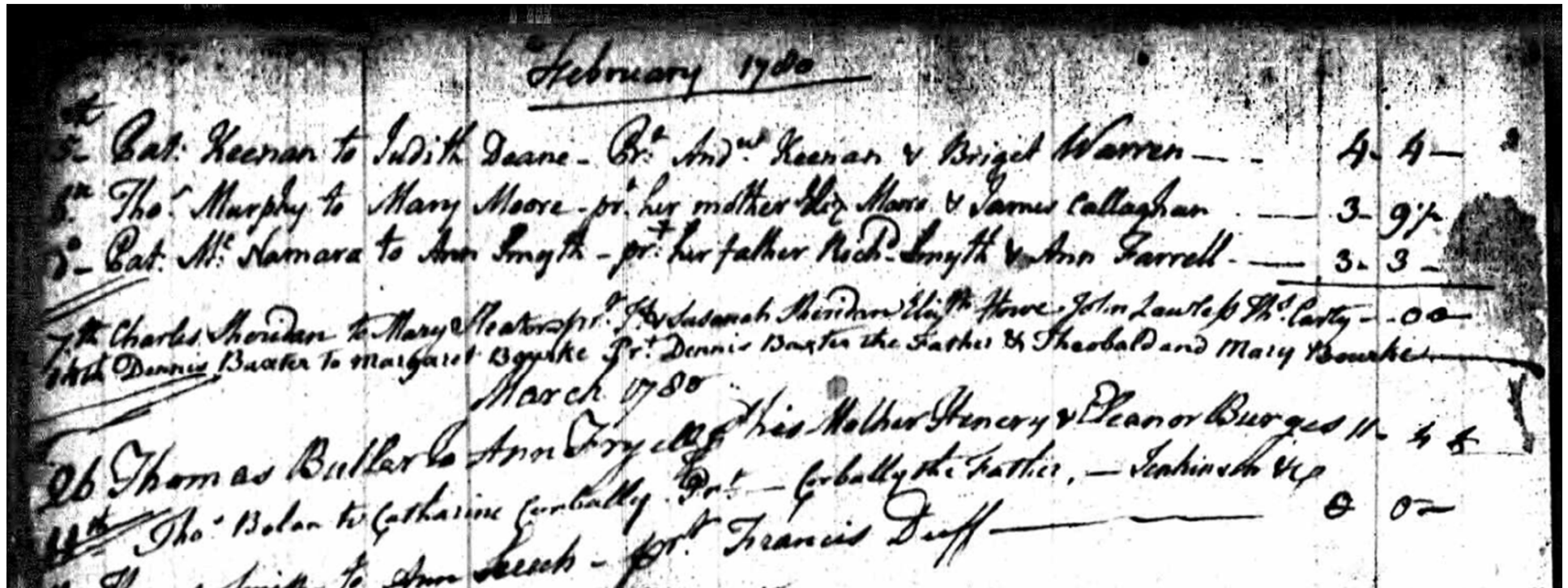
Baptism Register Page 1, Boherbue, County Kerry, Ancestry.com

Etate Baptizatus.		A me Infrascripto Parocho vel Vicario.	Patris adstantibus et e Sacro Fonte levantibus.	Circumstantiis ex Rit. Rom. apponenda, e g. ad fuerit adultus, recens conversus, sub conditione vel privatim Baptizatus, expositus, &c.
Die.	Mense.	Nomen Parochi vel alterius Baptizantis.	Nomina Patrum.	
19	Jan.	D. O'Riordan	Daniel Suggan a Catharina Suggan	
13	Feb.	D. O'Riordan	Eugene M. Sweeney a Julia Clifford	Sub Conditione
26	Feb.	J. O'Leary	Michael McAuliffe a Julia McAuliffe	
6	Feb.	J. O'Leary	Daniel Sullivan a Margaret Lynch	
28	Jul	M. McMahon	Patience O'Connell a Ellen O'Connell	was married to John McGinnis at Boherke R. C. Churchville, Nov. 1916 by Rev. Fr. Kern P.P.
27	Feb	D. O'Riordan	James Brennan a Margarita Triscoll	

Baptism Register Page 2, Boherbue, County Kerry, Ancestry.com

# Pre-1850s Marriage Records

- Weddings would traditionally take place at the bride's parish church, where she was baptized
- Details included:
  - Name of couple
  - Date
  - Location of ceremony
  - Names of witnesses
  - Parents' names (if one of the parties was underage)
  - Dispensations issued (if applicable)



Marriage Register, 1780, St. Michael's, Dublin City, Dublin, Ancestry.com

# 1850s - Present

## Marriage Registers

- Pro-forma registers started being used
- Details included:
  - Name of couple
  - Date
  - Names of witnesses
  - Priest's name (usually signed on the marriage record)
  - Parents' names
  - Date and place of baptism (if outside of parish)
  - Dispensation issued (if applicable)
  - Residence of couple

Nuptiae Numerus	Anno Domini 1879		Natus		Ex parentibus legitimis Matrimonialis iunctis	Habitatio in
	Episcopi Parochia	Cognomen	Die	Mense	Nomen Patris	Districtus
1813	Murray	Margaretha	7	Februarii	Nicolaus Murray et Maria Beegan	Prossermaple
1814	Harvey	Petrus	14	Februarii	Joannes Stonny et Maria Moran	Lannett
1815	Mc Aleer	Bridgeta	24	Septembris	Jacobus Mullen et Maria Smyth	Cornagilla
1816	Keegan	Bernardus	26	Februarii	Christiana Keegan et Bridgeta Giblin	Corragant
1817	Murray	Josephina	22	Novembris	Joannes Murray et Bridgeta Murray	Parsonage
1818	Keegan	Elizabeth	12	Novembris	Maria Carr et Maria Carr	Prossermaple
1819	Keegan	Christina	16	Novembris	Patricius Keegan et Maria Keegan	Prossermaple
1820	Keegan	Maria	10	Novembris	Josephus Keegan et Elizabetha Murray	Prossermaple

Eius die Baptismi	Mense	A quo Inscriptio Parochia vel Vicaria		Patris abaptis et e Sacri Facte testibus		Circumstantiae et illi. Item, apponenda, e. g. si fuerit adultus, nomen conjugis, sub conditione vel privatis Baptismi, expositus, &c.
		Nomen Parochia vel Vicaria	Nomen Testium	Nomen Patris	Nomen Testium	
8	Februarii	Parsonage	Murray	Josephus Murray	Margaretha Beegan	
15	Februarii	Prossermaple	Keegan	Jacobus Keegan	Maria Moran	
25	Februarii	Prossermaple	Keegan	Jacobus Keegan	Maria Smyth	
26	Februarii	Prossermaple	Keegan	Jacobus Keegan	Maria Giblin	
18	Novembris	Prossermaple	Keegan	Josephus Keegan	Maria Murray	
12	Novembris	Prossermaple	Keegan	Josephus Keegan	Maria Carr	Legitima
16	Novembris	Prossermaple	Keegan	Patricius Keegan	Maria Keegan	
10	Novembris	Prossermaple	Keegan	Josephus Keegan	Maria Murray	

