

**PARISH OFFICE**

Open 9.30am - 5pm (Closed 1-2pm)  
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**GRAIGUECULLEN/KILLESHIN  
PARISH**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**



SCAN TO DONATE

**PARISH TEAM:** Fr. John Dunphy & Cathriona Kelly

**YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM:** Sarah Alsybury, Isobel Brooker, Hannah Keogh, Gary Dowling, Aoife Whelan, Amelia Chodorska, Giulia Hutton

**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 SAFEGUARDING REPS:** Breda Lloyd, Sarah Alsybury, Cathriona Kelly

**DIOCESAN DESIGNATED LIAISON PERSON:** Ailish Higgins 085 8021633 **PRIEST ON CALL FOR CARLOW AREA:** (Emergency Only 087 2588118)

**A SIGN OF BETTER THINGS TO COME**

Jesus' first miracle was to turn water into wine at the Wedding of Cana. To many it seems a frivolous kind of miracle something akin to a party trick, but John relates the miracle with good reason. John's gospel is quite different in character from the other three. It doesn't follow the same order, or record the same stories as the others. St. John is concerned in showing us signs, which gradually reveal the glory of God through Jesus. The author seems to be mainly interested in the significance of the deeds of Jesus.



John writes, "this is written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name." Suddenly confronted with enough wine to swim in, the disciples had no choice but to begin to believe in who Jesus really was. Neither would the symbolism have been lost on the people of the time. It was the people's belief that at the time of salvation God would provide a table for feasting for his servants and a cup that would never run dry.

The symbolism we read in this first miracle speaks of an old religion bogged down with oppressive rules and laws liberated by a new faith governed by love, compassion, joy, generosity, and abundance. Being a Christian is a very serious business, and as Christians we are asked to address life and death issues, but that doesn't mean we should trudge around with long pious faces. Jesus frequently likens the Kingdom of God to a feast, so smile...  
the changing of water to wine is a sign of better things to come.

**NEWSLETTER NOTES**

To guarantee inclusion in our newsletter, all notices and anniversary bookings must be received before 2pm on the Wednesday before publication. Thank you.



**GK PARISH BINGO**

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January**

**St. Fiacc's Hall @8.30pm**

Jackpot on 43 numbers €1,090  
Double number €320 Lotto €1,550

**HOLY CROSS SODALITY**

Will hold their A.G.M. on Sunday January 26<sup>th</sup> after Mass. All members are asked to renew their membership.



**HOLY CROSS  
CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

Meeting on Sun Jan 26<sup>th</sup> after Mass.

**ST. BRIGID'S CROSSES  
YOUTH MINISTRY FUNDRAISER  
Your help is needed with making  
our St. Brigid's Crosses.**

All are invited to the parish centre each morning and afternoon on **Mon 20<sup>th</sup> - Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Jan** to help make our St. Brigid's Crosses or to prepare the rushes for those who are making them. Any beginners will of course be shown how to make the crosses. Crosses will be distributed on St. Brigid's Day Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> and Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb after all Masses.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**

takes place from Mon 20<sup>th</sup> to Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Jan. The theme this year is '**Catholic Schools: Alive in Christ**'. There will be services in all our schools during the week. Grandparents Day will be celebrated as usual on Wednesday. Next weekend we will celebrate the end of Catholic Schools Week so we invite all students and their families to our 10.15am and 11.30am Masses next Sunday. **We ask all students to please wear their school uniform at both these Masses.**



**WORD OF GOD SUNDAY**

Next Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Jan we celebrate The Sunday of the Word of God with the theme "I Hope in Your Word".



Sunday of the Word of God was instituted by Pope Francis and is observed on the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. *It is a Sunday given over to the word of God, so as to appreciate the inexhaustible riches contained in that constant dialogue between the Lord and his people.*

We encourage all our readers to make it to one of our parish Masses next weekend. Readers who are present will be asked to come forward to receive a special blessing in thanksgiving for their commitment to this special ministry. Thank you to all Ministers of the Word for your continued commitment to this special Ministry.

**CELEBRATING ST. VALENTINE**

We invite all couples to a special Mass in St. Clare's Church on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb at 6.30pm** 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 digital copy of a photo of you on your wedding day that we can display on screen, please send it via WhatsApp to Cathriona on 085 1450321.



**PRE-BAPTISM MEETING**

Our next pre-baptism meeting will take place on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January @7pm** in the Parish Centre. All parents presenting their child for Baptism over the next few months are encouraged to attend.

**PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE**

will meet next Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> @8pm. All members are encouraged to attend.

## ANNIVERSARIES

All anniversary bookings must be received before 2pm on the Wed before publication.

### SATURDAY 18<sup>th</sup>

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**6.30pm** Joe McNicholas, Mayo & Manchester - *Month's Mind*  
Kathleen Kane, (née White) Manchester & Killeshin Rd - *First Anniversary*  
Joe Geoghegan, St Clare's Road - *First Anniversary*  
his wife Betty, parents Joe & Roseanna, also his  
siblings Baby William, Seán, Eamon & Aine.

