

# GRAIGUECULLEN KILLESBIN

## - Parish Link -

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

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

Priest on Call for Carlow Area: (Emergency Only) Phone: 087 258 8118.

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

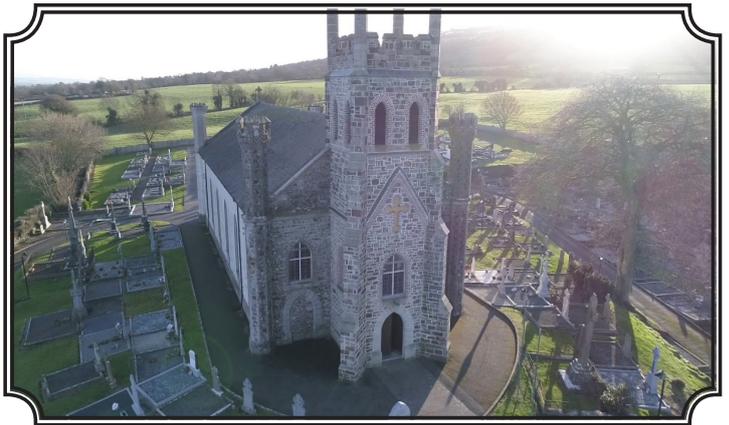
Web: [www.graiguecullenkillesbin.com](http://www.graiguecullenkillesbin.com).

Find us on Facebook: Graiguecullen Parish.

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



*St. Clare's Church*



*Holy Cross Church*

### Laying Down Stones:

God looked down from Heaven and rolled the Stone away! All of us carry burdens that cause us to walk through life with some experience of pain. We all have different times in our lives when these burdens can weigh heavy on our minds, our hearts and our souls. These burdens may come from any area of our lives; family, work, health, covid pandemic or finances. Sometimes the weight of these burdens is too much for us to bear alone. God doesn't want us to carry our burdens alone. He asks us to lay our burdens down at the foot of the cross. He wants us to surrender our heavy load to him. During this season of Lent we invite you to lay down your stone, your burden, on the strength of the Lord. Please take a stone from the sacred space in the palm of your hand and lay upon it the burdens of your life. Place the stone on the pathway to the cross. In this way we are laying down our weights to be carried by Jesus and rolled away like the stone which revealed the empty tomb.

*(Please use sanitizer supplied before and after).*

### A Vision of Hope:

If you are always eager and motivated and pro-active then this isn't for you. If you on the other hand suffer from bouts of lethargy, are often paralysed by feelings of fear, anxiety or self-doubt, then today's gospel carries a powerful message of hope. Most of us probably fall into the second category. We start a project in a flush of excitement and commitment, but when the hard work sets in and success eludes us, we become discouraged. We take on a big financial commitment thoroughly convinced that we can deal with it, but begin to have sleepless nights, dreading the bills and fearing the bank manager. We enter into new relationships and quickly get disappointed when elements of that relationship demand more of us than we thought. We embark on a challenging career but become fearful and filled with self-doubt. Eventually we lose the hope that had originally driven us. Take Heart! We are no different from the early disciples. Jesus had been telling his disciples what being the 'Messiah' really meant, and it didn't entail hurling the Romans out on their ear, it entailed dying on a cross. Is it any wonder the disciples were feeling discouraged! Jesus knew that his disciples needed to see beyond the fear. He knew that he needed to re-ignite a vision of the rewards of their work, and he knew that vision needed to stay with them always to motivate them in times when their ministry weighed heavy. In short, Jesus needed to remind them how important their job was, and so he gave

them the spiritual experience we now call the 'transfiguration'. This was a vision of himself in a dazzling light flanked by Moses and Elijah and God's voice from the clouds.... "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." Like the early disciples, we have to look beyond our fears if we are to work through them. God gave each of us a talent, and with that talent comes a vision of what we can do and what we can achieve. This is the vision we can call upon when we lose hope. This is the vision that will carry us beyond our fear.

### **First Friday:**

This Friday 5th March is the first Friday and there will be a brief penitential service during 10 am Mass in St. Clare's.

### **Join us via webcam for the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 7pm:**

What we know as the Stations of the Cross (or the Way of the Cross) has its origins in the practice in the early church of pilgrims walking in the footsteps of Jesus' passion in Jerusalem. Along the way they would stop to pray at places where a significant event is believed to have occurred. It is thought that in the Middle Ages the Franciscans brought this tradition to Europe. This made it possible for the faithful who could not travel to Jerusalem to experience in a virtual way the Stations of the Cross by following a signposted path around the inside and/or outside of the church. From the 18th century all Catholic churches were permitted to erect the Stations of the Cross within the church building or in the grounds of the church. This led to the visual depictions we see in our churches today, with the number of stations fixed at 14. Of these, only 8 are explicitly mentioned in the gospels. In 1991, Pope John Paul II introduced a new form of this devotion, called the Scriptural Way of the Cross, in which all stations are taken from the gospels. There are many popular versions of the stations available and people can pray them in a church or at home, privately or with a group. A typical pattern for the 14 stations might look like the following: Naming of the station ( E.g. The First Station: Jesus is condemned to die); Response (We adore you O Christ, and we praise you, because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world); A short reading from scripture; Reflecting /meditating on the particular station; and Prayer (E.g. Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be). While available to us as a prayer at any time, Lent is a particularly appropriate time to pray the Stations of the Cross.

