

## First Publication of Michael Leader Parish Register Transcripts

On 4<sup>th</sup> July 2026, as the next step in the Irish Genealogical Research Society's ambitious digitisation project, we are delighted to announce the publication online of the first 20 parishes of the Michael Leader Parish Register Transcripts. The date has been chosen to coincide with the London event for the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary: <https://irishculturalcentre.co.uk/event/irish-genealogical-research-society-igrs-international-lecture-series/>

The release comprises 1548 pages of transcripts, a little more than a fifth of the nearly 7000 pages. There are 24 datasets covering 21 different parishes. All but one parish are Church of Ireland. Nineteen parishes are in County Cork, and two parishes are not. Bandon Scots Church is included as a representative non-conformist congregation.

| Parish/Congregation       | Pages | Also Known As                          | Church In Use | Unique Material |
|---------------------------|-------|----------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Abbeystrewry              | 65    | Skibereen, Abbeystrowry, Abbeystrewrey | Yes           | Yes             |
| Ballingarry Co Limerick   | 69    |                                        |               | Yes             |
| Ballyclough               | 7     | Ballyclogh, Lavan                      | Yes           |                 |
| Ballyvourney              | 4     | Baile Bhuirne                          |               | Yes             |
| Bandon Scots Church (mar) | 9     | Bandon, Bandon Presbyterian            |               |                 |
| Bandon Scots Church (bap) | 13    | Bandon, Bandon Presbyterian            |               |                 |
| Brinny                    | 69    |                                        |               |                 |
| Clonfert                  | 24    | Newmarket                              |               |                 |
| Drinagh                   | 23    |                                        | Yes           | Yes             |
| Fermoy                    | 225   |                                        | Yes           |                 |
| Inchigeelagh              | 2     | Inchigeela, Eyeleary                   |               |                 |
| Kanturk                   | 6     |                                        |               |                 |
| Kilbrogan and Killowen    | 7     | Bandon                                 |               |                 |
| Kilmurry                  | 7     |                                        | Yes           |                 |
| Kinsale (bap)             | 303   |                                        | Yes           |                 |
| Kinsale (mar)             | 143   |                                        |               |                 |
| Kinsale (bur)             | 264   |                                        |               |                 |
| Litter                    | 18    | Castle Hyde, Castlehyde                |               | Yes             |
| Rahan                     | 2     | Ballymagooly                           |               |                 |
| Rathcormac                | 10    | Rathcormack                            |               |                 |
| Shandon St Mary           | 163   |                                        | Yes           | Yes             |
| Templemichael Co Longford | 106   | Longford                               | Yes           |                 |
| Tullagh (mar and bur)     | 7     | Baltimore                              | Yes           |                 |
| Tullagh (bap)             | 2     | Baltimore                              | Yes           |                 |

Three parishes/congregations (Bandon Scots Church, Kinsale and Tullagh) are represented by more than one dataset, which is how they were organised and identified by Michael Leader, a former Vice President of the IGRS and an indefatigable on the ground researcher of Church of Ireland records in the 1950s to the 1970s.

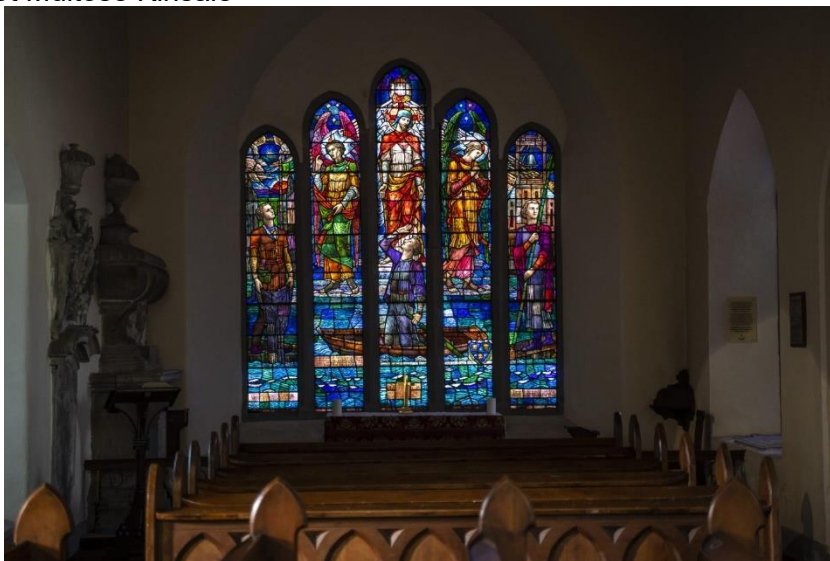
The largest number of images are from St Multose Kinsale, which has more than 700 pages of baptisms, marriages and burials. This is about half of the current release. The transcriptions start in 1684.

St Multose Kinsale is one of the oldest churches still in use in Ireland. But 60% of the parishes on the list are not now in use, with some being in ruin. This makes the effort Michael Leader spent chasing down locally held records even more valuable.

