

# GRAIGUECULLEN KILLESBIN

## - Parish Link -

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person: Mr Michael Daly 085 802 1633.

Rev. Fr. John Dunphy: Phone: 059 914 1833 | 918 2882.

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Parish Office: 059 914 1833 | 918 2882. Email: gkparish@gmail.com.

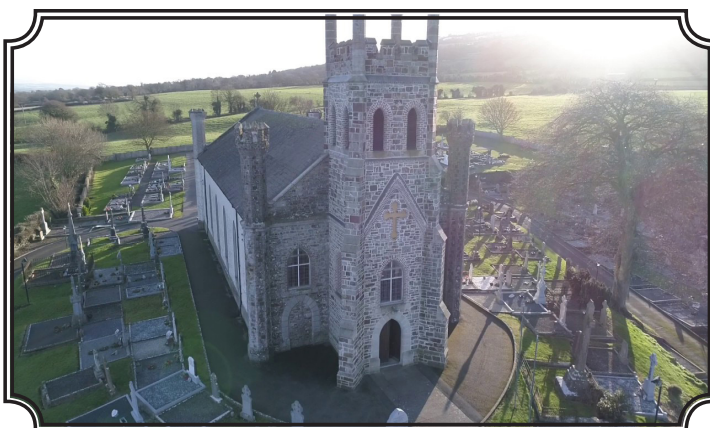
Web: [www.graiguecullenkillesbin.com](http://www.graiguecullenkillesbin.com).

Find us on Facebook: Graiguecullen Parish.

Safeguarding Reps: B. Llyod & S. McWey: 059 914 1833.



*St. Clare's Church*



*Holy Cross Church*

### **The Year Ahead:**

May God make our year a happy one!  
Not by shielding us from all sorrows and pain,  
But by strengthening us to bear it, as it comes;  
Not by making our path easy,  
But by making us sturdy to travel any path;  
Not by taking hardships from us,  
But by taking fear from our heart;  
Not by granting us unbroken sunshine,  
But by keeping our face bright, even in the shadows;  
Not by making our life always pleasant,  
But by showing us when people and their causes need us most,  
and by making us anxious to be there to help.  
God's love, peace, hope and joy to us for the year ahead.

### **Rosary / Angelus:**

Please Note: from Monday 4th January the Poor Clares will pray The Rosary at 11.40am finishing with The Angelus at 12 noon.

### **Feast of the Epiphany:**

Please join us via our webcam for Masses at 6.30pm on Tues. 5th Jan and 11.30am on Wed 6th in St Clare's Church.

### **Funerals:**

Under the new government guidelines only 10 people are allowed to attend funerals. We would ask people to please respect the families of the deceased and the undertakers and not put them in the position of having to choose who can attend. It is a very sad time for everyone involved and only puts more pressure on the families.

## **Pope Francis announces a year of reflection on the family:**

Sunday's feast of the Holy Family, said Pope Francis at the weekly Angelus, calls us to reflect "on the fact that the Son of God wanted to be in need of the warmth of a family, like all children." This is why the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph can serve as a model "in which all families of the world can find their sure point of reference and sure inspiration.

A key note of the life of the family of Nazareth was joy, with the Child Jesus "surrounded by the maternal affection of Mary and the care of Joseph, in whom Jesus was able to see God's tenderness." We too, said Pope Francis, "are called to rediscover the educational value of the family unit."

Families, he said, must be founded "on the love that always regenerates relationships, opening up horizons of hope." The Pope emphasized the importance in the family of prayer, affection, forgiveness, tenderness, and adherence to the will of God. "In this way," he said, "the family opens itself to the joy that God gives to all those who know how to give joyfully."

A happy home, he added, is also outgoing: "it finds the spiritual energy to be open to the outside world, to others, to the service of brothers and sisters, to collaboration in building an ever new and better world," especially by the example of daily life.

Pope Francis recognised that every family has its problems, and that at times, because we are human, because we are weak, we even fight within the family. "I want to tell you one thing," the Pope said: "If we fight in the family, never end the day without making peace." Once again, he recommended three words that should be common in every family: "please," "thank you," and "I'm sorry." If these three words are present in the family, he said, the family will be in good shape.

