

# Church of the Immaculate Conception Castlecomer

1<sup>st</sup> December 2024

Parish Newsletter

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Máire Downey, Kiltown; Alice Nash, Doonane, James Walsh, Moneenroe

### ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat 30<sup>th</sup>, 7pm: Paddy & Kitty Curry, Maryville  
Sun 1<sup>st</sup>, 11am: Mass for the People of the Parish

### WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS FOR 7<sup>TH</sup>/8<sup>TH</sup> December

Sat 7<sup>th</sup>, 7pm: Matt O'Connor, Drumgoole  
Mary, Tom & Martin Morrissey, Ballylinen/ Hillside View  
Mary Dowd, Kiltown  
Sun 8<sup>th</sup>, 11am: John Healy, Donaguile Heights  
James & Kathleen Ring, Clashduff

### Advent Prayer

*O come, O come, Emmanuel  
Come into our brokenness;  
Come into our joy.  
Come into our captivity;  
Come into our freedom.  
Come into our fear;  
Come into our compassion.  
And come, O come, Emmanuel.*

### Prayer during the day

Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet recited  
Monday to Saturday from 12 noon. Sunday  
from 3pm.

### Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration every Tuesday from 7pm to  
9pm. (Rosary at 8pm). First Sunday of  
every month at 3pm to 5pm.

### PARISH CONTACTS:

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

### THE PARISH OFFICE:

Parish Office: 056 444 1969  
Parish Email: castlecomer@ossory.ie  
Parish Web Page: castlecomerparish.ie

### WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION:

Week ending 24<sup>th</sup> November: €1,685.00  
SINCERE THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED

### THE PARISH OFFICE:

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

### MINISTRIES & NOTICES:

#### Ministers of Word: 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> December

Saturday 7pm: Mary Buggy  
Sunday 8am: Dick Mullins  
Sunday 11am: Margaret Kavanagh

#### Ministers of Eucharist: 2<sup>nd</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> December

Mon (9am)- Sat(10am): Sheila Loughlin  
Saturday 7pm: Sheila Lawlor  
Sunday 8am: Margaret O'Neill  
Sunday 11am: Jeanette Harding

#### SAFEGUARDING IN OUR PARISH AND 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 056 444 1969

#### TOWARDS HEALING CONFIDENTIAL HELPLINE

1800 313 316 - www.towardshealing.ie

### DECEMBER FIRST FRIDAY

Fr Scriven will make his First Friday calls on the 6<sup>th</sup>  
December. Fr Ian will visit Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December.  
Fr Doyle will make a Christmas visit to the  
housebound on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

### CHRISTMAS & MASS CARDS

The parish has a selection of Christmas Mass  
Bouquet and Christmas Shared Mass Bouquet Cards  
available this year. Fr Doyle and Fr Scriven will  
celebrate a Tridium of Masses over the Christmas  
period for the intentions of those who wish to  
include through these parish cards. The signed Mass  
cards are available in the parish office and sacristy.

### Cathedral Draw

Congrats to Drury Steen and promoter Maureen  
Kelly on their winning of the 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the  
November draw. Thanks to all who support this  
diocesan fundraiser for our cathedral.

### CANON CARRIGAN

Canon Carrigan was parish priest of Durrow and  
over a lifetime gathered historical information about  
the diocese of Ossory. In 1908 his work culminated  
in the publishing of The History and Antiquities of  
the Diocese. The four-volume publication primarily  
deals with the history of the parishes of our diocese.  
Canon Carrigan died in 1924 and to mark the  
centenary a symposium will be held in St Kieran's  
College on Fri 13<sup>th</sup> and Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Dec. Attendance is  
free; registration and further information from  
admin@stkieranscollege.ie or 056 772 1086.

### BLOOD DONATION CLINIC

The Irish Blood Transfusion Service will visit the  
Avalon House Hotel on the 4<sup>th</sup> December. From  
3:45pm – 8pm. Book appointment at giveblood.ie

### FESTIVAL OF LIGHT CASTLECOMER

Castlecomer's Festival of Light is back for 2024!  
Mark your calendars for Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> Dec starting at  
6.45pm in the Square.

### SISTERS OF COVENT ST ELISABETH, MINSK.

St Elisabeth Convent is a convent in the outskirts of  
Minsk who provide spiritual and social care to the  
sick and the suffering – many with special needs.  
Members of the community will visit Castlecomer  
on the weekend of the 15/16<sup>th</sup> December inviting you  
to support their work.

### Advent 2024 in the Diocese of Ossory

The Diocese has prepared a programme for Advent  
2024. Details on the Church Noticeboard. Many of  
the resources are available through the diocesan  
website (www.ossory.ie). Bishop Coll & Fr Sean  
Maher will present two reflections:

#### Towards A Theology of Hope

On Wed 11<sup>th</sup> in St Kieran's College at 7pm Bishop  
Coll will explore the hope that our faith brings us.

#### The Bible - A Message of Hope

On 17<sup>th</sup> Dec at 7pm Fr Sean Maher, a priest of the  
Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin, will present an  
evening exploring the hope filled message of the  
Scriptures.

### REMEMBRANCE PLAQUE

A commemorative stone was recently erected in  
the church grounds remembering all who are laid  
to rest in the Fever Hospital and Workhouse  
Graveyard. These grounds are cared for by the  
Workhouse Graveyard Committee who are  
financially assisted through donations from locals  
and The Castlecomer Wellie Committee  
A prayer of dedication and blessing will take place  
after the 11am mass on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

### The Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is one of the most symbolic  
traditions for the season of Advent. With its  
colourful candles lit on each of the four weeks of  
Advent, are a reminder of the hope and joy we  
share as we await the birth of the Christ child.  
This week we light the first candle, representing  
Hope. Hope is central theme of Advent – hope  
based on the second coming of Christ at the end of  
time and his coming in the stable in Bethlehem.

### DEENSIDE MAGAZINE

The Deenside Magazine will be available in the local  
shops on Wednesday and at all masses next  
weekend.

### BIT OF CHRISTMAS FUN WITH RTE

RTE are visiting Castlecomer next Tuesday  
filming part of the Kilkenny Nativity Play.  
They will be in the Presentation National School at  
10am.

At 2pm they are seeking to film an enactment of  
the Wellie Race at the pump at Crosshill.  
Please come along dressed in your Christmas  
colours and of course your Wellies! All welcome.  
Bit of pre-Christmas fun.