Marriage Register, 1875, Roslea, County Fermanagh, Ancestry.com

Nuptiarum Numerus.	Anno Domini 1877		Natus.		Ex parentibus legitimo Matrimonio Junctis.	Habitatio in
	Baptisati Nomen.	Cognomen.	Die.	Mense.	Nomen Patrum.	Dwellings.
1813	Murray	Margareta	7	Februarii	Michael Murray Kathrina Bigg	Brosna p. 10
1814	Stoney	Patricus	14	Februarii	Joannes Stoney Kathrina Moran	Lannett
1815	Mc Cleer	Bridgeta	24	Februarii	Jacobus McCleer Kathrina Smyth	Cornacilla
1816	Keaghan	Bernardus	26	Februarii	Franciscus Keagan Bridgeta Corbin	Coragant
1817	Murray	Theresa	12	Martii	Joannes Murray Bridgeta Murray	Dunrobin
1818	Keenan	Elizabetha	12	Martii	Kathrina Carr Joseph Carr	Keenan
1819	Keenan	Patricus	16	Martii	Patricus Keenan Margareta Keenan	Keenan
					Joseph Keenan	

Marriage Register, Page 1, 1875, Roslea, County Fermanagh, Ancestry.com

Die facti Baptismi	A quo Inscripto Parocho vel Vicario	Patris abstantibus et o Sacro Fonte levantibus	Circumstantie ex Rit. Rom. apponende, e. g. si fuit adultus, moens contractus, sub conditione vel privatim Baptizatus, expositus, &c.
Dies	Mens	Nomen Parochi vel aliorum Baptizantis	Nomen Patrimonium
8	Februarii	Thoma Murphy	Eugenius Murray Margareta Beggan
15	Februarii	Jacobus Callan	Johannes Hillan Susanna P O
25	Februarii	Jacobus Callan	Patrick Corigan Catharina Mc Ginstry
26	Februarii	Jacobus Callan	Bernardus Beggan Margareta Carbon
16	Martii	Jacobus Callan	Catharina Murray Margareta Murray
16	Martii	Jacobus Callan	Johanna S. Murray Illegitima
16	Martii	Jacobus Callan	Catharina Beggan Maria Mc Namara
16	Martii	Jacobus Callan	Philippe Murray Margareta Murray
16	Martii	Jacobus Callan	Bernardus Beggan

Marriage Register, Page 2, 1875, Roslea, County Fermanagh, Ancestry.com

# Dispensations

- A dispensation may be needed for the following:
  - Less than three banns to be announced/published
  - Marrying during Lent or Advent
  - A close familial relationship with the # of degrees often noted
    - 2nd degree (1st cousins) requires a papal dispensation
    - 3rd degree (2nd cousins)
    - 4th degree (3rd cousins)

**LIBER MATRIMONIORUM**

INFRASCRIPTI SPONSI ANNO DOMINI 1879 JUXTA RITUM S. R. ECCLESIE

No.	Nomina Sponsorum	Cognomina	Eorum Residentia	Nomina Parentum	Eorum Residentia	Dispensationes (S)
1878	McIntyre	Theresa	Longfort	McIntyre M <sup>r</sup> & M <sup>rs</sup>	Longfort	McIntyre's dispensation to the priest
	McKenna	Theresa	Longfort	McKenna M <sup>r</sup> & M <sup>rs</sup>	Longfort	McIntyre's
	McKenna	Francis	Shelburne	McKenna Jacobus	Shelburne	Do
	McMurray	Helen	Downpatrick	McMurray Patricus	Downpatrick	Do
	Smith	John	Castleduff	Capenerius M <sup>r</sup> & M <sup>rs</sup>	Castleduff	Do
	Atkinson	Harriet Jane	Castleduff	Atkinson Jacobus	Castleduff	Do
	McKee	Jacobus	Killybegs	McKee Edwardus	Killybegs	Do
	McKee	Maria	Downpatrick	McKee Patricus	Downpatrick	Do
	Conroy	Joannes	Sligo	Conroy Robertus	Sligo	Do
	Conolly	Boza	Killalea	Conolly Jacobus	Killalea	Do
	McMee	Richardus	Monaghan	McMee Michaelis	Monaghan	Do
	McMee	Margareta	Longclay	McMee Patricus	Longclay	Do
	Mulligan	Petrus	Monaghan	Mulligan Joannes	Monaghan	Do
	Gallagher	Catharina	Monaghan	Gallagher Michaelis	Monaghan	Do
	Morgan	Margaret	Monaghan	Morgan	Monaghan	Do

Marriage Register with Dispensation Column, 1879, Tydavnet, Monaghan, Ireland, National Library of Ireland

Witnesses: Barrett and Mary Dells  
20<sup>th</sup> March Patrick usually to Budgets Corral, Belmullet  
Witnesses John Lavell and Mary Hinchon  
21<sup>st</sup> March Patrick Martin to Judith Galtaker 2<sup>nd</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup>  
graduated consanguinity.  
And granted by Doctor James Maccarty  
Witnesses John and Mary Galtaker  
21<sup>st</sup> March John Galtaker to Catharine Galtaker - Dooham  
Witnesses

Dispensation for Consanguinity, 1839, Belmullet Parish, Killala, Ancestry.com

# Pre-1850s Burial Registers

- Instructions were not issued to priests for how to record burials like they did with baptisms and marriages.
- A survey was conducted and found that only 29 parishes have burial records from the 18th century, mainly in Counties Meath and Westmeath.\*
- Only 214 parishes kept burial records up to 1880\*

*\*Irish Church Records by James G. Ryan p. 131*

# Pre-1850s Burial Registers Cont'd

- In the 1820s the Catholic Church started purchasing their own graveyards. Prior to this, the graveyards were the property of the established church.\*
- Burials sometimes occurred outside the area where they lived. You want to look at maps to identify potential graveyards in the area where they lived, including border counties.
- Poor and landless class did not usually erect headstones for their dead. The burial register may be the only surviving document of that person.
- Detailed often included the following:
  - Name of deceased
  - Date interred

*\*Irish Church Records by James G. Ryan p. 131*

May 8. Deon Pap. Pat Loran of Ballinacorney  
May Loran of Michael Loran and Catharine  
Catherine  
May 9. Married William Taylor to Mary Clark  
Present John Clark and Michael Ward.  
May 10. Married John Givins to Catharine  
Present John Ward and John Coleary  
June 1. Clonbrock Died a fine young a  
young woman  
June 8. Baptized Pap. Catharine of  
Loughlin P. Tracy and Honor W. Laughlan.

