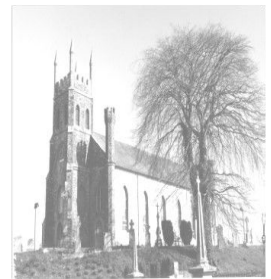


# Graiguecullen/Killeshin PARISH LINK Sunday 7th April 2024 Divine Mercy Sunday (B)

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



In GK Parish, we value and encourage the participation of young people and vulnerable adults in all parish activities. We uphold the utmost standard of safeguarding to create a safe environment for all.

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

### Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

**begins on this Monday 8<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



### GUEST SPEAKER for the first night (Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April) is:

**Rev PJ Madden-** Former General Secretary of the INO-Retired parish priest from New Orleans diocese and served 5 years in Kildare & Leighlin Diocese



"Father P.J. Madden is a native of Ballinasloe. Following the death of his beloved wife Mary in 1999 he began to study for the priesthood and was ordained on May 14, 2004. Father P.J. served as pastor in New Orleans until 2009 when he returned to Ireland. He served here in Graiguecullen/Killeshin Parish from 2009 to 2011 and served in Arles and Naas parishes but the Bayou called him back to serve as Pastor from 2015 until his retirement in 2019. On April 1 2022, he was asked to take up the position of Diocesan Administrator until he returned to Ireland in 2023."

**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.*

**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.

**Newly Baptised: this week we welcome 1 new member into our parish community.**  
**Páidí Andrew Wynne**

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

**Family Masses:** There will be special family Masses this Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 10.15am in Holy Cross Church and 11.30am in St. Clare's Church. We particularly welcome the children preparing for First Holy Communion and their families to these Masses.

### Doubt and Disbelief

The story of 'Doubting Thomas' is aimed at all those generations of people who will not see the risen Lord, yet are asked to believe. So are we really being asked to believe in what we cannot see or hear or touch, when even those closest to Jesus had problems in accepting what was happening?

In today's gospel we see Thomas struggling with a problem that many of us still struggle with today. Thomas desperately wanted to believe in the risen Jesus, but he wasn't the sort of person to pretend he understood something when he didn't. He wasn't the sort of person that could pretend that he didn't have doubts when he did. There are many of us today who desperately want deeper meaning in our lives. There are those amongst us who have become disillusioned with the Church and wish they could embrace what it once meant. There are many of us who would like to find a deeper faith but have found only stumbling blocks. Like Thomas, we find that the gap between faith and doubt too big a leap.

For those who find belief elusive, there is an uncomfortable beatitude in today's gospel. "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." This can feel like a reproach to those of us who harbour doubts, but the important thing to remember is that doubt isn't the same thing as disbelief. Doubt can be a good thing even. Doubt means that we are still questioning something that we care about. Doubt means that we are still looking for answers ..... that we are still learning and growing. Doubt is a tool that we can use to carve a mature faith. Belief isn't something we either have or haven't got ... belief is a process, and the end product of that process, is one's own spiritual self.

**Graiguecullen Bingo**  
**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April.**  
**St. Fiacc's Hall @ 8.30pm.**  
**Jackpot on 50 numbers €3,170**  
**Double number €740**  
**Lotto €950**

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

**Please note the Communion Service continues on Mondays at 10am in St Clare's Church.**

## ANNIVERSARIES

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

- Sat 6<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm (Months Mind)** Darragh Mc Munn, Sligo  
**(First Anniversary)** Paddy Smullen, 97 Maher Rd  
Thomas Anderson, 60 St Fiacc's Tce  
Caroline Maria Cullen, Leighlin Rd  
(Josie & Joe Kelly, St Fiacc's Tce & their parents William & Jane)-(Rose Kearns, Sleaty Rd)  
(Gerry Nolan, Hillview, Crossneen)-(Joe Foley, 22 Oakley Park)  
Elizabeth (Betty) Townsend, Cloughna, Milford
- Sun 7<sup>th</sup> 9am** Sarah Kate Jordan, Everton House **(Anniv. & Birthday Rem)**  
(Colette Bolton, Lr Rossmore)-(Breda (Biddy) Haughney, Crossneen)  
(Edward (Ned) Dowling, Lr Rossmore)-(Arnold Mahon, Derrymoyler)  
Sheena Knepper, Derrymoyler  
Ger & Margaret O'Toole, Ardattin
- 10.15am** (Peter Nelson, Killeshin)-(Jimmy Delaney, O'Hanrahan Ave)  
(Arnold Mahon, Derrymoyler)-(Sheena Knepper, Derrymoyler)  
Ger & Margaret O'Toole, Ardattin
- 11.30am** (John Alcock, Pearse Rd)-(Nancy Hutchinson, The Poplars)  
(Patricia O'Boyle, Killeshin Rd)-(James Morrissey, St Clare's Rd)  
Josephine Shaw, 78 Maher Rd also her father Denis Shaw
- Tue 9<sup>th</sup> 10.00am** Gerry Bradley, Maryborough St **(Birthday Rem)**  
Bridget Perry, Bestfield
- Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> 10am** **(Months Mind)** Baby Izadora Vera Rita Connolly
- Sat 13<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm** Bill Abbey, Garryhondon, Milford  
  
