



# Graiguecullen/Killeshin PARISH LINK Sunday 16th April 2023 Divine Mercy Sunday (A)

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

**Divine Mercy Sunday:** On the Second Sunday of Easter of the Jubilee Year 2000, at the Mass for the Canonization of St. Faustina Kowalska, Pope John Paul II declared the Sunday after Easter be called "Divine Mercy Sunday." St. Faustina was a Polish nun who received visions from Jesus, including one of Jesus wearing a white garment with beams of red and white coming from His heart, which came to be known as the image of Divine Mercy. She wrote in her diary that Jesus said: *I want the Image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it... My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy.*

**Priests Easter Collection:-** the quarterly collection for the support of the priests of the parish can still be left into the parish office. Special envelopes are in the envelope boxes or alternatively you can use the special envelopes available at church doors.

## **Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help** **begins on this Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in St Clare's Church.**

We invite people to place their petitions in the petition boxes in St Clare's Church. During our Novena, through the prayers of our Faith Community and the intercession of Our Lady we will ask Jesus to relieve whatever burdens we carry. Rosary recited at 7.10pm and Novena begins at 7.30pm

**This year's Theme is: "United in Prayer"**

**GUEST SPEAKER for this Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April is:**

**Fr Peter McVerry - Social activist & founder of Peter McVerry Trust**

Fr McVerry grew up in Newry, Co. Down and was educated at the Abbey Christian Brothers' Grammar School in Newry and at the Jesuit school at Clongowes Wood College in Co. Kildare. In 1962, he entered the Jesuit Order and was ordained in 1975. Fr Peter has worked in Dublin's north inner city since 1974, where he encountered young people who were sleeping on the streets because of their home situation. In 1979 he opened a hostel for homeless boys aged 12-16, this subsequently became his life-time work. He saw through the work of this hostel that when the boys reached 16 and needed to leave, they had few options open to them and most ended up back living on the streets. This realisation led him to set about providing services and accommodation for older youths.

In 1980 Peter moved to Ballymun in north Dublin, and by the end of 1983 he had founded the Arrupe Society, a charity to tackle homelessness. This charity was subsequently renamed the Peter McVerry Trust. As a social activist, Peter is a strong advocate for those who have no voice in society and has written widely on issues relating to homeless people.

**Holy Week & Easter Ceremonies:** we thank all who helped make our ceremonies so special and meaningful. A special thanks to all who cleaned and decorated our Churches so beautifully and to all who prepared and participated in the various ceremonies. It was so lovely to see so many of our young people involved and participating in the ceremonies. A special thank you to all who ministered in any way. It was also very heartening to see the large turnout at all our ceremonies. We really value and appreciate the generosity of so many people

**Evangelisation & Vocation Conference: Priesthood in a Synodal Church-**In life, many hear God's call to priesthood. Is your heart open to the Lord? Have you ever considered taking the risk to follow in the footsteps of Jesus? If so, you are invited to the national seminary of Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth, on 25 April, to attend a special conference on evangelisation and vocations in Ireland today. Archbishop Rino Fisichella, Pro Prefect of the Vatican's Dicastery for Evangelisation, will be the keynote speaker. Please register directly on [www.vocations.ie](http://www.vocations.ie), or contact the National Vocations director Father Willie Purcell at [willie.purcell@iecon.ie](mailto:willie.purcell@iecon.ie) or Rev Eric Cooney secretary of the National Vocations Office at [eric.cooney@iecon.ie](mailto:eric.cooney@iecon.ie)

**Éist Cancer Support Centre**  
**AGM-**The Annual General Meeting of Éist Cancer Support Centre will take place on **Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 8pm.** This meeting will be held in Éist Cancer Support Centre, 46 Idrone Park, Carlow R93 R280. For any queries please call 085 8661499

**Graiguecullen Bingo**  
on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April  
St. Fiacc's Hall @ 8.30pm.  
**JACKPOT** on 50 numbers  
**€7,200**  
Double number **€530**  
Lotto **€1,450**

**National Eucharistic Adoration Pilgrimage to Knock-**Calling All Adorers of the Blessed Sacrament in this Diocese, the **National Eucharistic Adoration Pilgrimage to Knock** is on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April (2nd wk after Easter) and all are welcome. contact the relevant people for bus enquiries from these area's Tullow, Carlow - Phone Brendan 0876537753, Ballylinan, Stradbally, Portlaoise - Phone Margaret 0879793005.