Burial, 1829 Fohenagh, Galway, Ireland,  
Ancestry.com

# 1850s to Present Burial Registers

- Pro-forma registers started being used
- Detailed often included the following:
  - Name of deceased
  - Date of death and/or burial
  - Residence
  - Age or description (young or old)

Continuation of the Registry of Interments

5<sup>th</sup> of March 1832 on Monday near 29<sup>th</sup>  
Interred the remains of Mr. Anne Gilligan  
Servant to Mr. Pinn the Quaker of Ushers  
Quay Died 2<sup>nd</sup> of March Aged 63 Years.

Interment Register, Dublin, Ireland, 1832,  
Ancestry.com

# Digitized Records

- Most of the Roman Catholic Irish parish registers have been microfilmed and digitized
- National Library of Ireland holds the parish registers
- Genealogy sites: FamilySearch, FindMyPast, and Ancestry.com

nli Catholic Parish Registers at the NLI

About Help Gaeilge

Enter a parish name ...

SEARCH THE MAP

registers.nli.ie

## Togher

Archdiocese of Armagh | County of Louth

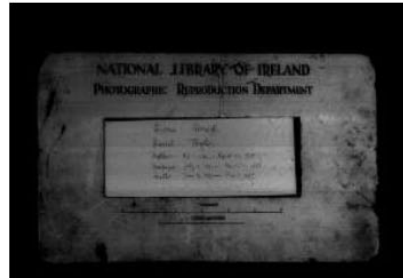
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Baptisms 01 Nov. 1791 to 24 Apr. 1828