## **Parish Envelopes:**

The 2021 boxes of envelopes are available at the church doors and we ask each family to take a box and use the envelopes to make your contribution to our Parish Development Fund and other special collections. We need your financial support to continue to upkeep and maintain our beautiful churches and parish buildings and to develop our pastoral initiatives. The work of the parish is greatly helped by your regular Financial Support.

## **Priest's Christmas Collection:**

This quarterly collection for the support of the priests of the parish can still be handed into the parish centre. Special envelopes are provided in the envelope boxes or alternatively envelopes are available at church doors.

## **Great Beginnings:**

All the best books have great beginnings, and St. John's gospel is no exception. The gospel begins with an eighteen-verse introduction, which we call 'The Prologue'. The prologue contains intriguing themes such as creation, life, and truth. Through it all, John refers to Jesus as the 'Word'. If John had been writing today, would he have used different language? To us the word 'Word' is simply a means of expression. In John's day the word 'Word' had greater implication. To understand today's gospel, we need to know that in Hebrew Scriptures the 'Word' had a power of its own. The 'Word' was not just a sound or an expression, but something with its own life. The 'Word' was an agent of creation. We can see this for ourselves in Genesis. 'God said, "Let there be light," and light appeared.' God's 'Word' has the power to create. To call Jesus the 'Word' was to attribute to him the ability to make things happen. We can bring our own understanding of the 'Word' to help us understand this gospel. Our own understanding of words is of language, understanding and communication. Perhaps to describe Jesus as the 'Word' is to imply that he was sent as a communication between God and us. How would we have recorded the beginning of Jesus' public ministry? We may have been tempted to record his great deeds as any well-trained newspaper reporter may have done. We may have been tempted to place him in a political or historical context worthy of any great public figure. John however, begins his gospel by placing Jesus fairly and squarely at the centre of creation itself. The story starts with the bold statement that Jesus is the meaning behind creation, life and truth. It's a great

beginning. Can we put down John's gospel; tell ourselves this has no relevance in our lives ..... or do we keep turning the pages.

### **Killeshin National School Calendar 2020/21:**

Killeshin National School Calendar 2020/21 is out now. Due to the current Covid 19 restrictions the calendar this year can only be purchased from Killeshin Stores. The Calendar includes class photos and a very wide variety of photographs of the various activities that the school children took part in during the year. The cost of the Calendar is €10 for one or €15 for two.

### **Samaritans:**

Every hour, every day, a Samaritan is waiting to answer your call. This year our volunteers will be here to listen 24/7, allowing you to talk without judgement, to relieve distress and reach a better understanding of your situation. We hear from men and women of all ages who feel stressed, lonely, bereaved, have family or financial worries, or are suicidal. Please don't suffer in silence. We are here today, on freephone 116 123 or email [jo@samaritans.ie](mailto:jo@samaritans.ie). Samaritans Kilkenny/Carlow are 25 years old and we want to thank all our volunteers – past and present - and our supporters for their time and dedication.

### **Family Carers Ireland:**

Unfortunately, Family Carers Ireland have had to once again close our doors to the public due to level 5 restrictions which means that we will no longer be able to meet Carers one to one. We will, as always, be available to offer support & advice over the phone on 056 7721424 or on our 24 hour careline 1800 24 07 24. Please do not hesitate to contact us & we will assist you as much as possible.

### **COVID-19 Support Line for Older People:**

ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

### **Second Webcam:**

We now have a second webcam in St. Clare's which offers different views of the sanctuary during our services.

**To access our parish webcams:**

- 1). Go to [www.graiguecullenkilleshin.com](http://www.graiguecullenkilleshin.com).
- 2). Choose from 2 different views of webcam.

you will need to produce the ticket before entering the church and follow the directions of the stewards at all time.

### **St Clare's Hospitality Management Committee:**

Wish to thank everyone who supported us over the past year by donating food or money. Special thanks to all our staff and volunteers who have kept the service going during Covid-19 by supplying take away meals and food parcels. We could not do it without you.

