

# Church of the Immaculate Conception Castlecomer

15<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Parish Newsletter

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Michael O'Shea, New York, Damerstown, Castlecomer

### ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat 14<sup>th</sup>, 7pm: Mary Brennan, Maryville; Des Kavanah, Donaguile  
Sun 15<sup>th</sup>, 11am: Kathleen (Kay), Conway, Mayhora  
Mon 15<sup>th</sup>, 9am: Joe & Margaret O'Neill, Maryville  
Fri 20<sup>th</sup>, 9am: Michael & Catherine Stone, Skehana  
Sat 21<sup>st</sup>, 10am: Tom & David Coughlan Hillside View; Noel Byrne & Gerry Kelly, The Prince

### ANNIVERSARY INTENTIONS

Michael (Sonny) O'Neill, Maryville; Patrick, Annie & Pakie Kelly, Barrack St; Jack & Nora Brennan, Firoda; Mary & Peter Walsh, Drumshanbo; Helen & Paddy Loughlin, Ardra; Owen McEntee, Conahy; Patrick & Thomas O'Neill, Ballyhemon; Very Rev. Edward Aylward, (P.P), Castlecomer; Ann Walshe, Donoughmore; Martin McKenna; Paddy & Elizabeth Purcell, Moneenroe; Joesph Farrell, Smithstown, Patrick, Annie & Pakie Kelly, Barrack St; Sr. Oliver Ansbro, Presentation Sisters, Castlecomer; Michael Dwyer, Ballyhemon House.

### WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS FOR 21<sup>ST</sup>/22<sup>ND</sup>December

Sat 21<sup>st</sup>, 7pm: George Mealy, Beechfield House; Anastasia Mealy, Kilkenny St  
Sun 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11am: Christy Lynch, Kilkenny Rd; Martin James Melody, New York

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Fr Scriven and Fr Doyle will be available this Sunday in the Church from 2pm- 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 8<sup>th</sup> December: €1,665.00  
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: 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> December

Saturday 7pm: Brigid Coady  
Sunday 8am: Margaret McGrath  
Sunday 11am: John Kelly

#### Ministers of Eucharist: 16<sup>th</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup>December

Mon (9am)- Sat(10am): Maria Reyes  
Saturday 7pm: Catherine Greer  
Sunday 8am: Noreen Curry  
Sunday 11am: Teresa Hetherington

#### 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

### FIRST FRIDAY CHRISTMAS VISIT

Fr Doyle will make a Christmas visit to the sick and housebound on Friday 20th December.

### PARISH ENVELOPES 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.

### CHRISTMAS MASS BOUQUETS & 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.

### SVP CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

The Society of St Vincent de Paul Christmas Collection will take place this weekend. Your donation will help families in our parish with basics such as food and fuel. Please give what you can.

### ST ELISABETH CONVENT VISIT

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 our parish this weekend inviting you to support their work.

### COMMUNITY SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE

Castlecomer Community School will hold their Christmas Carol Service on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon. All are welcome.

### CLOGH CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Sacred Heart Church Moneenroe on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7 p.m. Special evening of the Nativity through prayer and song with the Folk Choir and Male singers. Donations go to St Vincent De Paul. Donation box in the church.

### HELPING THE HOMELESS – FARRELLS GARAGE

Farrell's are holding a raffle for Kilkenny Helping the Homeless. All proceeds will be donated to this worthy cause and all prizes have been donated by local businesses. €5 per ticket. Draw takes place on Friday 20th December.

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE: 5PM AND 8PM

CHRISTMAS DAY: 8AM AND 10AM

MASS ON THURSDAY (26<sup>TH</sup>) AND FRIDAY (27<sup>TH</sup>)  
11AM

NO SATURDAY MORNING MASS  
FULL LIST OF MASS TIMES AVAILABLE  
AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH

### EVENING RETREAT - FORGIVENESS OUR HOPE

Very Rev. Ray Dempsey will lead a short evening Retreat and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in St Patrick's Parish Church, on Wednesday, 18th December at 7.00pm

### ADVENT EVENINGS OF REFLECTION

Reflections on the Gospels of Advent in the Black Abbey, 19th Dec 7.15pm – 8.30pm in the Black Abbey, facilitated by Fr. Stephen Cummins, O.P.

### CAROL SERVICE ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

There will be a Carol Service in St Mary's Cathedral, Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec at 7.30pm.

### NEWS FROM LOURDES VIA LIVERPOOL

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon of Liverpool has declared cure of Jack Traynor a miracle. Traynor was a pilgrim on the first Liverpool pilgrimage to Lourdes in 1923 and was cured dramatically of epilepsy, paralysis of the right arm and paraplegia during the pilgrimage. The miracle is the 71<sup>st</sup> to have happened in Lourdes. The Archbishop, following a review of Traynor's case in 2023, declared that "Given the weight of medical evidence, the testimony to the faith of John Traynor and his devotion to Our Lady, it is with great joy that I declare that the cure of John Traynor is to be recognised as a miracle wrought by the power of God through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes".

### DON'T BE ALONE

Senior Line – Don't be alone and lift the phone - Freephone 1800 80 45 91. Would you like someone to talk to over Christmas? Open every day of the year 10.00am to 10.00pm. Senior Line's older volunteers are trained to listen, to support and refer to other helpful services if necessary. No problem too big or too small. 1800 80 45 91.