

Church of the Immaculate Conception Castlecomer

2nd March 2025

Parish Newsletter

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



+ BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO DIE IN THE LORD +

RECENTLY DECEASED: Catherine (Katie) Hurley (nee Shalloo), Hillside View
Tom Brennan, Upper Coolbawn/Birmingham

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat 1st, 7pm: David Boland, Crettyard
Sun 2nd, 11am: Paddy & Helen Loughlin, Ardra
Mon 3rd, 9am: Thomas Kenndey, Mayhara
Tues 4th, 9am: Joe Fitzgerald & Patrick Moran
Wed 5th, 9am: John Ryan & Elizabeth O'Conner
Thurs 6th, 9am: Elizabeth Phelan & Tommy O'Neill
Fri 7th, 9am: Martin Downey, Tinalinton
Sat 8th, 10am: Gerard (Ger) Walsh, Kiltown

ANNIVERSARY INTENTIONS

Margaret Power (nee Ryan), Aughamuckey;
Rev John Delaney, Coon; Seamus O'Connor, Kilkenny;
Jim Agar, Coon; Pauline and Emer Kelly, Dublin.

ANNIVERSARY MASSES FOR 8TH/9TH MARCH

Sat 8th, 7pm: Lucy Mealy, Beechfield House
Mary O'Neill, England
Molly & Ned Brennan, Knocknadogue
Sun 9th, 11am: Irene O'Shea (nee Conway), Chatsworth St

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Tuesday: 7pm – 9pm

ASH WEDNESDAY – 5TH MARCH

Mass will be at 9.30am and 7pm.
Blessed Ashes will be available in
front of the Altar.

Ash Wednesday is a day of Fast and
Abstinence. On the day in the
readings there is an awareness of our
sinfulness, as we pray 'Have mercy
on us, O Lord, for we have sinned'.
There is also a sense that the time to
repent and turn back to the Lord is
now. The gospel puts before us three
ways to renew our lives: Prayer,
Fasting and Almsgiving. These three
strands of Lenten observances are as
ancient as Christianity itself.
"Fasting is the soul of prayer; mercy
is the lifeblood of fasting. If we have
not all three together, we have
nothing" *St Peter Chrysologus.*

PARISH CONTACTS:

Fr. Scriven: 087 242 0033
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THE PARISH OFFICE:

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

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION:

Week Ending 23rd February: €1,845.00
SINCERE THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTE.

THE PARISH OFFICE:

The office is open on Monday,
Wednesday and Friday from 9.30am –
12.30pm for all parish business.

MINISTRIES & NOTICES:

Ministers of Word: 8th/9th March

Saturday 7pm: Mary Buggy
Sunday 8am: Maria Reyes
Sunday 11am: George Mealy

Ministers of Eucharist: 3rd/9th March

Mon (9am)- Sat (10am):
Saturday 7pm:
Sunday 8am:
Sunday 11am:

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

AND SO, THE WORK BEGINS....

Work outlined a few weeks ago begun this week.
Please note the following:
The Parish Office is now located at the Parish
Church. Please drop all anniversary notices and
other parish business in the letter box that will be
installed this week. The Parish Phone Number
remains 056 444 1969. Email address is unchanged.
Reordering of the Church to facilitate the office will
take place this week.

LENTEN STATIONS

Next weekend the Lenten stations will be taken up.
This is one of six collections during the year for the
Priests of the Parish. Sincere thanks to all those who
contribute so faithfully every year.

FIRST FRIDAY OF MARCH

Friday the 7th March is the First Friday in March.
Visits at the usual times to the sick and housebound.

CROAGH PATRICK CLIMB 2025

Best to luck to the great number of people from the
parish heading to Croagh Patrick next weekend.
There is an opportunity to support the cause – Vision
Sport Ireland – this weekend at Masses.

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL DRAW

Congrats to local winners in the February
Draw. Great to see the money coming home to
Castlecomer. Full results on the notice board.

ANNUAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

The Annual World Day of Prayer will be held in St
Patrick's Church Clogh at 7.30pm, Fri 7th.

REFLECTIONS FOR LENT

"The Seven Last Words of Christ." Starting on Ash
Wednesday every Wednesday of Lent, (11.00am)
the Black Abbey led by Fr. Joe Kavanagh OP.

WELLIE RACE 2024 PRESENTATIONS

Castlecomer Wellie Race Committee will distribute
the funds from this year's race to the chosen
beneficiaries in Shortall's Lounge on Friday 7th at
9.30 p.m. The Adult Merit Awards be presented. The
Children's Merit Awards will be presented in
Castlecomer Library on Tuesday March 4th at 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY & VOLUNTEERING EXPO

The Castlecomer Community Expo will take place
on the 5th March from 11.30am – 1.30pm in
Castlecomer Community Hall. Admission free.

LENT '25 POPE FRANCIS' LENTEN MESSAGE

Pope Francis invites us to entry into Lent:

This Lent, as we share in the grace of the Jubilee
Year, I would like to propose a few reflections on
what it means to *journey together in hope*, and
stresses the importance of living one's life as a
constant journey of conversion, choosing to walk
in peace and hope aside one's fellow humans.
First of all, **to journey**...all of us are pilgrims in
this life.

Second, **to journey together**. The Church is called
to walk together, to be synod Christians are called
to walk at the side of others, and never as lone
travellers. The Holy Spirit impels... to walk
towards God and our brothers and sister... It means
walking side-by-side, without shoving or stepping
on others, without envy or hypocrisy, without
letting anyone be left behind or excluded. Let us all
walk in the same direction, tending towards the
same goal, attentive to one another in love and
patience.

Third, let us **journey together in hope**, for we
have been given a promise. May the hope that does
not disappoint, the central message of the Jubilee,
be the focus of our Lenten journey towards the
victory of Easter.

"May the hope that does not disappoint, the central
message of the jubilee, be the focus of our Lenten
journey toward the victory of Easter".

May the Virgin Mary, Mother of Hope, intercede
for us and accompany us on our Lenten journey.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 6 February 2025

TROCAIRE – MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN 2025

Trocaire invites you to be part of this work in Lent
2025. In Somalia, your generosity will give people
a way to rewrite their stories despite war, hunger
and hunger crises. In Gaza and Lebanon Trocaire
staff with other aid agencies are Keepers of
Compassion. In Sudan your help allows Trocaire
to address widespread malnutrition. The list goes
on...Lent 2025 invites us to help Ilma and Julio's
family in Guatemala. Despite working tirelessly to
provide for their family climate change and crop
failures are pushing families like theirs into
poverty. Through Lent 2025 we can help them
protect their homes and grow enough food.
The theme this year is "Injustice is not invincible"
taken from Pope Francis' letter Laudato Si, 74.

Take a box home

Let's make a difference together in 2025.