

# GRAIGUECULLEN KILLESBIN

## - Parish Link -

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

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

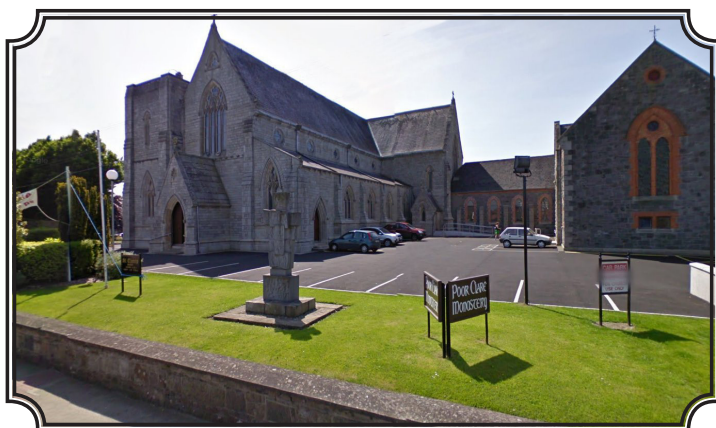
Priest on Call for Carlow Area: (Emergency Only) Phone: 087 258 8118.

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

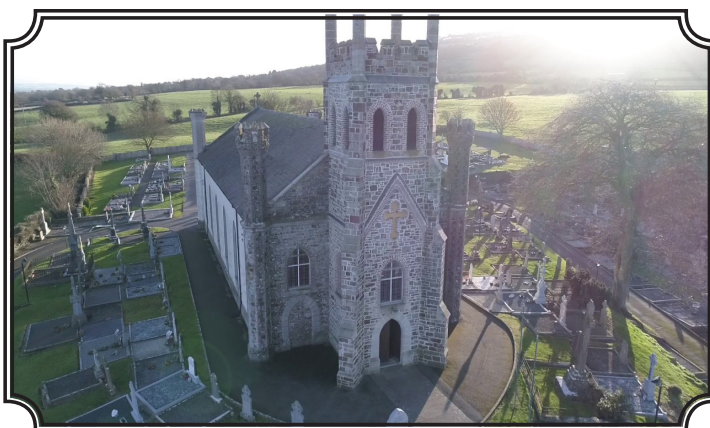
Web: [www.graiguecullenkillesbin.com](http://www.graiguecullenkillesbin.com).

Find us on Facebook: Graiguecullen Parish.

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



*St. Clare's Church*



*Holy Cross Church*

### **A Greater Purpose:**



Living through the pandemic has felt like 'life on hold' for many of us. For many of us, living through the pandemic has prompted us to rethink how we should be spending our lives. How best should we spend the time we have left? In a life or death situation, human nature would always prompt us to hold on to life no matter what the consequences, but in today's gospel a grain of wheat is used to teach us a valuable lesson. The selfless grain of wheat falls and dies to enable a fresh harvest. What point is there in choosing life, if that life boils down to nothing more than self preservation? On the other hand, what great value death, if

that sacrifice gives others life. Many of us fail to understand why Jesus perceived the necessity of going to Jerusalem where he knew he would die. Wouldn't it have made more sense for him to bypass Jerusalem and carry on teaching into his dotage? Jesus however, isn't about to compromise his purpose. Jesus determines to give his life so others can find true life. This is what Christianity is all about. Jesus teaches us that we must 'die to self' before we can be of any use to God. Letting one's own ambition die to be replaced by God's plans for us? 'Dying to self'? Could we be blamed for not feeling enthused? How many of us really see the wisdom in ditching our own exciting life plans to go around being holy? Perhaps we need to think again about how exciting our ambitions really are. Perhaps sacrificing our own agenda and recognising God's plan in our lives could be the best and most exciting thing that ever happened to us. Perhaps sacrificing something of ourselves for a greater purpose could put us in touch with who we really are. As Christians, living through the pandemic has taught many of us to look for a greater purpose whatever age we might have reached.

### **Mini-Lenten Retreat:**

Mini-Lenten Retreat in preparation for Holy Week 2021 in preparation for the Easter Triduum. To take part, all you need to do is send an email to: [thehookoffaith@gmail.com](mailto:thehookoffaith@gmail.com) All are welcome.

### **Irish Catholic Newspaper:**

Irish Catholic Newspaper on sale in St Clare's Church.

## Next Sunday we celebrate Palm Sunday:



Next Sunday we celebrate Palm Sunday which marks the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and begins Holy Week. During our Masses next weekend Palm will be blessed. It has long been a tradition in Ireland of people placing a piece of blessed palm in their homes behind holy pictures or in bibles. Although people cannot attend Mass, Palm will be available to be collected at the church doors when the church is open for private prayer from 1pm to 4pm. We would ask families to place a piece of palm on your front door of your home

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## PENITENTIAL SERVICES:

For Easter will take place during all our Masses this weekend 20th & 21st March. Reconciliation allows us to draw near to the Father with trust and to have the certainty of his forgiveness. He is truly “rich in mercy” and extends it upon all those who appeal to Him with a sincere heart. Do not forget that God forgives all, and God forgives always. Let us never tire of asking for forgiveness.

## This Holy Week, the Priory Institute offers an online Open Access retreat reflecting on the Passion of Christ:

This retreat is offered entirely online with fifteen-minute video reflections focusing on the verses of the psalm that is contained in the liturgical readings for each day of Holy Week. The first reflection will be available on Palm Sunday and all reflections will remain to watch until 11 April. Cost: There is no charge for this retreat, but you must register with your email address and have access to the internet to participate. All are welcome.

