

# 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*

### **A Matter of Life and Death:**

Now more than ever in living memory we are all consumed by the need to stay well and to keep our friends and family well too. It's great news that our scientists have come up with a vaccine that will eventually help beat Covid. It's great news that we now have developed the means to save thousands of lives. Surely if Jesus was around today in person, he would give those scientists a big pat on the back. But perhaps Jesus would have something to add. A vaccine might save us from getting ill and dying, but it cannot add to our lives. Our bodies are merely vehicles in which to get us through life. It is important to look after a vehicle, but what greater point is there in looking after a vehicle that isn't heading anywhere? What we do with our lives is more important than how long we can stay fit and well, however important that is to us as humans. Jesus behaves unexpectedly in today's gospel. Having cured Simon's mother in law, the whole town turns up at his door eager for miracle cures, and Jesus obliges. This it would seem is his golden opportunity. This is his chance to have everybody eating out of the palm of his hand. Instead, Jesus gets up early and goes off to a deserted place, and when Simon comes looking for him, Jesus suggests that instead of returning to his new found fans, that they move on to the next village. This might seem odd to many, but it is to become apparent that curing the sick was not top of Jesus' agenda. To achieve anything in this world our health of course is important, but Jesus didn't heal people simply to promote some health and fitness regime. Healing was only part of his primary ministry to teach. Jesus' healing miracles were signs of his identity and of God's power and compassion. His acts of healing were often to teach the importance of faith and discipleship. Saint Bernadette made a prayer that we could do well to adopt. She said "Lord, I do not ask that I never be afflicted, but only that you never abandon me in affliction."

### **Pioneers Association:**

Consider taking the PIONEER SHORT-TERM PLEDGE for Lent? If you would like to make this pledge for six weeks, you can join online at [www.pioneerassociation.ie/worshipers](http://www.pioneerassociation.ie/worshipers).

## Thank You:

Well done and a big thank you to Jamie Malone who completed 500km running, 5,000 push ups and 5,000 sit ups in the month of January in aid of St Fiacc's House and raised over €11,000.

## World Day of the Sick:

Thursday 11th Feb is the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes & world day of the sick. Our Holy Hour this Wednesday at 7pm will focus on healing and we invite all who are in need of healing in any way to join us via webcam.

## Our Lady of Lourdes:



Lourdes has become a place of pilgrimage and healing, but even more of faith. Church authorities have recognized over 60 miraculous cures, although there have probably been many more. To people of faith this is not surprising. It is a continuation of Jesus' healing miracles—now performed at the intercession of his mother. Some would say that the greater miracles are hidden. Many who visit Lourdes return home with renewed faith and a readiness

to serve God in their needy brothers and sisters. The novena to our Lady of Lourdes will be recited during Masses up to 11th February.

## 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).

## 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.

## 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.

## Parish Finances:

The parish depends on contributions from the community to maintain church buildings, grounds and services. During lockdown contributions to any of our parish collections can still be made in the parish centre or through the parish donate button on the diocesan website [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie). Alternatively, 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!

## St Valentine's Day 14th February 2021:

THE PARISH COMMUNITY EXTENDS A WARM INVITATION TO ALL COUPLES particularly those celebrating A special ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR to join us via webcam for our Valentine's Mass on this Sunday 14th February @ 11.30am in St Clare's Church to celebrate and pray for you at this particular

time on your life journey. If you have a copy of a photo of you on your wedding day that we can display on screen please email it to [gkparish@gmail.com](mailto:gkparish@gmail.com)

### **Retirement of Ms. Sheila Hanratty:**

It was a day of mixed emotions in St. Fiacc's NS on January 29th as the school staff bade farewell to Ms Sheila Hanratty and wished her a happy retirement. Sheila joined the teaching team 22 years ago, having previously worked in Dublin. She took on the role of Junior Infant teacher and brought with her exuberance, energy and experience. Her teaching methods were forward thinking and were adopted by her colleagues. Sheila then joined the Special Education Team and became an invaluable member of the group. With constant upskilling, she carved out a hugely important role as advocate for pupils with speech, language and hearing difficulties and ensured that those in her charge had access to the best resources and programmes in order to meet their needs. She also took on the roles of promoter of oral Irish, mentor for newly qualified teachers, trainer of the quiz teams and organiser of reading resources. The parish and school staff are hugely grateful for her trojan work and friendship and wishes her a long and healthy retirement!

