



**Graiguecullen/Killeshin  
PARISH LINK  
Sunday 25th December 2022  
Feast of The Nativity**



Parish Office: 059 / 9141833 / 9182882 Email: gkparish@gmail.com  
Web: www.graiguecullenkilleshin.com  
Find us on Facebook: GraigueKilleshin Parish  
Safeguarding Reps: B Lloyd/S McWey/C Kelly 059 / 9141833  
Diocesan Designated Liaison Person: Ms Kathleen Sherry 085 8021633

**Parish Team: Fr. John Dunphy, Cathriona Kelly & Suzanne McWey**  
Priest on Call for Carlow Area: (Emergency Only) Phone: - 087/2588118

**May your heart be filled with  
the peace and joy that  
Christmas represents.**



**Christmas Message to all:**

On behalf of myself and the parish team I sincerely hope that the remembrance of Christ's birth this Christmas brings you much peace and hope. I would like to thank you all for your presence and prayers with our parish family here in Graiguecullen/Killeshin Parish throughout 2022. As we celebrate the birth of Christ this Christmas, let joy be born in our hearts not just this Christmas day, but the whole year; not just the whole year, but our whole lives. Let us welcome family and friends. Let us welcome strangers and travellers in our midst who may join with us to celebrate the Eucharist this Christmas. If you are returning to Church today from a long absence, or even a short one, let the joy of this celebration fill you. May God bless you this Christmas, may all darkness in your lives be removed by the light of Christ. May your hearts be filled with the Joy of Christ's birth and may you be missionaries of that joy.

**Fr John, Cathriona & Suzanne.**

**Passion Play 2023 Ballylinan**-Rehearsals scheduled to commence Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January @ 7.30pm in St Anne's Hall, Ballylinan. A number of roles remain to be filled. Come along and join the group. All are welcome. You will enjoy the experience being part of this great community endeavour. Further info. Bernie @ 0876467206, Mary 0868626547 or Anna Marie 0874193965.

**Priest's Christmas Collection:-**

this quarterly collection for the support of the priests of the parish will be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day. Special envelopes are provided in the envelope boxes or alternatively envelopes are available at church doors.

**"Holy Cross Church and its Community"**

a new book compiled by Pat Whelan to coincide with the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Holy Cross is on sale in the Parish Centre. Cost €20

**Parish Centre Opening Hours**

**Closed - Mon 26<sup>th</sup>/Tues 27<sup>th</sup> Dec.**  
**Open 9 to 1 - Wed 28<sup>th</sup>/Thurs 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**Closed - Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Dec.**  
**Re-open Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 9am - 5pm**

**Anniversaries can be emailed to gkparish@gmail.com**

**BINGO:** There will be no bingo next Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> December. The next bingo will take place on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January. A big thank you to Marie Murray who coordinates our bingo every week and to all those who volunteer every week to make the Bingo so successful.

**Prayer before the Crib**

As we look upon this crib, we thank you for all who are part of the Christmas story and our story, too. We thank you for the gift of Jesus, your Son, who was born like us, lived like us, struggled like us, and who has shown us how to be fully human; to our lives, he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy and love.  
**Amen**



**CHRISTMAS MASSES: -**

Anniversaries can be emailed to gkparish@gmail.com

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**St Clare's Church**

**Times**  
4pm & 5.30pm  
(Specially for families with young children)  
8.30pm

**Holy Cross Church**  
**CHRISTMAS DAY**

7.00pm (Specially for families with young children)

St Clare's Church  
Holy Cross Church  
St Stephen's Day  
Mon 26th—Fri 30th Dec.  
Sat 31st/Sun 1st Jan

9am & 11.30am  
10.15am  
**10am Mass in St Clare's**  
Morning Mass at 10.00am in St. Clare's Church  
All weekend Masses will have a special

## ANNIVERSARIES

**(Please note all Anniversaries can be emailed to [gkparish@gmail.com](mailto:gkparish@gmail.com))**

All Anniversaries for Christmas Eve & Christmas Day will be displayed on our church notice board and will be prayed for at all our Masses.

