



Graiguecullen/Killeshin PARISH LINK Sunday 1st January 2023

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

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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

HAPPY NEW YEAR - sincere thanks to all our parishioners for your prayers and support during the past year. We wish everyone at home and abroad a Very Happy and Peaceful New Year filled with God's blessings.

(The Parish Team)

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.

Feast of the Epiphany: 6th Jan
Masses at 6.30pm on Thursday 5th
Jan in St Clare's and on
Friday 6th 10.15am in Holy Cross
and 11.30am in St Clare's Church.

Communion to the sick:- Holy
Communion will be brought to the
sick and housebound this week.

**Graiguecullen NEW YEAR
MONSTER Bingo**

on Tuesday 3rd January
St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm.

Jackpot on 50 numbers
€5,120

Double number €1,370
Lotto €650

Chocolates left & right of the
winner.

Great prizes, bring a friend.

Family Masses: There will be special family Masses this Sunday 1st January at 10.15am in Holy Cross Church and 11.30am in St. Clare's Church. We particularly welcome the children preparing for First Penance and First Holy Communion and their families to these Masses.

Service for Newly Baptised Babies:-
We invite all parents, Godparents and families of babies baptised in our parish during 2020/2021 & 2022 to a brief prayer service next Sun 8th Jan at 3.00pm in St. Clare's Church. A special blessing will be given to the babies and their parents as they continue their faith journey together. We look forward to meeting you, your baby and your family again.

St Clare's Hospitality would like to thank everyone who helped in any way over the Christmas build up. Without our wonderful volunteers we could not have packed and delivered over 400 food hampers. A big thanks also to all who worked so hard at our Christmas Dinners on Christmas Eve for the families from Ukraine and Christmas Day for our regular clients. Thanks to all who donated food or money. We would also like to take this opportunity of wishing everyone ever blessing for 2023.

Appreciation

Here in Graiguecullen/Killeshin Parish we have been overwhelmed by the kindness of everyone who volunteers in any way in our varying ministries. It is a long list but I feel I really need to highlight and thank all those who contribute to all the work carried out on your behalf here in Graiguecullen/Killeshin Parish.

Our Parish Community thanks:-

Our two sacristans – Catherine Ryan in St Clare's Church and Vera Bolger in Holy Cross Church and of course their teams of helpers. We thank them for all their hard work. They work away quietly in the background but we would not have been able to carry on without their support.

Singers/Musicians – we are extremely grateful to our choirs and all those who sang and ensured our Masses were very spiritual during 2022.

Flower arrangers/Eucharistic Ministers/altar servers/readers/slide & webcam & facebook operators – a big thank you to everyone involved in these ministries.

Sunday School leaders/evergreens/parish bingo:- we thank you for all your service to our church. We are really delighted to have you all back and thank you so much for your dedication.

Baptism Ministers:- you are all a tremendous help both welcoming our families and during the ceremonies.

Altar Society, Stewarding ministers and our Covid 19 team – we are extremely grateful for the tremendous work of both groups – unfortunately with Covid-19 on the rise again your work continues into 2023 and we really appreciate all your efforts. Many people who attend our church comment on how safe they feel and how beautiful our churches are.

Parish Finance Committee – have worked hard during the year as usual to ensure that everything ran smoothly in the parish and for this, we are extremely grateful. Special thanks to Mick Regan and all those who count the money during the year.

You the parishioners – we wish to express our gratitude for all the support financially and otherwise, we have received from the people of the parish. Many people signed up to pay their contribution directly into the bank and people also signed up for the Revenue Charity Refund Scheme which is a great bonus to the parish funds.

We would also like to take this opportunity to appreciate and thank our reach out ministry groups:
St Vincent de Paul – we are thankful for all the work the volunteers do in this tremendous ministry of care and compassion for those in need. The committee have been overwhelmed by the generosity of all our parishioners.
Our 2 Community employment schemes – particularly our sponsoring committees, supervisors and assistant supervisors and all our scheme participants. Our parish gets tremendous benefits in many different areas from the schemes.
St Fiacc’s Hall/Killeshin Community Hall/Swimming Pool – thanks to all the staff and volunteers for all their hard work in keeping these facilities so safe and welcoming.
St Clare’s Hospitality - we have been overwhelmed by the generosity of people & businesses who have donated food and money to this charity and a big thank you to our schools who have donated huge amounts of food this year to enable us to help people in need. The Kitchen is currently serving approximately 120 hot meals to people as well as delivering 80 food parcels weekly. We also worked with the St Vincent de Paul Society and the Lions Club and a large number of dedicated volunteers to deliver nearly 400 Christmas Hampers. A big thank you to our volunteers who pack the parcels and to the volunteers who deliver them every week and the staff and volunteers who work in the Kitchen.
St Fiacc’s House - our parish Support Care Home for the elderly. Huge congratulations and thanks to Joan Doogue and all the staff for their tremendous work in keeping our elderly so safe during this time and thanks also to the Board of Directors for their tremendous work. We thank all the volunteer drivers who deliver the meals on wheels. The number of people receiving the meals has risen and we appreciate all the time and energy it takes to keep this service going.
Principal, teachers and support staff of our parish schools – We thank everyone for the tremendous effort you put into keeping all our children safe and well educated. We want you to know that we really appreciate the work involved trying to keep everyone safe in school.

