

Church of the Immaculate Conception Castlecomer

29th September 2024

Parish Newsletter

Twenty - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



+ **BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO DIE IN THE LORD** +

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Kathleen Freeney, Nine Mile House

ANNIVERSARY MASSES:

Sat 28th, 7pm: Joe Collins, Marymount

Sun 29th, 8am: Winnie, Frances & Deceased members of the Loughlin Family, Newtown

Sat 5th, 10am: Gabriel Kelly, Ferrybank, Waterford

ANNIVERSARY INTENTIONS:

Catherine Kenny, Barrack St.

WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS FOR 5TH/6TH OCTOBER

Sat 5th, 7pm: Tina Walsh, Ardra

PRAYER DURING THE DAY:

The Angelus & Rosary is recited every Monday – Saturday at 12(noon) and Sunday at 3pm.

EUCARISTIC ADORATION:

Adoration every Tuesday: 7pm - 9pm; Rosary at 8pm First Sunday of the month 3pm-5pm

PARISH CONTACTS:

Fr. Scriven: 087 242 0033

rscriven2009@gmail.com

Fr. Doyle 087 966 9223

THE PARISH OFFICE:

Parish Office: 056 444 1262

Parish Email: castlecomer@ossory.ie

Parish Web Page: castlecomerparish.ie

DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING:

Liaison Person: Ailish Higgins

Contact: DLP@OSSORY.IE OR 085 802 1633.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPS:

Eilish Dunne & Ger Comerford

Contact: 056 444 1262 or Parish Email.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION:

Week ending 22nd September: €2,060

SINCERE THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED

MINISTRIES & NOTICES:

Ministers of Word: 5th/6th October

Saturday 7pm: Mary Buggy

Sunday 8am: Tom Teehan

Sunday 11am: Sheila Pedini

Ministers of Eucharist: 30th/6th October

Mon(9am)- Sat(10am): Sheila Loughlin

Saturday 7pm: Catriona Brennan

Sunday 8am: Lalaine Brennan

Sunday 11am: Teresa Hetherington

THE PARISH OFFICE:

The office is open on Wednesday and Friday, 9.30am – 12.30pm. Please contact the office to arrange masses or other sacraments and all parish business.

COUNSELLING SERVICE:

Towards Healing Confidential Helpline 1800 313 316 - www.towardshealing.ie

OCTOBER STATIONS FOR PRIESTS

The October stations will be taken up next weekend. This is one of six stations during the year for the priests of the parish. Please use envelope supplied. Sincere thanks to all.

FIRST FRIDAY OCTOBER

Fr Scriven & Fr Ian will visit the housebound and elderly Friday the 4th of October after 9am Mass.

CHURCH RENOVATION – UPDATE

The painters have completed the repair of the sanctuary ceiling. The proposed cleaning of the sanctuary ceiling did not take place – it would have necessitated completely scaffolding the sanctuary area. It will be possible to do this work from a hoist when the work on the back wall of the sanctuary is addressed.

You will see a series of holes have been drilled into the wall with the hope of getting some ventilation behind the plasterwork to assist the drying of the surface. Work on a new chimney for the boiler is in hand – we are awaiting instructions from the architect and engineer. This is essential, mindful of the visible damage being done to the interior wall. We received grant funding of €10,000 from Kilkenny County Council following an application to complete the work on the front of the church – the removal of the cement pointing and replacement with a lime-based pointing. This work will be done over the next few weeks.

A SAFE AND WELCOMING CHURCH

This week Fr Doyle and Fr Scriven attended a conference led by Ailish O’Higgins, Safeguarding Officer and Designated Liaison Person for the Diocese, at which she presented the [Safeguarding Children Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2024](#). This document, available in the Parish Office and the Sacristy, is an update of the 2016 document and is also applicable to care and concerns of vulnerable adults. It is hoped that an information evening will be given in Castlecomer in November.

OSSORY PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2025

The Ossory pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from Monday 19th May until Saturday 24th May 2025. Further information will be available later in the year.

MEDJUGORJE APPROVAL

With the assent of Pope Francis The Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith has given its approval to the promotion of devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, under the title “The Queen of Peace,” linked to the “Medjugorje phenomenon.” Significantly, however, it did not make any declaration on the alleged supernatural character of the Marian apparitions there.

In giving an *nihil obstat* (“no objection”) the Vatican authorities are stating without expressing any certainty about the supernatural authenticity of the phenomenon itself but that many signs of the action of the Holy Spirit are present. The Vatican approval comes 43 years after the Virgin Mary is said to have first appeared to six children, known as “visionaries,” in a small village named Medjugorje in war-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina on June 24, 1981.

Pope Francis’ special envoy Msgr. Henryk Hosier proposed that Medjugorje is “an oasis of peace and faith where God, through the Queen of Peace, does a lot of good.”

Cardinal Fernández added that people who go to Medjugorje should “be strongly advised that pilgrimages are not made to meet with the alleged visionaries but to have an encounter with Mary and to encounter Christ and listen to him through meditation on the Word, by participation in the Eucharist, and in Eucharistic Adoration”.

ENTERPRISE CENTRE CASTLECOMER

Class on **Patchwork & Christmas Decorations** beginning Tuesday 8th October @ 7pm and on **Using the Produce from your Garden** beginning Monday 21st October at 10.30am. For more details, please contact on 087-6439548.

BRIDGE CLUB

Freshford Bridge Club has resumed at Tulla Hall, Threecastles on Monday nights at 7.30 p.m. New members welcome. Bridge classes will be organised if there is enough interest, please contact Mary on 087-2369535 if interested.

CATHEDRAL DRAW

The diocesan draw for the cathedral restarted last week – congratulations to this month’s winners. Thanks to all who support the draw and please contact the office if you would like to support this annual draw for our cathedral.