- Mon 26<sup>th</sup> 10am** Ann Kinsella (née Pierce) 147 Heatherhill Downs  
Breda Woods, Tolerton & Pacelli Ave
- Tues 27<sup>th</sup> 10am** Joan Culleton, St Fiacc's Tce (**BirthDay Rem**)  
Billy Gleeson, Larkfield & Canada  
(Bernadette Gavigan, Carlow)-(Annie & Patrick Murphy, 92 Pearse Rd)
- Wed 28<sup>th</sup> 10am** (**Months Mind**) Noel Nolan, 45 Fr Byrne Park  
Bernard, Dolores & John O'Shea, The Numbers  
Pauline Gavigan, Roscommon
- Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> 10am** (Betty Geoghegan (née Cash), St Clare's Rd also her parents  
Elizabeth & Nicholas Cash, Pearse Rd & her siblings Joe, Jim,  
Geraldine & Noel)-(Thomas, Sarah & Eugene Gavigan, Roscommon)  
John Hynes, 81 St Clare's Rd & St Fiacc's House
- Fri 30<sup>th</sup> 10am** (**First Anniversary**) Marie Byrne, Ballyhide
- Sat 31<sup>st</sup> 6.30pm** (Paddy Carpenter, Barrack St)-(Ann Dooley, 14 Tinryland (20<sup>th</sup> Anniv)  
(Christy Lawler, 152 Duggan Ave also his parents Michael & Rose  
& his brother Michael)  
Michael & Ellen McDarby, Maryborough St
- Sun 1<sup>st</sup> 9am** (James & Mary Hennessy, Church St also their sons & daughters &  
deceased family)
- 10.15am** John & Margaret Brennan, Quakers Hill, Killeshin  
James & Margaret Dowling, Ardenteggle
- 11.30am** (John & Annie McDonald, Crossneen also their daughter Eileen Dwyer)  
Eilish Monaghan (née Doyle), 11 Kilree Cottages, Bagenalstown

**R.I.P.** Mary Fenlon (née Foley), St. Anthony's, Pembroke, Carlow **R.I.P.**  
Sheila Dempsey (née Murphy) Killeshin, Carlow  
Gerry Watchorn, Drogheda, Co. Louth formerly St Clare's Road, Graiguecullen  
Fr Denis Murphy, Doonane, Crettyard  
Timmy Gleeson, 112 Beechwood Park, Carlow  
Breda Murphy (née Walshe), Kilkenny Road formerly Pacelli Avenue, Graiguecullen

**PRAYER INTERCESSORS:** This group is available to pray regularly but individually for the life of the parish as well as specific intentions that arise from time to time. If you have a family member who is seriously ill or is undergoing a major operation or any other special request please ring the parish office (9141833) or alternatively email [gkparish@gmail.com](mailto:gkparish@gmail.com) or text 087 6216207 & we will send out a group text to request prayers. **In order to maintain confidentiality, we do not use names in the prayer texts.**

Pilgrimage to Rome & Assisi 2023-Led by Fr Liam Merrigan and Mgr John McEvoy. Visiting Assisi 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> May 2023, visiting Rome 27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023. Total Price: €1,265 per person/ Deposit: €150. Return air ticket including 10kg luggage and taxes. Sharing twin rooms with private facilities for 2 nights in Assisi on half board basis. Sharing twin rooms with private facilities for 4 nights in Rome on B&B basis, Entrance tickets to the Vatican, Sistine chapel, Catacombs & the Colosseum. Single Supplement subject to availability for €195.00. For reservations phone Tullys Travel on 059 9136100

**Parish Envelopes:** the 2023 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.

**ALHomecare** is in business for 9 years, we work with hundreds of families and we have nearly 300 carers working nationwide. It is a safe and affordable alternative to nursing homes and private visiting carers which we are aware are in serious short supply especially at this time of the year in your area as cold and wintery weather approaches. 6,000 people who have been approved for funded home care from the HSE have had to be put on a waiting list because of a shortage of carers. ALHomecare is an option as we know that choosing the right care for your relative is a very important decision. You naturally want the best quality care at an affordable price. We understand that homecare can be very expensive and can put a lot of stress and worry on individuals and their families. We aim to provide you with the highest quality live-in homecare at an affordable price. Contact Tom 087 7440729 or Eileen 087 9916791 who will be happy to chat anytime.

## Weekly Collections 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Blue Bag (Envelopes): €750  
Red Bag: €995  
Direct Debits: €228  
Donations: €50  
Tap Donations: €87  
We thank you for your support.

## PIONEER 2023 CALENDARS

The Cathedral Parish Shop now has a limited stock of Pioneer 2023 Calendars which feature full colour A4 pages - 1 month per page; Saints Feast Days; Pope's Intention for each month and one AA Twelve Steps per month. Price €5.

Thanks to everyone who promoted or supported Friends of Fiacc's House Annual Draw. The draw was a great success this year and made €10,890 profit. Congratulations to all our prize winners.

Carlow County Library Service would like to wish all our Customers a Happy & Healthy Christmas & New Year and Don't forget, you can access library services online 24/7 at [www.carlowlibraries.ie](http://www.carlowlibraries.ie)

**USE YOUR BRAIN NOT YOUR FISTS-**An assault can wreck a victim's life, but it can also ruin your own future. You could lose your job, your ability to travel, even your freedom, not to mention the distress it would cause your family. **A Garda initiative as part of their mission of Keeping People Safe that is aimed at reducing and preventing assaults which can have serious consequences for both victims and perpetrators.**

**Rainbow Programmes Spring '23-Twice yearly Carlow Rainbows Group** offer a nine session **Peer Support Programme** for children aged 7 - 12 who have experienced loss through the **death** of a close relative or the **separation of their parents**. Programmes are free to participants. The next programme will commence on **January 23 2023** If you are interested please contact **Anne 0876636499**.

**St. Vincent De Paul:**  
Local Conference - St. Fiacc's.  
Tel. 086-1592775