### **Family Mass:**

There will be a special family Mass next Sunday 5th March @ 11.30am in St Clare's. We ask all children preparing for First Holy Communion and their families to join us via webcam [www.graiguecullenkilleishin.com](http://www.graiguecullenkilleishin.com)

### **Parish Office:**

Unfortunately due to the Covid restrictions the Parish Office is now closed. If you wish to put in an Anniversary Mass or a notice into the newsletter please contact 0599141833 and leave a message. Alternatively you can ring 0599145411, text 0876216207 or email [gkparish@gmail.com](mailto:gkparish@gmail.com).

### **Helplines:**

The Samaritans - 116123

Pieta House – 0818 111 126

Crisis Text Line Ireland – Confidential messaging support for anyone going through a mental health or emotional crisis, either big or small. Txt: 3TS to 50808 or Txt: Spunout to 50808

Mental Health Information: - 1800 111 888

### **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.

## **A very big thank you to everyone who continues to support the parish during the Covid 19 lockdown.:**

Contributions can be made directly from your bank by direct debits/standing orders. The parish account details are: Account Name: Graiguecullen Church | BIC: BOFIE2D IBAN: IE12 BOFI 9065 3123 3222 21. Please put your name and address in the reference box. This is a really easy way to contribute to your parish!

## **A new Community First Responder Group:**

Is currently being set up in Killeshin. The group, once ready to go “LIVE” will answer emergency calls along with The National Ambulance Service such as Choking and Cardiac Arrest. We will be covering an 8 Kilometers radius of Killeshin and when Covid-19 restrictions are over/lifted the calls that we will be dispatched to will then include Chest Pain & Stroke also. If anyone would like any further information please drop us an email to [killeshinfirstresponders@gmail.com](mailto:killeshinfirstresponders@gmail.com) and find us on Facebook & Instagram.

## **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.

## **Killeshin NS:**

Killeshin NS are accepting enrolments for September 2021. Please email: [principal@killeshinns.ie](mailto:principal@killeshinns.ie)

## **An Gaidin Beo:**

An Gairdín Beo invites you to attend a Zoom Workshop on Spring Planting your vegetable garden. A two session workshop sponsored by ETB and conducted by Dee Sewell will take place on Zoom on; Monday 15th March & Monday 22nd March from 10.00am-11.30am. To apply for workshop send your email and postal address to [srsmerpinewood@gmail.com](mailto:srsmerpinewood@gmail.com) by Thursday March 4th.

## **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.

## **Ballinabranna Water Co-Op Society:**

Will hold their AGM on Monday 8th March @ 8pm via Zoom. Shareholders please email:- [info@ballinabrannawater.ie](mailto:info@ballinabrannawater.ie) to register.

## **Clothes Recycling:**

Catherine Nolan and Vera Smith are now back accepting Clothes for their Clothes Recycling Collection in aid of their 2022 trip with Mellon Educate to South Africa to help build Schools in Capetown. (no duvets or pillows please) can be dropped at any time to Terry Smith Kitchens, Sleaty Road or collection can be arranged by contacting Vera at 086 8317940 or Catherine at 086 8709846.

## **St. Vincenr De Paul:**

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

# ANNIVERSARIES



Saturday 27th - Sunday 7th March 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 27th 6.30pm Maura Duggan, 60 St Clare's Rd (**Anniversary & Birthday Rem.**)  
John Dooley, Duggan Ave  
Noel Nolan, Heatherhill Ave  
Kathleen Nolan, Burrin St
- Sun 28th 9am Michael Lyons, Oak Park Rd  
11.30am (**Month's Mind**) Shay Lawlor, 3 The Downs, Pollerton  
Michael Scully, The Strand  
Margaret Brennan, 42 Oakley Park (10th Anniversary)  
James & Elizabeth Slater, St Fiacc's Tce  
Elizabeth Nolan, Chapel St also her brothers & sisters  
Chrissie O'Rourke, Lower Rossmore
- Mon 1st 10am Elizabeth Clarke, 64 Maher Rd (**Birthday Rem**)  
Michael & Cely Nolan, Johnstown, Co Kildare
- Tues 2nd 10am (**First Anniversary**) Coleen Dunne, Australia  
John McAssey, 46 St Fiacc's Tce
- Wed 3rd 10am John Joe Cullen, Hollywood  
Ann Brennan, 69 Pearse Rd
- Sat 6th 6.30pm (**First Anniversary**) Alan Doyle, St Fiacc's Tce  
Tom Whelan, Ardenteggle  
Noel Murphy, Green Road
- Sun 7th 11.30am (**Months Mind**) Gerry Nash, 200 Maher Rd  
Josie & Denis Dempsey, Killeshin  
June Connellan, Browneshill Rd  
(Patrick Brennan, Mullins Lane, Crossneen also his daughter Nina & son-in-law Pat Harney, Kildare)  
(Joseph Moore, Mullins Lane, Crossneen also his son Tommy, daughters Kitty & Maisie & deceased members of the Moore & Fenlon families)

**R.I.P.**

Charlie Dempsey, 38 New Oak Estate, & formerly Killeen, Maganey