**Trocaire Boxes:** can still be returned to the Parish Office. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

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

## ANNIVERSARIES

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

- Sat 15<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm** (Month's Mind) Eamonn Redmond, 'Tiltwood', Oakpark Rd  
(First Anniversary) Joseph (Joe) Middleton, 30 Pacelli Ave  
(Bill Abbey, Garryhundon) - (Kathleen Byrne, Ballickmoyler)  
(Inez Feehan, Ballickmoyler) - Eddie Dagg, 2 Monacurragh  
Sarah & Dan Quinn, Tipperary  
Margaret Kieran, 42 Fr Byrne Park
- Sun 16<sup>th</sup> 9am** (First Anniversary) Betty Hurley, 11 Chapel St  
**10.15am** (Teresa & Dinny Doran, Keelogue) – (Dinny Dempsey, Killeshin)  
Andrew & Mary Dowling, Ardenteggle  
Patsy Fitzpatrick, Cappalug, & parents, William & Mary, Clonmore  
Chris Delaney, St Killian's Crescent Carlow and Killeshin
- 11.30am** (Month's Mind) Aisling Nolan-McDonald, Leighlin Road  
Oliver Doyle, 2 The Numbers  
Jimmy & Josie Brennan, late Staunton Ave  
(John Kearns, Knockbeg)-(Geraldine Kelly, College Garden)  
Margaret & John McEvoy, Hollymount  
(Joseph Comerford, 17 Rossmore View)–(Angela Amond, Riverside)
- Tues 18<sup>th</sup> 10am** (Month's Mind) Matthew (Matty) Nolan, St Fiacc's Tce & England
- Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> 6.30pm** (First Anniv) Mary Jo Barcoe, Avondale Drive & daughter, Mandy  
William & Joan Culleton, & sons, Michael & Liam, St Fiacc's Tce  
Ernest & Kate Duffett, and their sons & daughters, Maher Rd  
Liam Haughney, Sleaty St, his brother, Lazerian & deceased family  
(Michael Ramsbottom, 5 The Numbers) - (Joe Foley, Oakley Park)  
Jim & Julie Fitzpatrick, '98 Street
- Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> 10.15am** Maureen & Paddy O'Rourke, late of Hillview, Killeshin  
James & Mary O'Regan, Keelogue, and their son, Martin  
Lill & Jim Fitzpatrick, Clonmore  
Sharon Murphy, 1 Rossmore View, and her grandparents,  
John & Maureen Whelan
- 11.30am** Liam Dunphy, Ballinakill & St Fiacc's House  
Seamus Martin, Derrymoyle, also his son, Liam (Birthday Rem.)  
(Sr Fidelis) - (Sr Angela) - (Maura O'Keefe)

**Askea Senior Citizens-**  
There are a few places on our  
Holiday to the Carrigdale, Hotel  
Dundalk for non-members.  
Contact Marian 0599143010

**Oisín Players Killeshin presents**  
**"IT'S THE REAL MCCOY"** in  
the Glenside Lounge, Killeshin on  
Fri/Sat/Sun 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> April.  
Contact 087 9905205 for more  
information.

## GRAIGUECULLEN SWIMMING POOL

are taking bookings for children's  
lessons for April term and Easter  
Camp. To book a place you must  
fill in a booking form at the pool  
office with full payment. Limited  
places on each session. Children  
must be at least 4 years of age.

### Mondays

17<sup>th</sup> April – 19<sup>th</sup> June  
5 – 5:45pm or 6- 6.45 pm  
8 weeks @ €80 per child

### Tuesdays

18<sup>th</sup> April – 20<sup>th</sup> June  
5- 5:45pm or 6- 6:45pm  
10 weeks @ €100 per child

### Wednesdays

19<sup>th</sup> April – 21<sup>st</sup> June  
5- 5.45pm or 6 – 6:45pm  
10 weeks @ €100 per child

### Saturdays

15<sup>th</sup> April – 24<sup>th</sup> June  
9- 9:45am, 10-10:45am, 1- 1:45pm  
10 weeks @ €100 per child  
€50 per child

## R.I.P.

*Paddy Smullen, 97 Pearse Road, Graiguecullen*

## Finding Faith

What would it be like to have an unerring and unshakeable faith? What would it be like to have a faith driven not by proof but by an inner voice? Most likely it would be life changing. When we truly believe something in our hearts, we begin to act it out in our lives. An unerring faith would enable us to enjoy peace in the darkest corners of our lives, but is there a real danger that our thirst for that life changing faith could lead us to 'leave our brains at the church door'?

Faith and doubt are the flipside of the same coin. In our hurry for faith, we can quietly bury any doubts leaving them to fester. On the other hand, we can give so much weight to our doubts that faith eludes us altogether. Doubt isn't necessarily a bad thing, after all, the disciples needed signs, and Thomas in particular needed concrete evidence. Doubt can be a good thing even, if it leads us to answer the questions that will eventually help us to develop a mature faith. Doubt becomes a bad thing when it builds an insurmountable barrier. Thomas believed that it was foolish to believe something without proof, but if we are so afraid of being foolish or fear to believe without scientific evidence, our doubts will never lead us to ask the right questions. Our doubts will only spur us to pick holes.

So how can we use doubt as a positive tool rather than a negative force? Perhaps there has been a time when you have followed a court case where nearly all the evidence has been circumstantial. The jury have the uncomfortable task of reaching a certain belief without all the evidence they would like. Significantly, barristers don't confront jurors with the hardest parts of the case first. Barristers begin by building a picture based on certainties. Only when the case seems overwhelmingly watertight do they introduce points that are more circumstantial. Perhaps this is the way to approach our religious doubts.

**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.