St Multose Kinsale



St Multose Kinsale



## KINSALE REGISTERS

1684 Mch 18 COUSINS Roger, son of James  
19 HEATE Margaret, dau. of Elisha  
19 PIERCE Eliz: dau of Martin  
1685 " 29 WEBBER John, son of John  
Apr 5 NIPPIAN Elizabeth, dau. of John  
6 ROCHE Thomas, son of Thomas  
12 DYER Henry, son of Henry  
12 BRYANT Ann, dau. of John

Users of these transcriptions should remember that Michael's primary purpose was personal research, not complete transcriptions of available registers, although occasionally parishes like St Multose Kinsale seem be transcriptions. Many transcript images have handwritten changes or notes in them, some in Michael Leader's handwriting.

About a third of these datasets have material not found in other places. This may be years not covered elsewhere, or it may be different events such as conversion or vestrymen. In the case of Dringah the transcriptions are almost the only source of church records. Many of the Monumental Inscriptions are also unique.

A number of parishes are shown with alternate names. Some are spelling variations, or historical names, but in other cases, the parish name is not the place name as where the church was. This is the case with Tullagh. The church for Tullagh parish has always been in Baltimore.

The collection is not just of interest to people with Irish ancestry. A number of the parishes recorded were near British Army garrisons. This is the case with Bandon, Kinsale, Fermoy and Ballingarry Co Limerick in this release, but Youghal, Brigown, Kilmahon, Cork St Nicholas, Cork St Lukes and Shandon St Anns also have many British military entries because of proximity to a garrison.

This group of parishes and subsequent groups will be available to IGRS members on the IGRS website. They are searchable one parish at a time from a dropdown list. When a parish is chosen, the user will see a downloadable description of the parish listing what events and dates are included. (These pages were previously published in 2025 on the IGRS website.) Copyright has been reserved. All images are for private and non-commercial use only.



**Index Number:** ML169ABBE  
**Religion:** Church of Ireland  
**County:** Cork  
**Diocese:** Ross  
**Church of Ireland Parish:** Abbeystrewry

**Number of items:** 5 Numbers in brackets after each item are page numbers for that item.

Item 1: Baptisms 1778-1901 [pp 1-39]

Item 2: Marriages 1785-1905 [pp 40-57]

Item 3: Burials 1783-1881 [pp 58-62]

Item 4: Burials selected surnames only 1915-1927 [p 63]

Item 5: Vestrymen 1870 [pp 64-65]

**Note 1: Location of original records** From *The List of Church of Ireland Parish Registers* (LPR). The Representative Church Body Library (RBCL) in Dublin holds Baptisms 1778-2001, Marriages 1785-1956 and Burials 1783-2001. There are microfilms of the same parish available in the Reading Room of the NAI, but the dates may not be the same. Twentieth century records were usually not filmed.

**Note 2: Church** The church for Abbeystrewry is in Skibbereen. It is active, and part of the Abbeystrewry Union. See <https://www.abbeystrewry.com/>. The church is described in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage. See.

The next step is for the user to enter a surname or a name and see whether this name appears in the chosen parish. The chosen name will be highlighted on the page where it appears, and the page can be downloaded.

Most people should start with a parish and a surname. The record sets are small enough that the number of results after searching with a surname are manageable. (The largest dataset in this group has 293 pages). The small dataset size is also the reason that a search by specific event is not necessary. All events will automatically be searched for each parish.

## Michael Leader Parish Register Transcripts

[« Back to Parish Selection](#)

Searching in: Abbeystrewry

|            |                   |                        |                                                                |                |                                   |
|------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| First Name | Surname<br>turner | Parish<br>Abbeystrewry | Also Known As<br>Abbeystrowry,<br>Abbeystrewrey,<br>Skibbereen | County<br>Cork | Denomination<br>Church of Ireland |
|------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|

Search

Reset

10 matches for "turner"

Results per page: 10

| First Name | Surname | Event    | Years on the Page | Image Number | View PDF                 |
|------------|---------|----------|-------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
|            | turner  | Baptisms | 1814-1821         | 10           | <a href="#">View PDF</a> |
|            | turner  | Baptisms | 1822-1825         | 11           | <a href="#">View PDF</a> |
|            | turner  | Baptisms | 1826-1828         | 12           | <a href="#">View PDF</a> |

Users should bear in mind that the search is currently only for the exact spelling of the surname entered, so if your person is a Beasley/Beazley/Beesly/Beesley/Beasly/Beazly, you will need to enter alternate spellings. Wildcards are not included here.

A number of handwritten pages, mostly Monumental Inscriptions, have been transcribed by hand to improve the search function. Both versions will be searched.

Many thousands of volunteer hours have been spent organising, preparing and editing these records for publication, starting in 1998 with Mary Casteleyne and Zita Kelly. They organised and inventoried the substantial collection. The current team of Rosaleen Boardman and Sharon Hintze have undertaken many editorial and pre-publication tasks. The actual publication including scanning, website design and the search function is being carried out by a company called SDS, which specialises in searchable historic records. Contributions to the cost of publication would be welcome. [Donate | Irish Genealogical Research Society](#)

The next releases of transcripts will likely come in late August 2026 and then late September. When all the transcripts have been published, work will move to the Michael Leader pedigree collection.

**June 2026**