

Church of the Immaculate Conception Castlecomer

9th February 2025

Parish Newsletter

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat 8th, 7pm: Gearoid Moran, Marymount/Kilkenny
James O'Shea, Hillcrest/Donaguile
Eddie Holohan, Donaguile
Sun 9th, 11am: Eamon Kelly, Kilkenny St
Betty (Elizabeth) Bollard, Barrack St
Mon 10th, 9am: James Downey, Tinalinton
Tues 11th, 9am: Theo Thomas Finnegan, Kiltown
Wed 12th, 9am: Patrick Ryan, Maryville

ANNIVERSARY INTENTIONS

Thomas Swift, Kilkenny Rd; Josephine Hayes, Coon; Very Rev John Byrne, Castlecomer; Very Rev Archdeacon Michael Cody, Castlecomer; Sr Bernadette O'Shea, Presentation Sisters, Castlecomer.

ANNIVERSARY MASSES FOR 15TH/16TH FEBRUARY

Sat 15th, 7pm: Seamus Walsh, Maryville
Sean Smith, Ballyhemon
Sun 16th, 11am: Martin & Kathleen Coogan, Ballycomey
Patrick Brennan, Mayhora

PRAYER DURING THE DAY: Monday – Saturday: Rosary at 12(Noon)

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Tuesday: 7pm – 9pm; Rosary at 8pm

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 webpage: castlecomerparish.ie

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION:

Week Ending 2nd Feb: €2,035.00
SINCERE THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTE.

THE PARISH OFFICE:

The office is open on Monday, **Thursday** and Friday, 9.30am – 12.30pm.

MINISTRIES & NOTICES:

Ministers of Word: 15th/16th February

Saturday 7pm: Maureen Holohan
Sunday 8am: Donal Dunne
Sunday 11am: FHC

Ministers of Eucharist: 10th/16th February

Mon (9am)- Sat (10am): Maria Reyes
Saturday 7pm: Louise Walsh
Sunday 8am: Noreen Curry
Sunday 11am: Angela Molloy

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS 2025

We welcome the children from our National Schools who are preparing for the Sacraments of First Penance and First Eucharist to our 11am Mass next weekend.

MASS FOR THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Mass at 10.00am on Saturday the 15th February will be for the Anointing of the Sick. We ask people with transport to assist those who are unable to travel or need assistance getting to the Mass.

WEEKEND 15TH/16TH FEBRUARY

Fr Scriven will speak at Masses next week outlining proposed work in the Parish Church and the Parochial House.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

Safeguarding Sunday takes place this weekend. This is a time for the Diocese of Ossory to remind our parish communities and wider society that protecting children and vulnerable people is at the heart of the Christian message. It is opportunity for all parishes to pray as one and to acknowledge the dedication of Church personnel and volunteers who serve in the ministry of Safeguarding across our diocese. Newsletters are now available at the back of church.

SYNOD UPDATE – TWO STRANDS OF CURRENT WORK:

The Final Document of the Universal Synod can be viewed on www.kandle.ie/synod This document is now part of the ordinary Magisterium (teaching) of the Church and Pope Francis has asked members of the Church across the world to accept and implement its findings.

DIVINE MERCY NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2025

From 22nd/23rd Feb, Main Hall RDS, Ballsbridge Bus leaving from Butts Green on Sat 22nd at 8am. Bookings 0851333320. Available on the website or at the door. www.divinemercyconference.com

OSSORY PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2025

The annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2025 will take place, 19th until 24th May. Please contact: Joe Walsh Tours 01 241 0800. Email info@joewalshstours.ie Booking procedure for special assisted/sick section: contact Fr. Anthony O'Connor 087 251 7766.

THE BIBLE AND THE PEOPLE WE MEET THERE.

Who are the people we meet in the bible? They are varied, colourful, ordinary people whose achievements are as varied as their temperaments. With Solomon we build a temple, with the paralytic we discover our true friends; we dance with the beautiful girl from the Song of Songs and are thrown to the dogs with Jezebel. Who are these people? What can we learn from them? What wisdom do their lives contain?

Our belief systems hold up heroes and heroines to us, people to emulate whom we call saints. They also hold up antiheroes, whom we call sinners. In their stories, we are offered a mirror. By gazing into it and learning from their experiences, we are offered a way forward in our own lives. The characters in the Bible were real people who grappled with the reality of the human condition. Even when they “called on the Lord” and reached beyond themselves for understanding, they did so from within the messy confines of lives like ours. For that reason, we can turn to them and find genuine insights. Their human insights have integrity and can help us in our own times. There is energy here to be tapped.

PRAYER FOR SPRING

*O Lord our God,
let the shelter of your wings give us hope.
Protect us. Carry us.
You will carry us from when we are little
until our hairs grow grey.
When our strength is from you, we are strong.
When our strength is our own, we are weak.
Life with you is the good life indeed.
When we live apart from you, our life is a twisted life.
Let us come home to you, Lord,
lest we be lost.
Life with you is a life in which nothing is lacking,
because you are life.
We do not fear that there is no home to turn to.
We may have turned away from it.
But it remains.
It did not fall because we fell away.
Our home is your eternal life.
(St Augustine)*

LISTENING TO THE VOICES OF WOMEN IN THE BIBLE

This Conference will be on 15th February in The Pembroke Hotel, Patrick Street, Kilkenny. Times: 10.00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m. Booking Contact 056 7722870 or e-mail regionaloffice@ssjg.ie