Kathleen Lawlor, Duggan Ave  
Shay Lawlor, The Downs  
Michael Keyes, Staplestown  
Tommy Clarke, St. Clare's Road  
Jack Doyle, Pearse Road  
Alice and Phil Kehoe, Avondale Drive  
Dot Hutton, Maher Rd  
Tommy Brennan, Springhill  
Patrick and Hannah Fenelon, The Numbers  
Mona Walsh, Limerick  
Kieran Lawlor, Duggan Ave. - *Birthday Remembrance*  
Pat O'Meara, Barrowhouse, Athy - *Birthday Remembrance*



### SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup>

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**9am** John Joseph Byrne, Lower Rossmore  
Sean Hurley, Chapel Street  
Clare and Thomas Foley, Church Street, sons Paddy and Tom

**HOLY CROSS**  
**10.15am** Jimmy Kehoe, Killeshin  
Margaret Dunne, Monure, Killeshin Road

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**11.30am** Charles O'Boyle, Killeshin Road  
Fr. Brendan Carbery, Carlow  
Frank and Una Norris, The Arches, Crossneen  
Michael Webster, The Lock  
Miley Doran, Fruithill  
Baby Killian Shannon, Hollymount  
Clare and Thomas Foley, Church Street, also sons Paddy and Tom  
Myra Murphy, Morrins Lane



**Wed 22<sup>nd</sup>** **10am** Seán Galligan, Bailyborough, Cavan

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup>** **10am** James McSweeney, Sleaty Street

### SATURDAY 25<sup>th</sup>

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**6.30pm** Michael Dooley, John Sweeney Park - *Month's Mind*  
Betty O'Regan, Bestfield - *First Anniversary*  
Paddy Farrell, Granby Row  
Tommy Keating, Chapel Street  
Shay Lawlor, The Downs  
Bridget Ramsbottom, The Numbers

### SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup>

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**9am** Mary (Mollie) Brennan, St. Lazerian's Tce,  
her husband James and her son Francis  
Alice Bradley, Marlborough Street  
Jack and Kitty Kelly, Lower Rossmore

**HOLY CROSS**  
**10.15am** Henry O'Neill, Portlaoise Road  
Christopher Moran, Keelogue, Killeshin

**11.30am** Ann and Edward Wynne, Old Leighlin also deceased family members

### REST IN PEACE

**MARY WOODS (NÉE O'NEILL)**, Bennekerry, **MARIE GLEESON**, Goresbridge

**FRANCIS CONVILLE (NÉE CAREY)**, Green lane

**HALINA KROL**, Governey Square and formerly Poland



### RAINBOWS IRELAND - SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH BEREAVEMENT & PARENTAL SEPARATION

- Rainbows offers 9-week group support listening for young people aged 7 -16.
- Bereavement and Separation sessions are separate and age appropriate
- Rainbows is not counselling or professional therapy

**Carlow Rainbows invite enquiries for Spring 2025 starting on 10<sup>th</sup> Feb**

For further local information contact Anne on 087 6636499  
or email [carlowrainbows@gmail.com](mailto:carlowrainbows@gmail.com)



## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS 11<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup> Jan

Red Bag €880 Donations €50 *Thank You*  
Blue Bag €1,943 D. Debit Donation €130

### GRAIGUECULLEN WATER AEROBICS

Graiguercullen Swimming Pool  
Mondays at 8.15pm. Wednesdays 8pm.  
Only €8. No pre-booking required.



### LIONS CLUB TABLE QUIZ

Seven Oaks Hotel Ballroom. Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January  
at 8pm. Table of 4 - €40. Cash prizes. Picture round,  
puzzle round, audio round & dingbats. Entertaining  
night for a good cause. Sean 087 2585893

### KILLESHIN PIPE BAND

Table Quiz on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025 at 8pm in  
the Glenside Lounge. €40 table of four.

### KNOCK PILGRIMAGES

Escorted tour Knock & County Mayo 4 nights, 4 star  
Castlecourt Hotel Dinner bed & breakfast, lunch on  
three days. 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025, €699 pps single  
supplement on enquiry. Info: 094 9006426 / 087  
1890236. Email: [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com)

### INVITATION TO MEDITATION

Carlow Meditation Group meets on Monday  
evenings from 7- 7.45pm in the Cathedral Parish  
Centre, College St - *excluding bank holidays*.

All are welcome - no experience needed.

No need to book just turn up on any Monday.

For more info contact Noel Keating, 087 2251183

### ASKEA SENIOR CITIZENS

Monthly social nights in Askea Parish Centre return  
on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 7pm-9.30pm. Transport  
available contact Marian 059 9143010.

### UNWANTED GIFTS FOR HAMPERS

If you have any unwanted Christmas gifts, please  
drop them to the parish centre for the attention of  
Isobel. All items will be used in hampers for  
fundraisers during the year ahead.

### CARLOW FLOWER CLUB

are holding a leaf manipulation workshop on Tuesday  
January 28<sup>th</sup> at 8pm in the Woodford Dolmen Hotel.  
Club members Margaret Collins and Helen Lucas will  
share their knowledge of crafting flowers and shapes  
from leaves. Visitors welcome. The competition for all  
classes on the night will be "A Line arrangement with  
5 or 7 Flowers". Visitor entry fee €10

### MEDJUGORJE 2025

Pilgrimage (Carlow) 25<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> July Spiritual  
Directors Fr. Tommy Dillon and Fr. Yanbo Chen,  
Sept 10<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> Fr Theodore. Cost €805. To avail of  
discount, pay deposit €200 before Jan 31<sup>st</sup>. Info:  
Noleen 086 2415986.

### HOME VISIT

If you are housebound and would like  
a visit from a priest once a month, please  
contact the parish centre.