John Cullen, 203 Maher Rd  
Kathleen Byrne, Ballickmoyler & St Fiacc Tce  
(Michael Mullins, Coolnariska)-(James Mullins, Toronto)  
Anastasia Dalton (née Mullins), Rossmore & Dungarvan  
(Bridget & Christopher Brennan, Sleaty St. & deceased members of the Brennan Family)-(Margaret Kieran, Fr Byrne Park)
- Sun 14<sup>th</sup> 9am** Betty Hurley, Chapel St
- 10.15am** Dinny & Teresa Doran, Keelogue  
James & Mary O'Regan, Keelogue, also their son Martin  
(Patsy Fitzpatrick, Cappalug also his parents William & Mary Clonmore, Killeshin)  
(Michael Mullins, Coolnariska)-(James Mullins, Toronto)  
Anastasia Dalton (née Mullins) Rossmore & Dungarvan
- 11.30am** (John Kearns, Sleaty)-(Jimmy & Josie Brennan, Staunton Ave)  
(Seamus Martin, Derrymoyler)-(Maura O'Keeffe, Derrymoyler)  
(Liam Martin, Derrymoyler. **(Birthday Rem)**)-(Sr. Angela & Sr. Fidelis)  
Mary Drennan, Mortartown & Killeshin  
(William & Bridget Drennan, Killeshin)-(Inez Feehan, Ballickmoyler)

Joe Walker, 6 St Patrick's Avenue, Carlow  
Pauline McDonald (née Pender) Barrowhouse  
Pat Carroll, Bennekerry  
Tom Dormer, Sleaty Road, Carlow

*R.I.P.*

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Community Employment Scheme Vacancies-Positions available with MDCE Project CLG  
Reference numbers for positions in Mayo Parish are CES-2314007 & CES -2316582.  
Reference numbers for positions in Killeshin GAA are CES - 2314004.  
Anyone interested in a position the application is available on [Jobsireland.ie](http://Jobsireland.ie) or you can contact MDCE Project directly on 056 4442711 or email us at [mdceproject@gmail.com](mailto:mdceproject@gmail.com)

**The 'Synodal Explored' Conference**-The 'Synodal Explored' Conference will be held on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at St John's Welcome Centre, Knock Shrine where Cardinal Mario Grech, Secretary General of the Synod of Bishops will be the keynote speaker. This conference is a free event, open to the public and all are welcome. Further details are available on [www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie)

Catherine Nolan and Vera Smith continue to hold our clothes recycling collection in aid of our ongoing trips to South Africa to help build schools in the townships in Cape Town with Mellon Educate. All bags can be dropped to Terry Smith Kitchens, Sleaty Road, Graiguecullen Monday to Friday between the hours of 8.30am – 4.30pm. Please no duvets, pillows, cushions, or toys. We accept old clothes, shoes, handbags, towels, bed linen, curtains. It costs us money to dispose of duvets etc. Collection can be arranged by contacting Catherine 086 8709846 or Vera 086 8317940. Thank you for your continued support.

**Weekly Collections 30th/31st Mar**  
Red Bag: €1,404  
Blue Bag: €955  
Direct Debits: €124  
Tap Donations: €87  
Donations €150  
We thank you for your support.

**Line Dancing Classes will take place in St Fiacc's Hall, on Thursday nights commencing 17<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm-8.30pm beginners and 8.30pm-10pm Intermediate +. €10 per night, pay as you go. Have fun while exercising and socialising. For further information contact 087 9006575.**

**Invitation to Meditation: Carlow Meditation Group** meets on **Monday evenings from 7 pm to 7:45 pm** in the **Cathedral Parish Centre, Colledge Street.** Meditation, the universal practice of silent contemplation, can awaken the heart, deepen our spiritual sensitivity and promote our wellbeing. After a short reflection on an aspect of meditation, Marian Gaynor's singing bowls lead us into silence. No need to book – just turn up on any Monday evening!  
(Noel Keating, 087 2251183)

A Meeting with Laois partnership for sports walking and cycling routes will take place in Oisín House on 17th of April at 8pm.  
All welcome

Active retired members meeting will be held on April 10th @ 2.30pm in the Cathedral Parish centre. €2 per member for room rental. New members welcome.

Daniel O'Donnell in concert In Lyrath Hotel Kilkenny Wednesday 1st May 2024. Tickets available from Carmel Dawson 0872221434

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.