Marriages 13 July 1791 to 17 Mar. 1828

Deaths 03 June 1791 to 08 May 1817

186 images

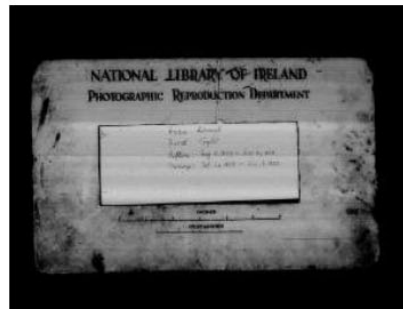




### Microfilm 05597 / 02















Baptisms 08 Aug. 1869 to 30 Mar. 1881

Marriages 24 Feb. 1873 to 07 May 1881

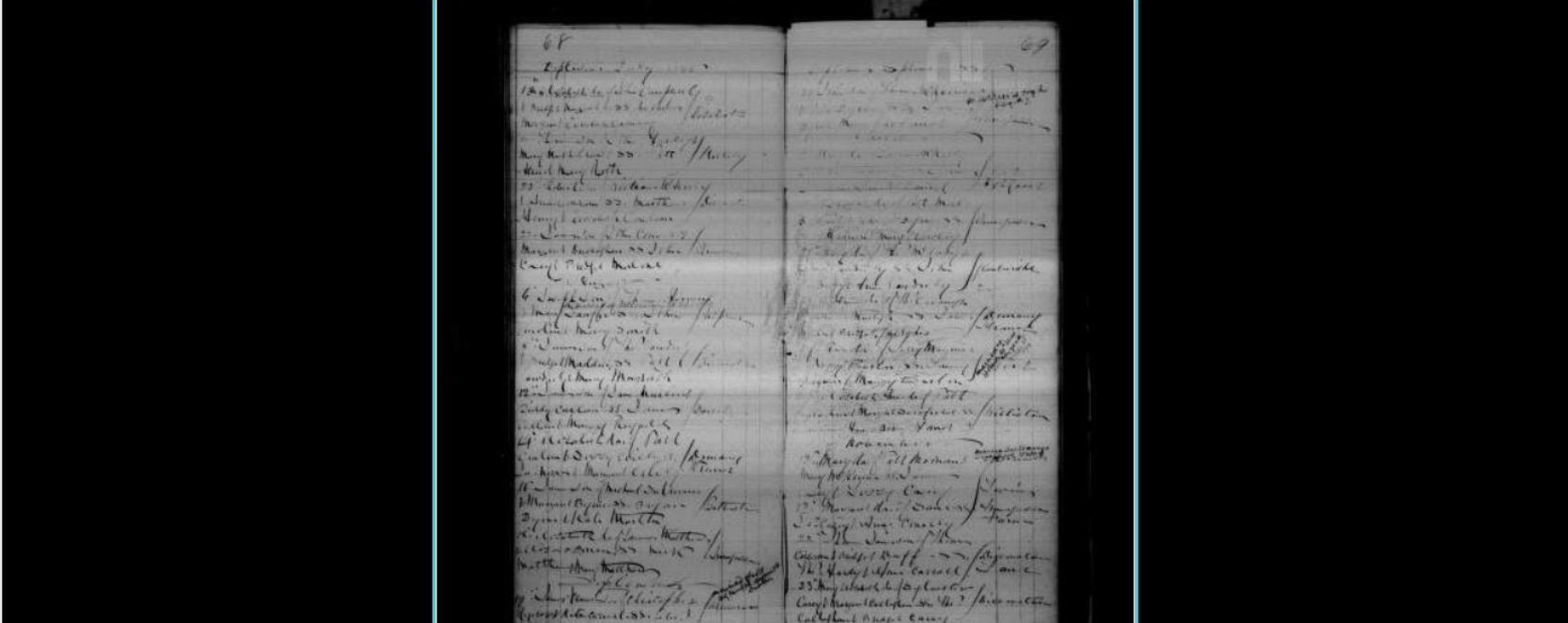
44 images



**Togher | Microfilm 05597 / 02** View register information Share on:  

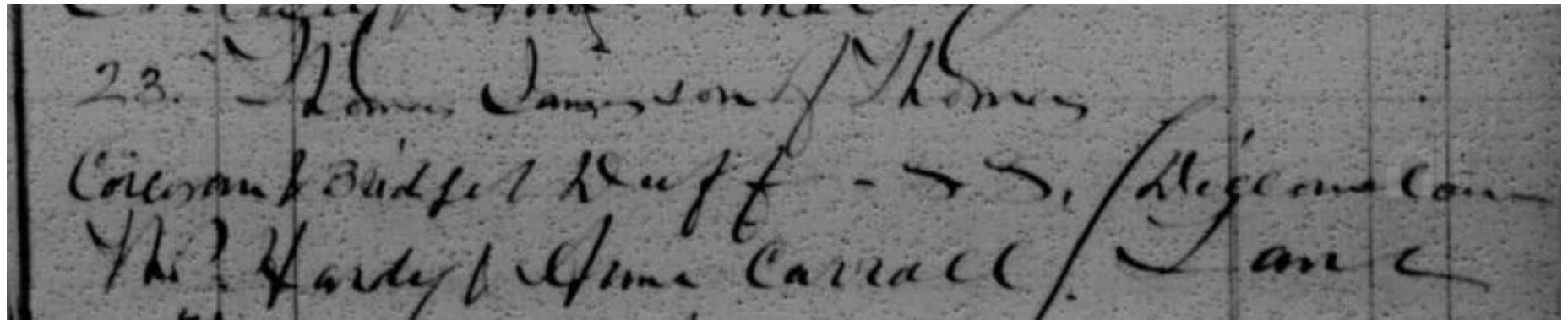
 Filter Events/Dates             

Baptisms ▾ 1880 ▾ November ▾ Apply



The image shows a digital view of a handwritten baptismal register page. The page is divided into two columns of text, with page numbers 68 and 69 visible at the top. The handwriting is in cursive and appears to be from the late 19th century. A red arrow points from the 'Filter Events/Dates' button to the 'November' dropdown menu in the filter bar above the page.

registers.nli.ie



Baptism of Thomas James Corcoran, 1880  
(National Library of Ireland)

Search > Birth, Marriage & Death > Ireland, Catholic Parish Registers, 1655-1915

# Ireland, Catholic Parish Registers, 1655-1915

Search

Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)

Last Name

Birth

Day

Month

Year

Add Range

Location

Marriage

Month

Year

Add Range

Location

Published under the National Library of Ireland's Terms of Use of Material made available on registers.nli.ie.

Browse this collection

To browse this image set, select from the options below.

Diocese

Parish

Year Range

Related data collections

[Ireland, Select Catholic Birth and](#)

# Ancestry.com

**Any Event**

Day  Month  Year  [Add Range](#)

Location

Add family member: [Father](#) [Mother](#) [Spouse](#) [Child](#)

	First & Middle Name(s)	Last Name
Father	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Mother	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Spouse	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Child	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Keyword  
  
e.g. pilot or "Flying Tigers"▼

Event Type

Diocese

Gender

Event Type Drop  
Down Choices

- Baptism
- Burial
- Confirmation
- Death
- Marriage

Ancestry.com

The screenshot shows the FamilySearch.org website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the FamilySearch logo and links for Family Tree, Search, Memories, Get Involved, and Activities. On the right side of the navigation bar, there are icons for location, globe, help, chat, and notifications, along with a user profile for Melanie McComb. Below the navigation bar, there is a secondary menu with links for Records, Full Text, Images, Family Tree, Genealogies, Catalog, Books, and Wiki. The main content area has a yellow background and features a large heading: "Ireland, Catholic Parish Registers, 1740-1900". Below the heading is a descriptive paragraph: "Catholic church parish registers from Ireland, containing baptism, marriages, and deaths that took place in Ireland and Northern Ireland from 1740-1900. Records may include: name, parents, spouse, father's occupation, residence, date of birth, date of marriage, burial date, and much more depending on the record type. This collection also contains a small amount of confirmations, dispensations, and funeral records. The content varies by location and date. The original records are held at the National Library of Ireland." Below the text is a button with a magnifying glass icon and the text "HOW TO USE THIS COLLECTION". To the right of the text is a search form with four input fields: "First Names", "Last Names", "Birth Place" (with a placeholder "City, County, State, Province, or Country"), and "Birth Year". Below the input fields are two buttons: a yellow "SEARCH" button with a magnifying glass icon and a "MORE OPTIONS" link.

