

**PARISH OFFICE**

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

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
Third 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)



**WORD OF GOD  
SUNDAY**



*When Jesus is invited to stand up and preach back at his own hometown synagogue he chooses his reading with care. What Jesus chooses to read is to be a statement about his own mission priorities. He chooses to speak of social injustice. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me," he reads, "...because he has anointed me to proclaim glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, sight to the blind, freedom to the oppressed." Then Jesus points to himself as the fulfilment of the ancient prophecy before handing back the scroll and sitting down. Jesus has obeyed all the rules of public speaking, he has considered the purpose of his reading, chosen words that will best convey his purpose, and delivered them powerfully and succinctly. How will Jesus' listeners respond to his claim? Today's reading doesn't give us the listeners' response so we have time to imagine what our own response would have been. Would we have been inspired and motivated to hear Jesus speak these words? Would we suddenly see the ancient prophecy as just that, an ancient prophecy, or as mission to be fulfilled under Jesus' exciting new leadership?*

*Can we hear the poetry of these words resonating two thousand years later?*

**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 28<sup>th</sup> January  
St. Fiacc's Hall @8.30pm**  
Jackpot on 43 numbers €1,220  
Double number €390 Lotto €500

**HOLY CROSS SODALITY**

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



**HOLY CROSS  
CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

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

**PRE-BAPTISM MEETING**

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



**ST. BRIGID'S CROSSES - YOUTH MINISTRY FUNDRAISER**

A big thank you to all the people who collected rushes for us and to all those who came into the parish centre this week to make crosses. All are invited to the parish centre again next each morning and afternoon from **Mon 27<sup>th</sup> - Fri 31<sup>st</sup> Jan** to help make crosses or prepare the rushes for those who are making them. Any beginners will be shown how to make the crosses. Crosses will be blessed and distributed on St. Brigid's Day Sat 1<sup>st</sup> and Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb after all Masses.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL GRAIGUECULLEN**

Our monthly collection for February will be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Feb. We will be reverting to the first weekend as usual from March.

**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 from your wedding day, please send it via WhatsApp to Cathriona on 085 1450321 so we can display it on our screens during the Mass.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**

Thank you to our young people, teachers, principals and staff in our schools for celebrating this week with us. *"Christ is alive! He is our hope and everything he touches becomes young, new, full of life. The very first words, then, that I would like to say to every young Christian are these: Christ is alive, and he wants you to be alive!"* Pope Francis, Christus Vivit

**FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME**

Our programme continues Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb at 10.15am in Holy Cross and at 11.30am in St. Clare's. We particularly welcome the children preparing for First Confession and First Holy Communion and their families to these Masses.

**PRESENTATION OF THE LORD  
CANDLEMAS - SUNDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> FEB**

Candlemas is a traditional Christian festival that commemorates when Mary brought the baby Jesus to the temple forty days after His birth and met Simeon. It is called 'Candlemas' because that was the day on which the year's supply of candles for the church were blessed. **If anyone would like candles blessed for use in their home, you are welcome to bring them to Mass or they can be left into the parish office.**



## ANNIVERSARIES

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

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**6.30pm** **SATURDAY 25<sup>th</sup>**  
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  
Sarah and James Doyle and son James, Athy

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**9am** **SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup>**  
Alice Bradley, Marlborough Street  
Jack and Kitty Kelly, Lower Rossmore  
Mary (Mollie) Brennan, St. Lazerian's Tce, her husband  
James and son Francis

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

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**11.30am** Sean and Sally Kelly, Drumphae  
Ann and Edward Wynne, Old Leighlin also deceased family members  
John and Rosaleen McHugh, Springhill daughters  
Claire and Anne Marie and deceased family members.  
Richard and Teresa Shannon, Hollymount, their five sons and  
daughters-in-law and four grandchildren.

**Tues 28<sup>th</sup>** **10am** Jim Dunne, Dublin Road and his children Eilish and Sean.

**Wed 29<sup>th</sup>** **10am** Alice Bradley, Marlborough Street

**Thurs 30<sup>th</sup>** **10am** Dolly Gavin, Mountmellick - *30th Anniversary*

**Fri 31<sup>st</sup>** **10am** Sineád Ní Nualláin, Barrowvale and Duggan Ave.  
Elizabeth Loughlin, Moneenroe  
James Loughlin, Moneenroe

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**6.30pm** **SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup>**  
Brendan Brady  
Julia and Philip Seymour, Church Street, their sons Melvin and Sean  
and great-grandson Christopher

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**9am** **SUNDAY 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
Christopher Lawlor, Pierce Road and his parents Michael and Greta  
Jonathan Byrne, Tomard, Leighlinbridge  
Chrissie Watchorn, St Clare's Road

**HOLY CROSS**  
**10.15am** James Ryan  
Edward and Elizabeth Gaskin, Cappalug  
Michael O'Rourke, Clogrennan  
Tim Rowan, The Strand  
Mark Anthony Dunne, Monure, Killeshin Road  
John and Maureen Whelan, Keelogue, their granddaughter  
Sharon Murphy, Rossmore View



### REST IN PEACE

**NORA DOWLING (NEE KEALY), GORTAHILE, CRETTYARD**  
**BABY RUTH BARRY, KILLESKIN**

### Lourdes Invalid Fund

Table Quiz on Friday 7<sup>th</sup>  
February in the Thatch Lounge at 9pm.  
Table of four €40.  
All welcome.

### Newly Baptised

This week we welcome three new members into  
our parish community  
*Alana Rumi Lawlor Theo Michael Lawlor*  
*Molly Róisín Moran*

### 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 18<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup> Jan

Red Bag €883 Donations €150  
Blue Bag €1,670 D. Debit Donation €130  
Tap Machine €51 *Thank You*

### KILLESKIN PIPE BAND

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



### 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.

### A NOTE FROM

#### VERA SMITH AND CATHERINE NOLAN

Our clothes collecting has been suspended for the  
foreseeable future. We wish to thank all who have  
supported us, and we hope to be back collecting in  
the middle of 2025. Any queries call 086 8317940

### MEN'S ROSARY CARLOW

Calling all men to join the Men's Rosary on Sat 1<sup>st</sup>  
Feb at 1.30pm at the Liberty Tree. All Welcome.

### EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION IN DERRY

A bus is running to the Eucharistic Procession in  
Derry on Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Feb. Mass on route and visiting  
Sr. Clare Crockett's grave. Leaving from Ballon 7am  
and Askea Church car park at 7.20am. For details  
and bookings phone Helena on 087 2981506.

### 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

### 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.

### JIVING & SOCIAL DANCE CLASSES

Adult Beginner Jiving and Social Dance 4 week  
course commencing Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 8-9pm at  
'The Academy of Dance Carlow', Carlow Youth  
Centre, Green Lane R93 V327. No partner required.  
Contact Fiona on 0872727315 for more information.

### HUMAN LIFE INTERNATIONAL IRELAND

Conference on Sat 1<sup>st</sup> February 1:30pm - 6:30pm at  
the Seaford Hotel, Gorey Co Wexford. Speakers  
include Sr. Mary Magdalene OP, ex London  
Gangster John Pridmore and GAA Manager Mickey  
Harte who joins us via Zoom. Tickets €20 includes  
food buffet. Phone 0949375993, [mail@humanlife.ie](mailto:mail@humanlife.ie)  
Join us beforehand at St Michael's Gorey at 10am,  
for Mass and Holy Hour, prayerfully uniting with  
Derry, Medjugorje and elsewhere as we pray for a  
return to God, for Ireland and the whole world.