### **Killeshin NS:**

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

### **Carlow Toastmasters:**

Want to overcome your fear of public speaking? Maybe improve your speaking or presentation skills for work or a new job. You can still have fun at the same time with Carlow Toastmasters. We meet on-line during the Lockdown via ZOOM on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8pm. Why not join us? New members and guests are always welcome. For further information please call Catherine: on 087-696-4374. Alternatively DM Carlow Toastmasters Facebook page.

### **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.

### **Praying the Rosary with the Poor Clare Sisters:**

Why not join with our Poor Clare Community to say the rosary each day at 11.40am via our webcam. We pray for all those who are affected with Covid 19 and for an end to the pandemic. A parish praying together can be very powerful.

### **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.

### **Affordable Live-in Homecare:**

provides live-in carers for the elderly in your area. If you are looking for a live-in carer for your relative, please call Eileen or Tom today on 087 9916791 or 087 7440729. Our website is [www.alhomecare.ie](http://www.alhomecare.ie)

# ANNIVERSARIES



Saturday 6th - Sunday 14th February 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 6th 6.30pm Mary White, Killeshin Rd (**40th Anniversary**)  
(John & Annie Dempsey, Ardenteggle & their sons John, Thurles & London & Noel, London)-(Matt McDonald, Old Derrig)  
(Nell Dowling, St Fiacc's Tce)-(Margaret Helehan, St Fiacc's Tce)
- Sun 7th 9am Jim Lawlor, Oakley Cres  
Michael Loughman, Sleaty  
11.30am (**First Anniversary**) Pat Scully, Killeshin  
(**First Anniversary**) Pete Salter, Castlecomer  
Dorothy Anne Baker (née Byrne), 49 St Fiacc's Tce  
James Ryan & Edward & Elizabeth Gaskin, Cappalug  
(Brigid (Patty) O'Regan, Killeshin)-(Larry Ryan)  
(Edward & Ann Ryan, 62 Fr Maher Rd. their son Dick, daughter in law Breda, Oakley Cres and son-in-law Liam Devereux, Castlewood Gardens)  
John & Maureen Whelan, Keelogue also their granddaughter Sharon Murphy  
(Alec Tyrrell, Dublin)-(Jimmy & Clare Byrne, St Fiacc's Tce)  
(Joe & Katie Clarkeson, St Fiacc's Tce also their daughters & deceased families)-(Pat Shaw, 39 Oakley Park)  
Sheila Clifford (née Murphy) Knockbeg & Liverpool  
(Jack & Peg Shiels, Lower Rossmore)-(Michael Brennan, Lower Rossmore)
- Mon 8th 10am RIP Tom O'Neill, Kent formerly Barnhill
- Wed 10th 10am Sarah Hennessy, 22 Church St  
(Joe Egerton, Church St)-(Anastasia & Patrick Hogan, Church St)
- Sat 13th 6.30pm (**Months Mind**) Loretta Sabino, New York  
Rita Doogue, St Clare's Road  
Jimmy O'Shea, Ballickmoyler also his parents Jimmy & Mary
- Sun 14th 11.30am (**Months Mind**) Agnes Kennedy, Ardenteggle  
(Tom Nelson, Killeshin)-(Michael Hayden, New Oak Est)  
Michael & Annie Brennan, Coolnariska  
(Harry Byrne, Staunton Ave also Teddy Brennan & his parents Stephen and Josephine Brennan & Susan Brennan, England)

## R.I.P.

Sinéad Ní Nualláin, The Vale, Graiguecullen  
Pansy Nolan, 23 Old Dublin Road, Carlow  
Eileen McNeive (née Dooley), Sue Ryder House, Castleoaks, Carlow  
Aine Murphy (née Lennon), Rathoe & Borris