FamilySearch.org

# QUESTIONS?

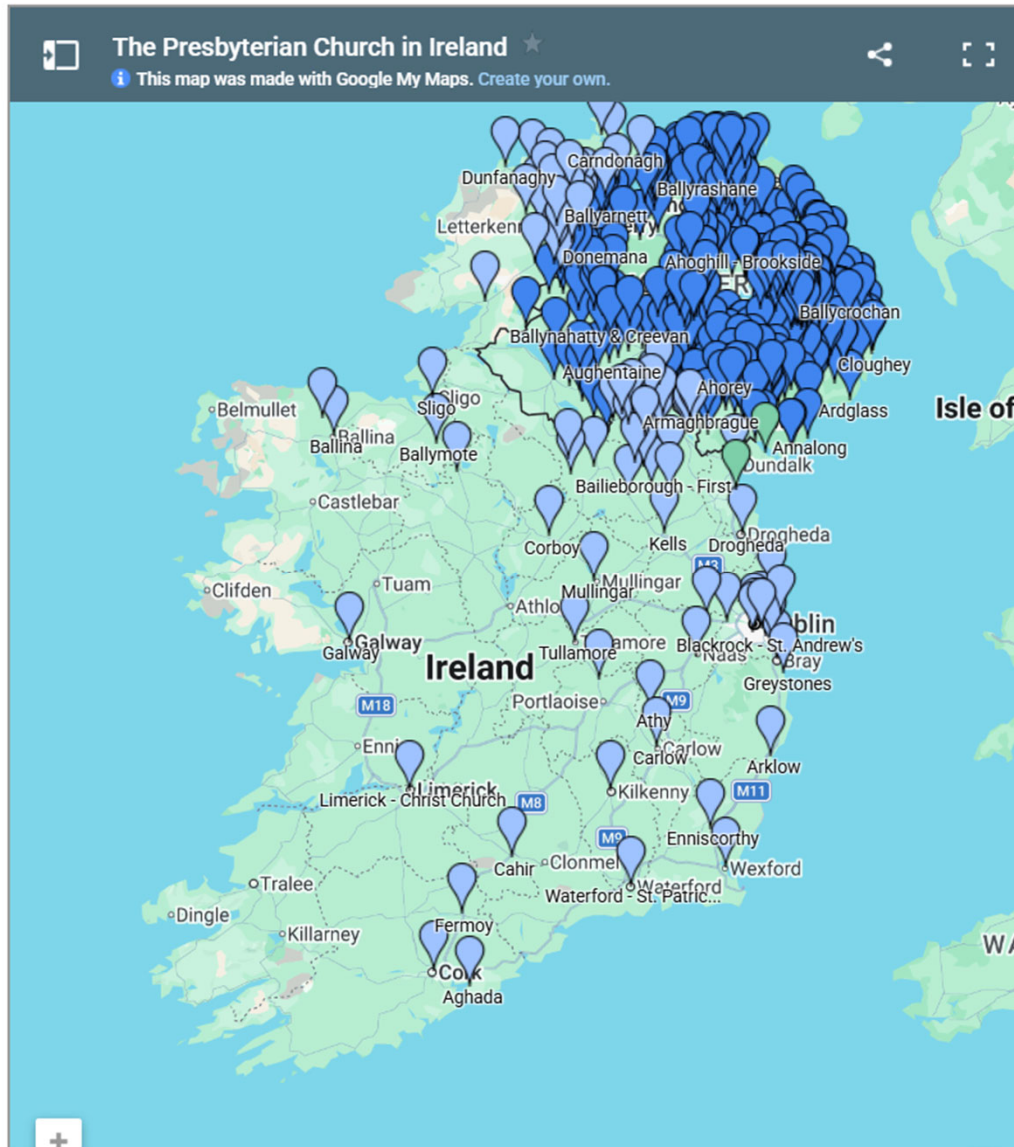
# Presbyterian Parish Registers

# Presbyterian Parish vs. Civil Parish

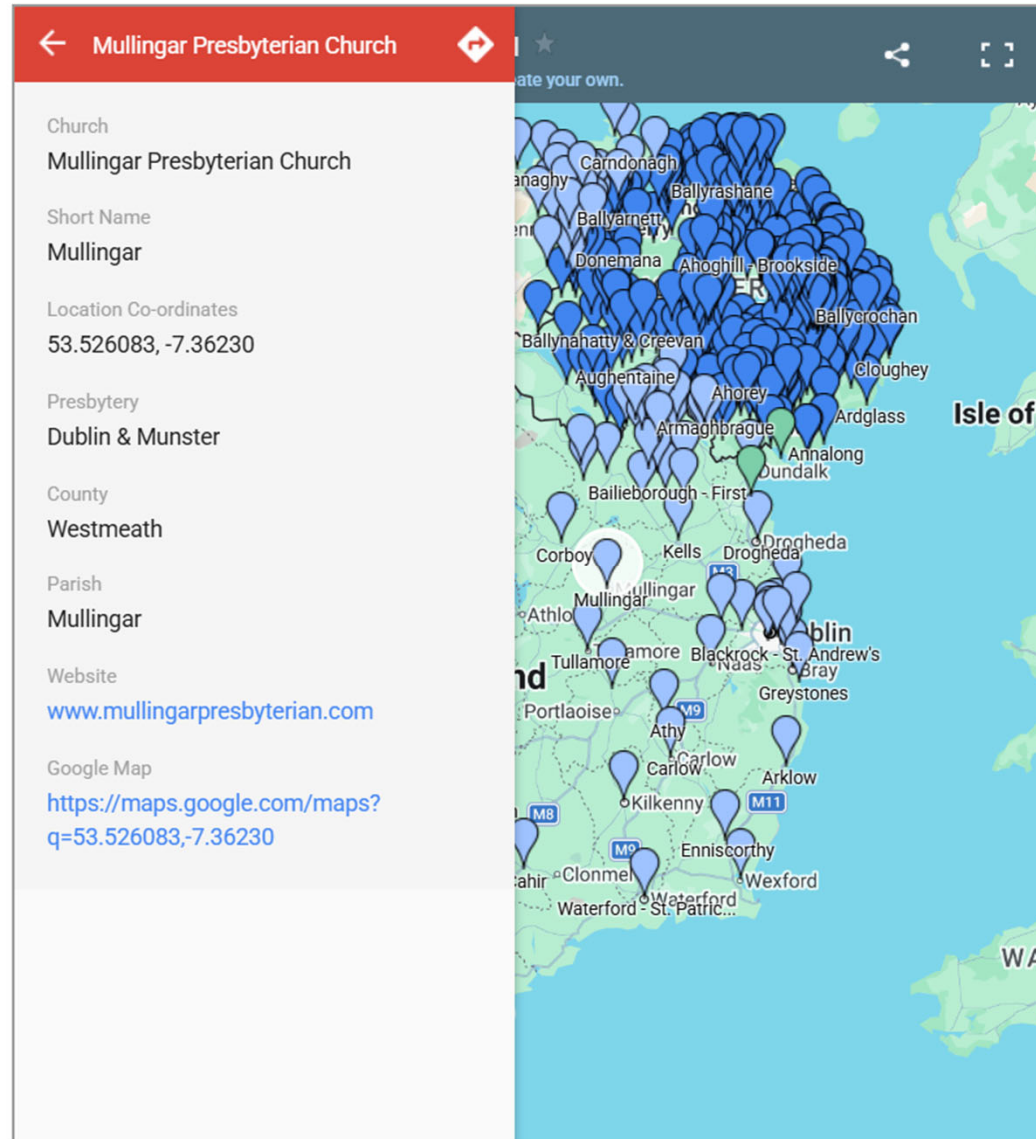
- Presbyterian parishes do not follow civil parish boundaries which often align with Church of Ireland jurisdictions
- Civil parishes followed medieval boundaries from earlier plantation boundaries
- Presbyterian parishes followed the communities where people were living.

# Structure of Presbyterian Church

- Kirk (local church) - governed by a Kirk session, which consisted of ordained teaching elders (ministers) and ruling elders elected by congregation
- Presbytery – body of ministers and elders that supervises local sessions and ordains ministers
- Synod – has authority over a group of presbyteries
- General Assembly – oversees doctrine and assembly, led by an elected Moderator



Map of Presbyterian Church in Ireland, Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland



Map of Presbyterian Church with Details, Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland

