

Church of the Immaculate Conception Castlecomer

13th April 2025
Parish Newsletter
PALM SUNDAY



+ BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO DIE IN THE LORD +

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat 12th, 7pm: Daniel, Margaret and Patrick Dunne, Skehana
Sun 13th, 8am: Bridget Kenny, Rathkyle.
Sun 13th, 11am: Catherine Hughes Dunne, Fintan and Ellie Hughes, Tom Hughes, Maurice and Annie (Babs) Hughes, The Lodge.
Mon 14th, 10am: Michael Daly, Crosskeys and Crettyard; Michael Shortall, Yellow Rd.
Tues 15th, 10am Nellie McNulty, Kilkenny St.
Wed 16th, 10am Andy Brennan, Mill Lane.

ANNIVERSARIES

Eileen Gleeson, Kilkenny Rd; Paddy Brenan, Smithstown Cross; Rosie Ryan, Kiltown.

ANNIVERSARIES WEEKEND 19TH/20TH APRIL

Sun 20th, 11am Michael Walsh, Thomas, Alice and Fiona O'Carroll, Swords/Donaguile Michael Coady, The Square

HOLY WEEK – THE GREAT WEEK

Palm Sunday: With the whole church we gather at the gates of Jerusalem to welcome the Lord into the city and into our hearts singing *Hosanna in the highest* and *Blessed is he who comes*.

Sacrament of Penance: You are invited to participate in the Sacrament of Penance during this week. Fr Doyle or Fr Scriven will be available on Good Friday during the services at 12 noon and at 7.30pm. Come, receive the grace of the sacrament as part of your Holy Week journey.

Masses during the Week: Mass will be celebrated on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning at 10am. By ancient tradition that daily Mass is not celebrated during the Triduum.

Mass of Chrism – St Mary's Cathedral Wednesday 7.30pm: Bishop Coll invites all to the Chrism Mass which will be celebrated at St. Mary's Cathedral at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 16th April. Oils to be used throughout the Diocese for Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick and Ordination to Priesthood will be consecrated and blessed.

Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday: On Thursday evening at 7pm all are invited to gather as we commemorate the Lord's Last Supper. We respond to the Lord's invitation: "Do this in memory of me." Following the Mass the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed in the side altar and the church will remain open for until 9pm.

The Passion of the Lord on Good Friday: The solemn celebration of the Lord's Passion and Death will take place at 3pm on Good Friday. The Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 12 noon and 7pm on Good Friday. Holy Communion will be distributed at both celebrations.

The Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday: The Solemn Easter Vigil will take place in St. John's Church at 8.00pm on Holy Saturday. We gather to watch and wait as we celebrate the resurrection and we will welcome Oliver McGrath into the church through baptism.

MINISTRIES IN OUR PARISH:

Ministers of Word:

Please see notice board in the Church Porch.

Ministers of Eucharist

Mon – Wed John Kelly
Thur 7pm: Ingrid Brennan
Fri 3pm: John Kelly
Sat 8pm: John Kelly
Sun 8am Noreen Curry
Sun 11am Jeanette Harding

Safeguarding in our Parish & Diocese:

Diocesan Liaison Person: Ailish Higgins
Contact: dlp@ossory.ie or 085 802 1633

Parish Safeguarding Reps:

Eilish Dunne & Ger Comerford
Contact: Parish Email or 085 827 8729

PARISH CONTACTS:

Fr. Scriven: 087 242 0033
rscriven2009@gmail.com
Fr. Doyle 087 966 9223

THE PARISH OFFICE:

Parish Office: 085 827 8729
Parish Email: castlecomer@ossory.ie
Webpage: www.castlecomerparish.ie

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION:

Week Ending 23rd February: €1993.00
SINCERE THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTE.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Collection at all masses this Sunday for the local St Vincent de Paul. Thanks to SVP volunteers in our parish and all who support their work.

BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS

On the Sunday after Easter - Low Sunday or Divine Mercy Sunday – at the celebration of Youth in the Year of Hope in Rome Blessed Carlo Acutis will be canonised, i.e. declared a saint by the Church. He was declared 'Venerable' in 2028 after the church recognised his virtuous life and his body was taken to Assisi. In 2020 Pope Francis declared him 'Blessed' after the Vatican recognised a miraculous healing through his intercession.

Last year, the church paved his way to sainthood by attributing to him a second miracle — the complete healing of a Costa Rican student in Italy from major head trauma in a bicycle accident after her mother prayed at Acutis' tomb. Acutis is often referred to as the 'millennial saint' or 'God's influencers' Pope Francis acknowledges that "His witness shows today's young people that true happiness is found by putting God first and serving him in our brothers, especially the least." (Pope Francis, October 11, 2020).

On Sunday 27th Bishop Coll will celebrate mass here in Castlecomer as we unite with the Holy Father in the celebrations in Rome. Our parish has a relic of Blessed Carlo in the oratory of Castlecomer Community School, and we entrust into his care the young people from our parish and area who attend secondary school here in Castlecomer.

DATES FOR CEMETERY MASSES 2025

Crosshill Cemetery June 27th
Parish Graveyard July 4th
Smithstown TBA

Castlecomer Parish Office Telephone Number

085 827 8729

PARISH OFFICE AND POST BOX

The Parish Office is now located at the Parish Church.

- Please use the Mobile Number to contact the office; Please do not use the old landline numbers.
- Please use the box in the church to leave information for anniversaries or other items for the newsletter or the Parish Office. The box will be checked regularly.

EUCARISTIC ADORATION: Tues 7pm – 9pm; Wed after Morning Mass.