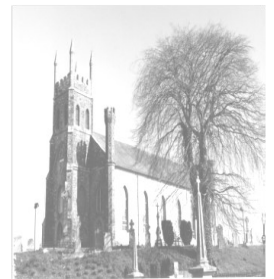


Graiguecullen/Killeshin PARISH LINK Sunday 8th January 2023 *Baptism of the Lord*



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

Happy New Year

Happy New Year! It's something we've heard a lot of over the last couple of weeks, but what are we really expecting of the New Year? Do we face the new year with optimism and eagerness, or do we face the new year in a spirit of "same old same old." Not all of us are starting 2023 happily.

Many of us face the new year with ongoing problems. For many, illness, hardship, or difficult relationships aren't things that will simply go away. Some of us will be struggling to find work; others may be stuck in jobs they hate. Increasing numbers are trapped in inadequate housing or afflicted by addiction, depression or loneliness. Do we face the new year eager and optimistic, or tired and disillusioned?

In today's account of Jesus' baptism, we are told how the heavens opened, and how the Spirit of God descended like a dove. This marked the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Filled with the Spirit of God, Jesus had the power to work miracles, to cure the sick and raise the dead. The Spirit of God enabled Jesus to face any challenge. In baptism we are filled with the same Spirit that filled Jesus. The very same Spirit!

Our baptism might seem no more than a photograph in a dusty photo album, but could our lives be very different if we were to call upon the Holy Spirit on a daily basis?

The Holy Spirit isn't going to make our problems go away, nor are we promised an easy life. What we are promised is the strength and direction to make good decisions. Through our baptism, and because of Jesus' baptism, we can resolve to confront our problems head on, and make something meaningful happen in the year ahead.

St Valentine's Day:- We invite all couples to a special Mass in St Clare's Church on Tuesday 14th February at 7 pm to receive a special blessing. Any couple who is celebrating a special milestone anniversary this year and would like it celebrated at the Mass are asked to contact the parish office. *If you have a copy of a photo of you on your wedding day that we can display on screen please contact Cathriona at 085 1450321.*

Graiguecullen Bingo on Tuesday 10th January.
St.Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm.
Jackpot on 50 numbers
€5,250
Double number €1,440
Lotto €700
Great prizes, bring a friend.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Sunday school takes place every Sunday at 11.30am Mass in St Clare's. We invite all children aged between 3 yrs to 2nd class to take part. Our aim is to introduce the children to the Mass by taking part in activities appropriate to their age. These activities will take place in the Parish Centre. The children will be supervised by a team of adults & students from our second level schools

Passion Play 2023 Ballylinan-Rehearsals scheduled to commence this Tuesday 10th January 2023 @ 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.

Are You Eligible for a C.E. Scheme? Graiguecullen Killeshin Parish CLG is seeking to recruit participants for our Community Employment Scheme in the Parish Grounds, Swimming Pool, St. Fiacc's House, Rehab Care, Carlow Tourism, Éist, St. Pat's, G.A.A, Snooker & Billiards Ireland. People must be in receipt of a welfare payment. If you or you know someone that is interested, please do not hesitate to call to Catherine or Ann Louise at our C.E. Office situated in the Swimming Pool building or just phone: **0599134887** for more information.

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 this Sunday 8th January at 3.000pm 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.

Priest's Christmas Collection:- This quarterly collection for the support of the priests of the parish can still be left into the Parish Office. Special envelopes are provided in the envelope boxes or alternatively envelopes are available at church doors.

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.

Holy Cross Church History Book-

We have just reached the half way stage in our sales. Thanks for the support but we need many more people to purchase the book so as to be able to pay the printers in full as soon as possible. If you have purchased it, we ask you to recommend it to your family and friends especially people from the Parish living away from home. The book can be purchased from the Parish Office and from Pat Whelan (086 16574350) and at Mass in Killeshin on Sundays and Holydays.

Killeshin Community Centre
AGM will be held on January
23rd @ 7.30pm . All welcome.