# Religious Persecution

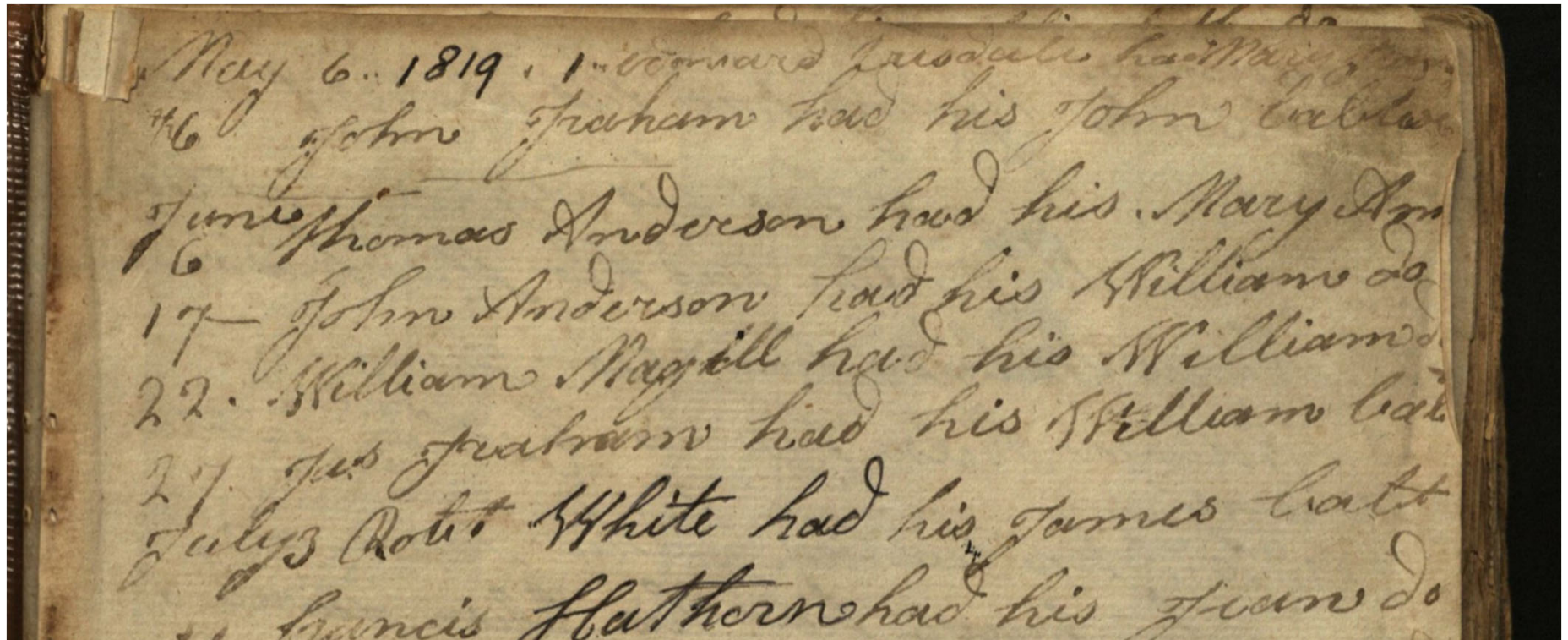
- At the end of the 16th century, legislation required all Presbyterian ministers to swear an oath to Book of Common Prayer of the Church of Ireland.
- Failure to do so resulted in ministers being deposed from their ministry
- Ministers were prohibited marrying or burying members of their congregation unless they were performed with the rites of the Church of Ireland
- In 1782, marriages performed by Presbyterian ministers were legalized
  - Marriage between Presbyterian and Church of Ireland was not legal until 1845

# Types of Records

- Baptismal registers
- Marriage registers
- Burial Registers
- Other types of records include Kirk Session minutes, communicants' registers/membership lists, and more (to be discussed in more detail in Class 4)

# Pre-1820s Baptism Records

- Did not closely follow the birth of a child
- Children may be baptized along with their siblings at one time
- Baptism records include the following:
  - Child's name
  - Date of baptism
  - Parents' names
    - Mother's maiden name is not usually included



Baptism Register, 1819, Ballyroney, County Down,  
FindMyPast

# 1820s - Present Baptism Registers

- Pro forma registers started being used
- Baptism records include the following:
  - Child's name
  - Date of birth
  - Date of baptism
  - Parents' names (including mother's maiden name)
  - Parents' residence (usually a townland)
  - Names of sponsors
  - Name of officiant who performed ceremony

No.	Child's Name.	Father's Name.	Mother's Name.	Townland.	Date of Birth.	Date of Baptism.
560	Sarah Jane Harris	Abraham Harris	Agnes Ingram	Pontypool	November 2 <sup>d</sup> 1877	April 30 <sup>th</sup> 1878
561	Andrew Rowan	Andrew Rowan	Sarah Russell	Ballynanny	March 16 <sup>th</sup> 1878	May 24 <sup>th</sup> 1878
562	David Hillis	James Hillis	Mary Corbett	Tamalee	April 16 <sup>th</sup> 1878	May 29 <sup>th</sup> 1878
563	James Legat	Abraham Legat	Isabella Mills	Cappry	May 3 <sup>d</sup> 1877	June 7 <sup>th</sup> 1878
564	Maggie Wilson	Thomas Gilroy	Jane Eliza Frier	Cappry	February 1 <sup>d</sup> 1878	March 20 <sup>th</sup> 1878
564	Josephine Smythe	Joseph Smythe	Mary Jane Anderson	Cappry	February 8 <sup>th</sup> 1878	June 19 <sup>th</sup> 1878
565	Martha Wilhelmina Martin	Wm. Walter Martin	Mary Emma McCallan	Newtownards	October 9 <sup>th</sup> 1877	August 8 <sup>th</sup> 1878
566	John Ingram	William Ingram	Elizabeth Weir	Ballynuckling	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 1878	August 22 <sup>d</sup> 1878
567	Lizzie Andrews	Samuel Andrews	Elizabeth Hewey	Ballynaffon	June 10 <sup>th</sup> 1878	August 22 <sup>d</sup> 1878
568	Martha Jilly	Andrew Jilly	Martha McQuade	Lisnasliffan	July 3 <sup>d</sup> 1878	October 17 <sup>th</sup> 1878
569	John Gillespie	Joseph Gillespie	Mary Harslow	Ballynaffon	April 12 <sup>th</sup> 1878	November 7 <sup>th</sup> 1878

Baptism Register, 1878, Ballynaffon, County Down,  
FindMyPast

# Pre-1820s Marriage Records

- Before 1782 it was illegal for Presbyterian ministers to perform marriages. Many Presbyterians married in the Church of Ireland.
- Often performed at the home of the bride
- In 1819 the Presbyterian Synod decreed each minister was required to keep a register of marriages performed by him
- Details included the following:
  - Name of the couple
  - Date of marriage
  - Name of bride's father (even if deceased)
  - Names of two witnesses

No  
4. Dec<sup>r</sup>. 7. 1815 — Alexander Fraser, Serj<sup>t</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup>: 93 Reg<sup>t</sup>:  
was married to Anne Seely of Abbeene.  
Present - A. Dallas? John Dinkerton Minister  
Serj<sup>t</sup> 93<sup>rd</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>?

No  
5. Dec<sup>r</sup>. 16. 1815 — John Innis, of Thomond Distillery, was married  
to Mary Anne Brew of Nelson Street.  
Present - George Brew & John Dinkerton Minister.

No  
6. May 27. 1815. — William Porter, Mariner, was married to  
Christian Anderson, Niece of Mrs Gammack  
of Limerick. Present - Christian Gammack.  
John Dinkerton Minister

No

Marriage Register, 1815/1816, Limerick,  
County Limerick, FindMyPast

# 1820s - Present Marriage Records

- Pro-forma registers started being used
- Details included the following:
  - Name of the couple
  - Date of marriage
  - Name of bride's father (even if deceased)
  - Residence of each party
  - Groom's occupation
  - Names of two witnesses

Extract from 7 & 8 VICTORIA, cap. 81, secs. 10, 11.

