

Church of the Immaculate Conception Castlecomer

23rd March 2025

Parish Newsletter

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



+ BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO DIE IN THE LORD +

RECENTLY DECEASED:

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

SAT 22ND 7PM: Michael Brennan Roe, Maryville

ANNIVERSARY INTENTIONS

Lizzie, Richard, Tommy O Dowd Upper Coolbawn; Bridget Crennan, Knocknadogue.

ANNIVERSARIES SAT 29TH/SUN 30TH

Sat 23rd, 7pm: Marie Joyce, Kilkenny Street;
Liam and Ann Dowd, Ballylinnen.
Katie Hurley, 1 Hillside View (Month's Mind Mass)

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Tuesday: 7pm – 9pm

LENTEN STATIONS

Please return Lenten Stations Envelopes at this time. Sincere thanks to all who contribute faithfully through these collections for the support of the priests of the parish.

PARISH OFFICE AND POST BOX

The Parish Office is now located at the Parish Church.

- Please use the Mobile Number to contact the office.
- Please do not use the old land line telephone numbers.
- Please use the box in the church to leave information for anniversaries or other items for the newsletter or the Parish Office. The box will be checked regularly.

PARISH CONTACTS:

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

THE PARISH OFFICE:

Parish Office: 085 827 8729
Parish Email: castlecomer@ossory.ie
Parish webpage: castlecomerparish.ie

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION:

Week Ending 23rd February: €2,075.00
SINCERE THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTE.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025

We welcome the boys and girls preparing for first holy communion next Saturday for mass at 7pm. Please pray for them and their families I this time of preparation.

MINISTRIES & NOTICES:

Ministers of Word: 29th/30th March

Saturday 7pm: First Holy Communion
Sunday 8am: Margaret McGrath
Sunday 11am: Helana Dowd

Ministers of Eucharist: 29th/30th March

Mon – Sat Angela Byrne
Saturday 7pm: Catherine Greer
Sunday 8am: Noreen Curry
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 085 827 8729

Castlecomer Parish Office Telephone Number

085 827 8729

POPE FRANCIS

Cardinal Victor Manuel Fernández, the Prefect of the Dicastery for The Doctrine of the Faith, told journalists this week that Pope Francis “is a man of surprises and surely he will have learned many things” during his stay of more than a month in Gemelli Hospital, ...and who knows what he will bring out of the hat! I think that now a new pope begins.”

Asked yesterday if he believed the pope would resign, the Argentine cardinal, who is very close to Francis, dismissed the idea: “I truly do not believe it.” “As far as I know the hypothesis of resignation was never taken into consideration. Instead, I believe that this time of pain, tiredness and limits is the beginning of a new phase that will be fruitful and will be part of this pontificate.”

Asked if the pope would be present in the St Peter’s for Easter: “I don’t think so. I don’t know.” Commenting upon Pope Francis’ situation after this hospitalization: “His life will certainly have to change [when he returns to the Vatican], but I cannot give details,” the cardinal said, indicating that a new phase of the papacy will begin.

ST BRIGID’S CROSSES 2025

Thanks to all who gave of their skills and times to make ST Brigid’s Crosses earlier this year. Your work has in your unique way spread the Good News through the simple traditional cross made from native rushes and hung now in many houses. A generous contribution of €2,800.00 was received by the parish. *Mile Buíochais* to all. Well done.

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

Reflection for Lent every Wednesday of Lent in the Black Abbey at 11am led by Fr. Joe Kavanagh OP.

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK

The Apostolate of Eucharistic Adoration National Pilgrimage to Knock will take place on Sunday, 6th April 2025. Bus will leave from Woodies Car Park in Kilkenny at 7.30 am. Please contact 086 1666547.

Take a Trocaire Box home

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday 13th April:

7pm (Vigil); 8am & 11am.

Monday and Tuesday 14th & 15th April

9am Morning Mass Castlecomer

Spy Wednesday 16th April:

9am: Morning Mass Castlecomer

7pm: Mass of Chrism – St Mary’s Cathedral.

Holy Thursday 17th April:

7pm: Mass of the Lord’s Supper and Adoration

Good Friday 18th April:

12 noon: Stations of the Cross

3pm: Celebration of the Passion

7pm: Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, 19th April:

8pm: Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday 20th April:

Easter Sunday Mass 8am & 11am.

CONFESSIONS HOLY WEEK 2025

Saturday 12th: 10.30am – 12noon

Friday 18th: 12 noon and 7pm

DATES FOR CEMETERY MASSES 2025

Crosshill Cemetery June 27th

Parish Graveyard July 4th

Smithstown TBA

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND PENANCE

Saturday 5th April, 11am: First Penance

Sunday 18th May, 11am: First Holy Communion

CASTLECOMER LIBRARY

Planting Seeds and Seed Care on Tuesday 25th March (6pm) and *Energy Advice Clinic* on Friday 28th April (11am). Booking essential: email castlecomer@kilkennylibrary.ie or 056 44440561.

KILKENNY STROKE SUPPORT GROUP

The Kilkenny Stroke Support Group will meet on Friday March 28th, 2-4pm, at Tuiscint Day Services Meeting Room at St Canice’s Hospital Complex. Guest speaker Ann Bray HSE. More information call/text Lynda 0857331522.