

Church of the Immaculate Conception Castlecomer

22nd December 2024

Parish Newsletter

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



+ BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO DIE IN THE LORD +

RECENTLY DECEASED: James (Jimmy) Walsh, Kells Road, Kilkenny

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat 21st, 7pm: George Mealy, Beechfield House; Anastasia Mealy, Kilkenny St
Sun 22nd, 11am: Christy Lynch, Kilkenny Rd; Martin James Melody, New York
Mon 23rd, 10am: Joesph & Nellie McNulty, Kilkenny St
Thur 26th, 11am: Tridium Mass
Fri 27th, 11am: Tridium Mass
Sat 28th, 11am: John Ryan, Clashduff Lower (Month's Mind Mass)

ANNIVERSARY INTENTIONS

Con & Tess O'Sullivan, Callan; John & Maureen Healy, Donaguile Heights; Mary Dunphy, Kilkenny St; Michael & Alice Kennedy, Skehana; Martin, Bill & Bridget Balkin, Love Lane; Thomas Brennan, Kilkenny St; Very Rev Canon O'Keeffe (P.P), Castlecomer; Sr Celine Murphy, Presentation Sisters, Castlecomer; Katie Hubbard (nee Buckley), Loon; Angela Dillon, The Corner House; William Curran, Aughamuckey; Mary Moran, Ardra; Kieran & Tom Brenna, Ardra.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS AND BLESSING

Fr Scriven and Fr Doyle wish an abundance of blessing upon all during this beautiful season of Christmas. May the Christ Child bless you and your families as we celebrate his birth in Bethlehem. *Céad míle fáilte* to all who are home for Christmas and who join us for the ceremonies here in our Parish Church. *Nollaig shona agus athbliain faoi mhaise daoibh go leir.*

PARISH CONTACTS:

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

THE PARISH OFFICE:

The Parish Office will be closed during the coming week and will re-open on January 6th. Please contact Fr Scriven or Fr Doyle with regard to office business during the two-week holiday period. Drop in anniversary and other notices through the letter box at the office, to the sacristy or by email.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION:

Week ending 15th December: € 2,415.00

SINCERE THANKS TO ALL

www.castlecomerparish.ie

MINISTRIES & NOTICES:

Ministers of Word: 28th/29thDecember

Saturday 7pm: Martin Walsh
Sunday 8am: Dick Mullins
Sunday 11am: Sheila Pedini

Ministers of Eucharist: 23rd/29thDecember

Mon (10am)-: John Kelly
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

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE: 5PM AND 8PM

CHRISTMAS DAY: 8AM AND 10AM

MASS THURSDAY (26TH)

FRIDAY (27TH) AT 11AM

SATURDAY (28TH) 11AM

PARISH ENVELOPES FOR 2025

The parish envelopes for 2025 are available for distribution in the sacristy this weekend. Thanks to all who help with distribution the Parish Envelopers in the Parish and Mile Buíochas to all who contributed generously to the parish during the year.

MAKING CHRIST WELCOME

Send us images of the crib in your home, parish, school or club to afd@ossory.ie and it may be included on the Ossory website.

KILKENNY NATIVITY PLAY ON RTE

The Kilkenny Nativity Play will be broadcast on Christmas Eve at 9pm and Christmas day at 12.25. RTE have also uploaded the production and can be accessed through Youtube and Twitter. Congrats to all the locals – Presentation Primary School and locals - who are part of a beautiful telling of the story of Christmas and a wonderful visual display of Kilkenny city and county. Don't miss it and send on the link to all your family and friends, particularly those who are overseas.

CASTLECOMER WELLIE RACE

The organising committee are seeking stewards and collectors for New Year's Day. All volunteers to meet at the Community Hall at 12 noon on New Year's Day. Sponsor cards available in local shops and from committee members.

KILKENNY CRIB WALK

The Annual Church Christmas Crib Walk will take place on St. Stephens Day beginning at the Friary Church at 11 am. This year the Crib Walk will have a special prayer for peace in the Middle East and Bethlehem. Leader will be Fr. Willie Purcell.

Parish Office:056 444 1969

Parish Email:castlecomer@ossory.ie

Parish Web Page:castlecomerparish.ie

SCOIL IOSAGÁIN CASTLECOMER

Mary McCarthy was appointed Manager of Scoil Iosagáin Castlecomer by Bishop Coll. Following extensive discussions with Board Members of Boys' and Girls' Schools, the School Principals and Chairpersons of the two schools it has been decided that Scoil Iosagáin will be located on Kilkenny St.

Preparations will continue to facilitate the opening of Scoil Íosagáin in September 2025.

JUBILEE YEAR 2025

On Christmas Eve, 24th December at 7.00pm, the Holy Year of Hope will begin with the opening of the Holy Door of St Peter's Basilica Rome.

In Ireland, and around the world, each diocesan bishop will celebrate Mass on Sunday, 29th December, Feast of the Holy Family, to mark the solemn opening of the Holy Year. Bishop Niall Coll invites the priests and people of the diocese to attend the 5.30pm Mass in St Mary's Cathedral, Kilkenny, on that day (29th December) when the Diocese of Ossory, in communion with the whole Church, will solemnly begin our celebration of the Jubilee Year of Hope.

CHRISTMAS

Christmas is more than a time of music, merriment and mirth; it is a season of meditation, managers and miracles.

Christmas is more than a time of gaiety, greenery and gifts;

It is a season of wonder, worship and wisdom.

Christmas is more than a time of tinsel, trees and toys;

It is a season of preparation, prayers and peace.

Christmas is more than a time of festivities, family and friends;

It is a season of generosity, gladness and thanks.

Christmas is more than a time of carols, cards and candy;

It is a season of dedication, direction and family.

Christmas is more than Santa, stockings and surprises;

It is Christ, care and concern.

William Arthur Ward