“ And be it enacted, That the party so appearing personally before the Minister authorized to grant Licences as aforesaid shall, seven days before the Licence shall be delivered to him, produce to such Minister a Certificate according to the form in Schedule D to this Act annexed, or to the like effect, from the Minister of the Congregation of which he or she shall be a member, and has been a member for at least one calendar month preceding; which Certificate the Minister authorized to grant Licences as aforesaid shall carefully file and preserve in such place and manner as the Presbytery shall direct, and shall also forthwith enter a true copy of all such Certificates fairly into a book to be for that purpose furnished to him by the Registrar-General, to be called ‘The Marriage Notice Book,’ which book shall be open at all reasonable times, without fee, to all persons desirous of inspecting the same; and for entering every such Notice the Minister shall be entitled to a fee of one shilling.”

“ And be it enacted, That any person may enter a caveat with the Minister so appointed and approved against the grant of a Licence for the Marriage of any person named therein; and if any caveat be entered with such Minister, such caveat being duly signed by or on behalf of the person who enters the same, together with his or her place of residence, and the ground of objection on which his or her caveat is founded, no Licence shall issue or be granted until the Minister shall have examined into the matter of the caveat, and is satisfied that it ought not to obstruct the grant of the Licence for the said Marriage, or until the caveat be withdrawn by the party who entered the same; and in cases of doubt it shall be lawful for such Minister to refer the matter of any such caveat to the Presbytery by which he shall have been appointed, which shall decide upon the same.”

NOTICE OF MARRIAGE.—[SCHEDULE A.]

I David Wilson, Presbyterian Minister of Limerick, in the Presbytery of Munster, do hereby certify, That on the Twentyfifth day of February 1848, Notice was duly entered in a book kept for that purpose in my Congregation, of the Marriage intended between the parties therein named and described, delivered under the hand of James Dwyer, one of the parties, who is and has been for the last Calendar Month a member of my own Congregation; (that is to say,)

Name.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Age.	Residence.	Length of Residence.	Church or Building in which Marriage is to be performed.	County and Parish in which the other Party dwells, or where the Parties dwell in different Parishes, Congregations, or Districts.
<u>James Dwyer</u>	<u>Bachelor</u>	<u>Private in 55th Regt</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>Castleconnell</u>	<u>four months</u>	<u>Presb. Church</u>	
<u>Mary Burke</u>	<u>Spinster</u>		<u>24</u>	<u>Castleconnell</u>	<u>Native</u>	<u>Limerick</u>	

Witness my hand, this Twentyfifth day of February 1848  
David Wilson Minister of the Presbyterian Congregation of Limerick

[The particulars in this Schedule to be entered according to the fact.]

Marriage Register, 1848, Limerick, County Limerick, FindMyPast

[eI

If you can't find a marriage record in the parish registers, check the Kirk session minutes

# Burial Registers

- Rarely kept by Presbyterian churches
  - Penal laws prevented maintenance of their own graveyards
  - Until the 19th century, dissenting ministers could not perform burial services unless Church of Ireland rector was present
- Detailed included the following:
  - Name of deceased
  - Date of burial
  - Age
  - Residence (late 19th century)

# FindMyPast (\$)

- Ireland, Non-Conformist Births & Baptisms (1701-1913)
- Ireland, Non-Conformist Marriages
- Ireland, Non-Conformist Burials
  - Ireland Down Ballyrone Presbyterian burial plots 1895

# **Ireland Down Ballyronney Presbyterian burial plots 1895**

- Records include the following details:
  - Name
  - Denomination
  - Year
  - Plot Number
  - Parish
  - County
  - Source

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[← Back](#)

## James Anderson in 1895

Ireland, Non-Conformist Burials  
 Ballyroney, Down, Ireland

View original record
Print
More actions ▼

**Transcript of James's record** Copy to clipboard

First name(s)	James	County	Down
Last name	Anderson	Country	Ireland
Denomination	Presbyterian	Source	Ireland Down Ballyroney Presbyterian burial plots
Year	1895	Record set	Ireland, Non-Conformist Burials
Plot number	1057	Category	Birth, Marriage, Death & Parish Records
Townland	Moneyslane	Subcategory	Parish Burials
Parish	Ballyroney	Collections from	Ireland

findmypast.co.uk

1046		
1047	Elizabeth Cracken	Moneygore
1048	W <sup>m</sup> James Atkins	Drumdnagh
1049	Do	
1050	Robert Wright	
1051	Alex. Beatty	Moneygore
1052	Charles Beatty	Moneygore
1053	John Segan	Moneygore
1054	W <sup>m</sup> Beatty	Moneygore
1055	Alex. Hill	Moneygore
1056	Do	Do
1057	James Anderson	Moneyglane
1058	John Anderson	Moneyglane
1059	Jane Ferguson	
1060	Do	

Burial Register, Ballyroney, 1895, Findmypast.co.uk



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## Collections

### The Library

- [Congregational Histories Index](#)

### The Archives

- [Guide to Congregational Records](#)
  - [Records held by the PHSI](#)
  - [Co. Down Gravestone Inscriptions](#)

## The Archives

The archives of the Society have been built up gradually over many years through donations and bequests. The Society welcomes donations of archive material of all descriptions which can be presented as a gift or as an indefinite loan to the Society or as a bequest.

**They can be divided into a number of different categories:**

[presbyterianhistoryireland.com/collections/archives](http://presbyterianhistoryireland.com/collections/archives)

## 2. Congregational Records

---

As well as holding an almost complete set of microfilms of Presbyterian congregational church records similar to those held by the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI), the Society also holds many **unique records** that can only be accessed in the Society.

Congregational records include registers of baptisms and marriages, session and committee minutes, annual financial reports and communicants' registers. Some of the earliest records held are session minutes for Aghadowey Presbyterian Church, 1702-61 and baptisms for Cullybackey (Cunningham Memorial) Presbyterian Church, 1726-1815.



See the **Guide to Congregational Records** for further details as to what information you can find in congregational records. The Guide to Church Records available on the website of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland indicates by civil parish which congregational records are available at the Presbyterian Historical Society, in PRONI or are still held by the churches and have not been copied.

[presbyterianhistoryireland.com/collections/archives](http://presbyterianhistoryireland.com/collections/archives)



## Collections

### The Library

- [Congregational Histories Index](#)

### The Archives

- [Guide to Congregational Records](#)
- [Records held by the PHSI](#)
- [Co. Down Gravestone Inscriptions](#)

### Artefacts

### Donate Materials

## Guide to Congregational Records

The purpose of this guide is not to provide a comprehensive survey of genealogical records that would be of assistance to those researching the history of Presbyterianism and Presbyterians in Ireland. This would include a wide variety of records, such as civil registration, census returns and wills.