## An Gairdin Beo:

An Gairdin Beo is organising four cookery classes on ZOOM-The classes will be directed by Majella Johnson. Majella will base her recipes on the herbs, fruits and vegetables grown in An Gairdin Beo. The dates for the workshops are as follows: Monday 12th , 19th , 26th April & 3rd May. Each session is from 10 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. The workshops are free but you must book your place in advance. Please send your name, postal address and email address to: [fdunne@kcetb.ie](mailto:fdunne@kcetb.ie) before 2nd April. Sponsored by Carlow ETB

## 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.

## St. Vincent De Paul:

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

## **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!

## **Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society:**

Join Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society for an online lecture on Wednesday 24th March at 8pm. Please note this lecture will take place on the 4th Wednesday of the month due to St Patrick's Day falling on the 3rd Wednesday, when we usually hold our lectures. Dr Kevin Whelan will present The Blackstairs Mountain Region - An Illustrated History. All are welcome to join this lecture by going to our website [www.carlowhistorical.com](http://www.carlowhistorical.com) and click on the link for the lecture.

## **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)

## **Deirdre Ní Chinnéide:**

Deirdre Ní Chinnéide invites you to cross the Threshold of Hope with her in this exciting and inspirational response to the challenges of this past year of COVID-19. Tuesday, March 30th at 8pm GMT Join us on the Aran Islands from the comfort of your own home This is a free event open to all. Join us via live streaming at [www.churchservices.tv/deirdrenichi\\_nneide](http://www.churchservices.tv/deirdrenichi_nneide) For more information email [celticpassageinismor@gmail.com](mailto:celticpassageinismor@gmail.com)

## **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.

## **Young Adult Catholic Conference:**

Now, after a year of COVID, we are more and more conscious of the weight of the restrictions... and moreover the finishing line seems like a mirage always moving farther and farther away from us! The Catholic Young Adult Conference via Zoom on March 27th from 5:30 - 7:30pm is a chance for young adults (18 – 40) wherever they are to come together online to build up their hope. The theme “Hope Springs Eternal” will be discussed in a great line up of short talks and testimonies mixed together with music and prayer. The Conference is free to attend just log in to Zoom: ID 847 1984 5205 Passcode: 771328. Whatever about an injection for COVID, come and get a powerful injection of hope! Newcomers especially welcome.

## **Kilkenny and Carlow Education and Training Board Gardening Course:**

Flowers and Shrubs. Tuesday's 7.00pm – 8.30pm March 30th for Six Weeks. If you would like further information or if you would like to book a place on the course please contact Fiona at [fdunne@kcteb.ie](mailto:fdunne@kcteb.ie)

## **Earth Hour - 27th March 2021:**

The Earth Hour is celebrated on the last Saturday of March every year. It is observed from 20:30 to 21:30 local time of each place. In this hour the whole planet is invited to switch off lights and other devices for a whole hour. This is an hour we can enjoy sitting by candlelight and having a family conversation about what we can do to improve our stewardship of God's planet.

# ANNIVERSARIES



Saturday 20th - Sunday 28th 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 20th 10am Róisín Moran, Keelogue (**Birthday Rem**)  
May McCarthy, Dunmanway, Cork
- 6.30pm Joe Fitzpatrick, Sleaty St (**Birthday Rem**)  
Michael Carolan, Levitstown, Maganey  
Sarah & Ken Usher, St Fiaccs Tce & New York  
Michael & Peg Duffett, Oakley Grove  
Thomas & Annie Trodden, 78 St Mary's Park  
(Michael Mullins, Coolnariska)-(James Mullins, Coolnariska & Toronto)  
Anastasia Dalton (née Mullins), Rossmore  
Carmel Pierce, Mount Leinster Park  
May McCarthy, Dunmanway, Cork  
Thomas Flynn, Denis Helehan & Elizabeth Henderson, St Fiacc's Tce  
Nancy & Con Breen, St Fiacc's Tce
- Sun 21st 11.30am Denis (Dinny) Hennessy, Springhill Rd  
Packie Doyle, Ardenteggle
- Mon 22nd 10am Michael & Cely Nolan, Johnstown  
Claire McGrath & Michael Taylor, Maher Rd
- Tues 23rd 10am Ellen Davis, Ballylinan also her parents, brothers & sister in law
- Fri 26th 10am Mary Farrell (née Nelson), 4 Avondale Drive, Hanover
- Sat 27th 6.30pm (**First Anniversary**) David Ward, Dublin  
Ann Kelly, Tierernane (**Birthday Rem**)  
Joe & Josie Kelly, St Fiacc's Tce  
William & Joan Culleton, St Fiacc's Tce  
Thomas & Margaret Anderson, St Fiacc's Tce (Anniv & Birthday Rem)  
(Nancy Anderson, USA)-(Christina Ryan, 8 Chapel St)  
Aidan Power, 34 Pacelli Ave  
Paddy Kelly, Monavea, Crettyard (**30th Anniversary**)  
Seamus McDonald, Ballickmoyler
- Sun 28th 11.30am John Pheasant, Kent  
(Martin & Annie Fitzpatrick, Coolenaugh also their daughter in law  
June Fitzpatrick, Wexford)  
Kathleen Bolton, Ballickmoyler  
Nancy Dooley, 71 Pearse Rd

## R.I.P.

Jim Ryan, Mullins Lane, Crossneen  
Simon Lacey, Manchester  
Elizabeth (Lily) McGettrick, Green Road  
Fr. John Hand, Principal of Chanel College, Dublin