### **Carlow Family Support Group - You Are Not Alone:**

Drugs and Alcohol abuse effects families regardless of status in life. You did not cause it, you can't control it and you can't cure it. Help is available for those who live with this dreadful disease call 085 - 7872730.

### **St. Vincent De Paul:**

Local Conference – St. Fiacc's. Tel: 086-1592775.

# ANNIVERSARIES



Saturday 2nd - Sunday 10th December 2021

(Please note all Anniversaries can be emailed to [gkparish@gmail.com](mailto:gkparish@gmail.com)  
or call the Parish Centre 05991 41866 | 05991 82882

- Sat 2nd 6.30pm **(Month's Mind)** Fergus Keating, 2 St Lazarian's Tce  
**(First Anniversary)** Tommy Byrne, 114 St Clare's Rd  
Pat & Cella Corcoran, Duggan Ave also their granddaughter Zoe  
Loreta McDonald, Monasterevin also their parents, brothers & sisters Paddy &  
Mary Jordan, Bermingham also their son John  
Billy Gleeson, Larkfield & Calgary, Canada  
(Christy Lawler, 152 Duggan Ave also parents Michael & Rose and brother  
Michael)-(Tommy McAssey, 10 The Numbers)  
Noel McAssey, 118 St Clare's Rd **(Birthday Rem)**  
Michael & Ellen McDarby, Maryborough St and deceased family  
(Michael & Mary Farrell, Mill Lane & Church St also their sons  
and daughters)  
(John & Margaret Brennan, Quakers Hill, Killeshin and deceased family)
- Sun 3rd 9am (James Doyle, Leagh, Sleaty)-(Michael Nolan, 7 The Numbers also his brother  
in law Michael Enright, Co. Kerry)
- 11.30am **(Month's Mind)** Brendan Maddock, 30 Rossmore View  
(Nancy O'Rourke, '98 Street)-(David Hanly, Killeshin Rd)  
Margaret & Francis Lacey, St Fiacc's Tce  
Trevor Lacey & Francis Lacey, St Fiacc's Tce  
(Pat & Marie Gillen, Tinahely)-(Paddy Lowry, Seven Springs)  
Tom Myron, Coolenaugh and deceased family  
Anne Brennan, "Avondale" Crosneen **(10th Anniversary)**  
(P.J. Kennedy, Ardenteggle, Killeshin)-(Jim Keyes, Limerick)  
Michael Nolan, 7 The Numbers and deceased family
- Mon 4th 10am Chrissie Foley, Pacelli Ave  
James & Margaret Nolan, also son Patrick and daughter Margaret  
(Thomas & Anne Kirwan)-(Tony & Katie Stewart)-(Billy Stewart)  
(Ned & Margaret McCormack)-(Paddy Lanigan)-(Bill & Ted Curtis)
- Tue 5th 10am Harry Slattery, 86 St Clare's Rd
- Wed 6th 9am Margaret Carolan, Levitstown, Maganey
- 11.30am Paddy Carpenter, Barrack St
- Fri 8th 10am **(First Anniversary)** Sarah Kate Jordan, Everton House, Old Derrig
- Sat 9th 6.30pm Baby Conor Clear, 88 Feltham Hall  
Tommy & Rita Lyons, Staunton Ave  
Michael O'Regan, Killeshin Rd  
Christopher Kelly, St Clare's Rd also his son Berto
- Sun 10th 9am **(Month's Mind)** Agnes Shaw, 5 Bridge St
- 11.30am (Christopher Nelson, Killeshin)-(Dick & Cathy Ryan, '98 Street)  
Elizabeth "Lily" Moloney, Wolfhill and deceased family



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## **R.I.P.**

Dr. Patrick Aylmer, Quinnagh, Carlow  
Ann McNeice (nee Kehoe), Lurgan, Co. Armagh, formally Springhill, Killeshin  
Sr. Anna Maria O'Neill, (formerly Francie O'Neill), Poor Clare Monastery  
Hans Brooker, "The Stewards House", Hollymount formerly Germany & England  
Anthony (Tony) Burke, Ilford, England and formerly of Killeshin  
Ann McGrath, 126 Croppy Place, Graiguecullen  
Elizabeth Byrne, Cappalug, Killeshin