Rather this guide is primarily concerned with records deriving from a Presbyterian source, such as registers of baptisms and marriages, and minutes of session and presbytery meetings. Its aim is to highlight the range of different Presbyterian records that can be used by researchers and to

[presbyterianhistoryireland.com/collections/archives](http://presbyterianhistoryireland.com/collections/archives)

## Records held by the PHSI

---

The following is a list of Presbyterian congregational records only available in the Library of the Presbyterian Historical Society.

**Note:** The compilation of these records is still a work in progress. We hope to be able to list more in due course. Some of these records may be closed on grounds of preservation.

### **AGHADOWEY**

Session minutes, 1702-61

### **ANTRIM: High Street**

Marriages, 1863-92

### **ARMAGH: First**

Session accounts, 1707-32; stipend list, 1820; account book, 1821-34

### **BALLYBAY: First**

Baptisms, 1799-1837

### **BALLYCOPELAND**

Baptisms, 1773-1818

[presbyterianhistoryireland.com/collections/archives](http://presbyterianhistoryireland.com/collections/archives)



## Digitised Church Records Available in PRONI

The following digitised church records are now available to view onsite at PRONI.

### Church of Ireland

- Christ Church, Derriaghy, (CR1/1), Lisburn, Co. Antrim
- Annalong Parish Church, (Kilhorne), (CR1/12), Co. Down
- Christ Church, (CR1/13), Belfast

[nidirect.gov.uk/articles/digitised-church-records-available-proni](https://nidirect.gov.uk/articles/digitised-church-records-available-proni)

## Presbyterian Church

- 1st Lisburn Presbyterian church (CR3/11), Lisburn, Co. Antrim
- Cahans Presbyterian Church, (CR3/25), Co. Monaghan
- Dundonald Presbyterian Church (CR3/79), Dundonald, Co. Down
- Aghadowey Presbyterian Church, (CR3/80), Co. Londonderry

## Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church

- Rosemary Street Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church, (CR4/5), Belfast
- Banbridge 1st Presbyterian (Non-Subscribing) Church, (CR4/6), Co. Down
- Downpatrick Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church, (CR4/8), Co. Down
- Templepatrick Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church, (CR4/12), Co. Antrim

## Reformed Presbyterian Church

- Reformed Presbyterian Church Presbytery Records (CR5/5)
- Ballymoney Reformed Presbyterian Church, (CR5/32), Co. Antrim

[nidirect.gov.uk/articles/digitised-church-records-available-proni](http://nidirect.gov.uk/articles/digitised-church-records-available-proni)

# Published Resources

# TRACING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS



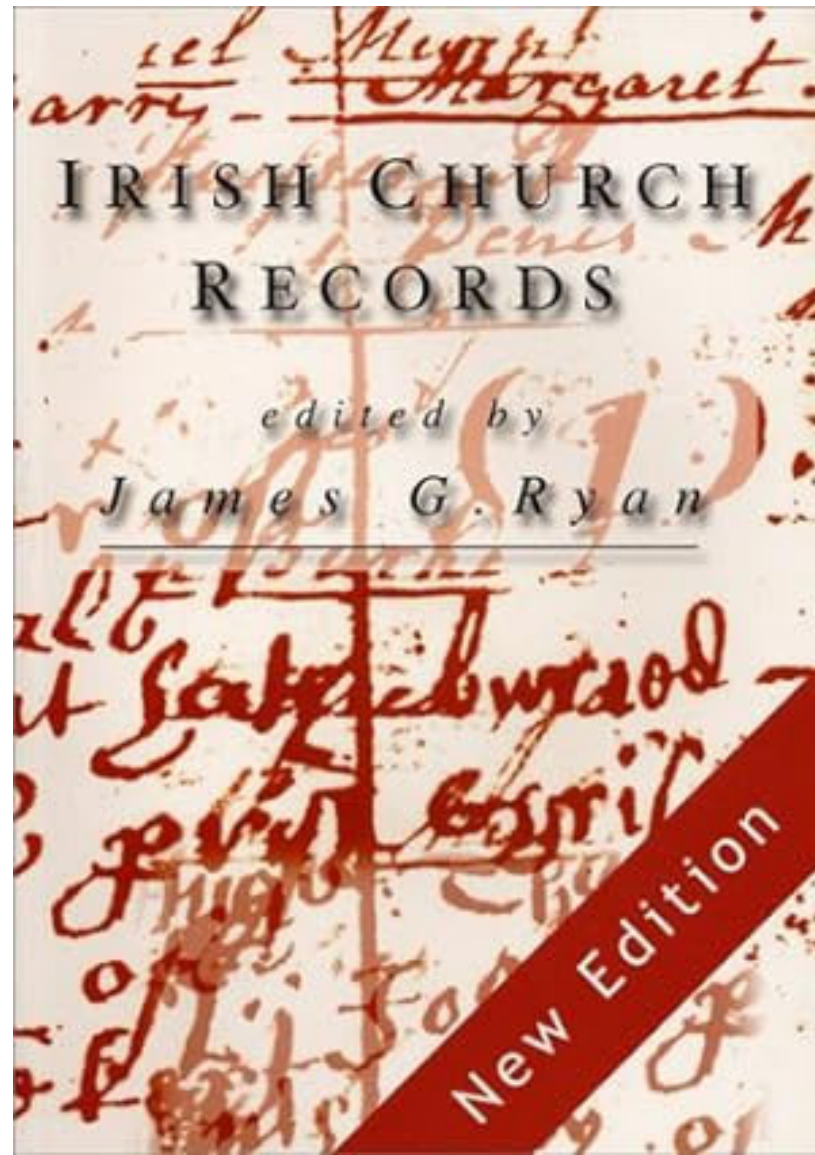
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*The Irish Times*

## JOHN GRENHAM

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John Grenham



*Irish Church Records* by James Ryan

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*Irish Church Records* Table of Contents by  
James Ryan

# Review

1. Church of Ireland parish registers should be consulted for pre-19th century records of Catholics and Presbyterians when not found in their own respective parish records.
2. Review the notes columns on the baptism and marriage records as they may hold new details about your ancestors and help you confirm you found the correct person.
3. Not everything is online! While many records are digitized, offsite repositories should be checked.

# QUESTIONS?

**Schedule a consultation**

*consultations@americanancestors.org*

**Hire Research Services**

*research@americanancestors.org*

# Consultations

Book a one-on-one  
consultation with  
a genealogist and  
receive help with your  
family history research!

[AmericanAncestors.org/  
Expert-Help/Consultations](https://AmericanAncestors.org/Expert-Help/Consultations)



# Finding Irish Ancestors: A Guide to Civil and Church Records

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Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 6:00 – 7:30 PM ET

[AmericanAncestors.org/finding-irish-ancestors-guide-civil-and-church-records](https://AmericanAncestors.org/finding-irish-ancestors-guide-civil-and-church-records)



**THANK YOU!**

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