Finally, a big thank you to the Poor Clare Community and the team for leading us in our Monday Communion Services and for all their support and prayers over the years. We are truly blessed to have the Poor Clare Sisters in our parish community praying for us and with us every day.

Thanks too, to all the parish staff - those who look after our churches, the grounds and the parish centre. Thanks to John Bradley and John Reid for all their brilliant photography and John for his work in Killeshin and to Pauric Brennan who did such a wonderful job filming our children’s nativity play. A big thank you to Catherine, Mary, Isobel, Dean, and Catherine Ryan for all their work in the parish office. Thanks to PJ Reddy who keeps our website and ensures that everyone is kept informed of what is happening in the parish.

Special thanks to our parish team Suzanne McWey and Cathriona Kelly, who have been such a tremendous support throughout the year in leading our parish. Thanks to Cathriona for coordinating all our singers, musicians, stewards, screen operators, readers, and Eucharistic Ministers as well as making the slides for all our Masses. We thank our youth ministry team, Gary and Sara who along with Cathriona organised all our youth activities and our beautiful Carol Service.

*May God give us all health and happiness during the year ahead and may he give our Parish His Special Blessings.
We wish you all a very Happy and Peaceful New Year*

Fr John

ANNIVERSARIES

Sat 31st 6.30pm **(First Anniversary)** Marie Byrne, Ballyhide
(Paddy Carpenter, Barrack St)-(Ann Dooley, 14 Tinryland (20th Anniv))
(Christy Lawler, 152 Duggan Ave also his parents Michael & Rose
& his brother Michael)-(Michael & Ellen McDarby, Maryborough St)

Sun 1st 9am (James & Mary Hennessy, Church St also their sons & daughters & deceased family)
10.15am (John & Margaret Brennan, Quakers Hill)-(James & Margaret Dowling, Ardenteggle)
(John Hynes, 81 St Clare’s Rd & Fiacc’s House)-(James Keyes, Manaister, Co Limerick)
11.30am John & Annie McDonald, Crossneen also their daughter Eileen Dwyer
Margaret & Francis Lacey, 32 St Fiacc’s Tce also their grandsons Fran & Trevor

Tues 3rd 10am (David Hanly, Killeshin Rd)-(Billy Gleeson, Larkfield & Calgary, Canada)-(James Doyle, Leagh, Sleaty)
(Michael Nolan, The Numbers)-(Michael Enright, Kerry)

Wed 4th 10am **(Months Mind)** Philly Brennan, 135 Sleaty St)-(Chrissie Foley, Pacelli Ave)
Fri 6th 11.30am (Anne Brennan, Avondale, Crossneen)-(Margaret Carolan, Levitstown, Maganey)

Sat 7th 6.30pm **(Months Mind)** Michael Kinsella, Askea Lawns & Ballyhide
(First Anniversary) Francis Keating, 10 New Oak Estate
(Baby Conor Patrick Cleere, Feltham Hall)-(Pat & Marie Gillen, Tinahely)

Sun 8th 9am (Jim Lynam, Tolerton)-(Michael Carolan, Levitstown)
10.15am (Michael O’Regan, Killeshin Rd)-(Sarah Kate Jordan, Everton Hse, Old Derrig)
11.30am **(First Anniversary)** Noel Byrne, Staunton Ave
(Tommy & Rita Lyons, Staunton Ave)-(Dick & Cathy Ryan, 3 ’98 Street)
(Matthew & Bridget Callinan, St Fiacc’s Tce their daughters Mary, Noleen & sons in law Harold, Donal & Tom)
(John, Elizabeth & Nellie Pluck, Sleaty Rd)-(Thomas & Nancy O’Rourke, ’98 Street)
Tommy & Mary McAssey, The Numbers & sons Sean, Noel, Willie & George
Noel McAssey, 118 St Clare’s Rd **(Birthday Rem)**

Ellen (Nell) Cooney (née Maher), Rahin Road, Ballylinan, Laois
Sr Emmanuel O’Sullivan, St Leo’s Convent of Mercy formerly St Fiacc’s House
Mary Curran (née Fitzpatrick), Station Road, Carlow
Barry Spruce, Mullins Lane, Graiguecullen, Carlow
Mary (Moll) Hickey, Fenagh, Co Carlow
Sean Jones, 37 Monacurragh, Carlow

R.I.P.

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