ANNIVERSARIES

(Please note all Anniversaries can be emailed to gkparish@gmail.com)

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 (Michael & Mary Farrell, Mill Lane & Church St also their daughters & sons-in-law)
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 Tee their daughters Mary, Noeleen & 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) Olive Kennedy, 6 Oakley Park
Tues 10th 10am	Dick & Cathy Ryan, 3 '98 Street
Wed 11th 10am	Liam & Margaret Byrne, Ardattin & Bagenalstown Johnny Moore, Athy
Thurs 12th 10am	(Months Mind) Christy Pender, Clogrennane, Ballyhide Catherine Carew, Ranelagh (Patrick Broderick, Urlingford (Birthday Rem) son Michael & daughters MaryAnn & Chris)
Sat 14th 6.30pm	Simon Lacey, Manchester & Browneshill (50th Birthday Rem) Billy Gleeson, Canada & Larkfield Paddy Proctor & his wife Bridget & deceased family Alice Mallon, St Fiacc's Tee Agnes Kennedy, Ardenteggle also her husband Pat & son PJ (Alice & Phil Kehoe, 39 Avondale Drive)-(Dot Hutton, The Poplars)
Sun 15th 9am	John Joseph Byrne, Lower Rossmore
10.15am	(Months Mind) William Doran, Ballickmoyler Christopher Nelson, Killeshin
11.30am	Frank & Una Norris, The Arches, Crossneen Andy & Sarah Whelan, Ballyharmon Philly Brennan, 135 Sleaty St (Birthday Rem) Sean Hurley, 11 Chapel Street



R.I.P.

Oliver Scully, 32 St Killian's Crescent, Carlow
Margaret Scully (née Higgins), Green Rd, Carlow
Samantha Whitney, England
John Fitzpatrick, Ardnehue, Bennekerry
Rita Kelly (née Byrne), Knockbane, Castledermot

R.I.P.

Are your mocks coming up? Worried about exams? Keine Sorgen machen with local German grinds provided by Daniel Byrne-
Contact daniel.byrne228@mail.dcu.ie for Grammar Literacy and Spoken word.

A message from an Garda Siochana-An Garda Siochana wish to warn people of a doorstep fraud and theft offence which has become prevalent over the last number of weeks. Elderly People are being targeted at their homes by Criminals who are impersonating Gardaí. The offenders are fraudulently pretending to be plain clothes Gardaí who are checking for dud money. They have duped people all around the country and stolen their cash on the pretence of checking to see if it is genuine money. They are producing false identification to assist the process.

Advice

- An Garda Siochana will never ask people about their finances on the doorstep of their homes and will never ask to check money
- Always ask for Identification and do not be afraid to question it. If in doubt politely tell the caller that you want to verify their true identity. If necessary, contact your local Garda Station who will be able to establish quickly if the caller is a member of An Garda Siochana.
- Report any such activity to your local Garda Station even if you have not been the victim of a theft. That report could save a neighbour or someone else close by.
- Please check on elderly neighbours, family and friends and advise and reassure them

Weekly Collections 31st/1st Jan.

Blue Bag (Envelopes): €930
Red Bag: €773
Direct Debits: €123
Donations: €300
Tap Donations: €180
We thank you for your support.

Team Hope would like to thank everyone who supported their Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2022. 3,500 shoeboxes were collected in Carlow and sent out to children in Africa. Thanks to Callinan's Shop and Dora in Killeshin Stores for collecting boxes. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

GRAIGUECULLEN SWIMMING POOL ADULT SWIMMING LESSONS

6 WEEK Course - €60
Starting Monday 9th January
2023 @ 1pm
Fill in a booking form at the pool office.
PH: 059 9140330.

Carlow Central Library is starting a Book Club for Adults on Tuesday 24th January. The Book Club will be from 6.15pm to 7.15pm, if you are interested in attending, please email with your contact details to library@carlowcoco.ie

Carlow Active Retired members meeting on Wednesday 11th Jan @ 2.30pm in the Cathedral Parish Centre. 2023 membership signup, €20 annual fee. Old & new members welcome.

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 23rd**. If you are interested please contact **Anne 0876636499**.

Mortgage Arrears / Abhaile Scheme-Are you in mortgage arrears? Are you worried about losing your home? If so, there is help. You may be entitled to Government support under the Abhaile Scheme. For more info, feel free to contact Tatiana McGreal, Financial Solutions Ireland on 085 867 4883 (www.fsireland.ie)