

**PARISH OFFICE**

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

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025  
Fifth 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 Message from Pope Francis for World Day of the Sick 2025**

*Dear brothers and sisters who are ill or who care for the suffering, in this Jubilee you play an especially important part. Your journey together is a sign for everyone: "a hymn to human dignity, a song of hope" (Spes Non Confundit, 11).*

*Its strains are heard far beyond the rooms and beds of health facilities, and serve to elicit in charity "the choral participation of society as a whole" in a harmony that is at times difficult to achieve, but for that very reason is so comforting and powerful, capable of bringing light and warmth wherever they are most needed.*

*The whole Church thanks you for this! I do as well, and I remember you always in my prayers. I entrust you to Our Lady, Health of the Sick, in the words that so many of our brothers and sisters have addressed to her in their hour of need:*



*We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God.  
Do not despise our petitions in our necessities,  
but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin.  
I bless you, along with your families and loved ones,  
and I ask you, please, not to forget to pray for me.*

**+ Pope Francis** (Rome, Saint John Lateran, 14 January 2025)

**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.



**Graiguecullen Valentine's Bingo**

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February  
St. Fiacc's Hall @8.30pm  
Jackpot on 46 numbers €1480  
Double number €390      Lotto €600  
**Free pink sheet with every book (2 with doubles). Chocolates left and right of winners. Free Hamper with Lotto draw.**

**NEWLY BAPTISED**

This week we welcome one new member into our parish Community



**Anthony Lynch**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

A big thank you to everyone who collected rushes and the many people who came into the parish centre to make St. Brigid's crosses. We raised over €2,000 for our Youth Ministry fund. This will help cover costs for all our upcoming youth events.

**Young people are not just the future of the church, they are the 'today' of the church'.**



**CONFIRMATION CEREMONIES OF RECONCILIATION, PLEDGE AND GIVING**

Ceremonies for the young people preparing for Confirmation from our parish schools and their families will be held on Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Feb @7pm in Holy Cross Church for the candidates from Killeshin N.S and on Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Feb @7pm in St. Clare's for the candidates from St. Fiacc's N.S.



**CELEBRATING ST. VALENTINE**

We invite all couples to a special Mass in St. Clare's on **Fri 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 photo from your wedding day, please send it via WhatsApp to 085 1450321 so we can display it on our screens during the Mass.



**OUR CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROGRAMME**

continues next Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> at 10.15am Mass in Holy Cross and 11.30am Mass in St Clare's. Families of young people preparing for Confirmation are encouraged to attend.



**Plough Sunday Service**

Ecumenical service of prayer on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February in Staplestown Church at 3pm. Info: Rev Paul 0864113989.



*"Hope does not disappoint"  
(Romans 5:5),  
but strengthens us  
in times of trial*

**ST. BRIGID AND EUROPE**



Kildare man and Naas parishioner, Liam Kenny, has researched a presentation "St Brigid and Europe – the diocesan Patron at the heart of the Europe Dream". Liam developed his presentation having made the surprise discovery on a business visit to Strasbourg in eastern France that there was a devotion in the region to St Brigid. Fascinated by this devotion to St. Brigid, long distant from her traditional site in Kildare, he researched the Brigidine presence on the banks of the Rhine. The result is an illustrated presentation and informative commentary which is scheduled for the Cathedral Parish Centre, Carlow R93 XV10 on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm. Everyone is invited and welcome to come to this evening .

## ANNIVERSARIES

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

### SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup>

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**6.30pm** Sarah Hennessy, her husband Paddy and sons Paul and Pat  
Joseph Egerton, Church Street  
Joe Walsh, Cill an Óir, formerly The Numbers  
Nell Dowling, St Fiacc's Terrace and deceased family members  
Denis and Mary Hayden, Pacelli Avenue  
Willie Brennan, Rathoe  
Suzanne Foley, St Fiacc's Tce  
Laz Callinan, Springhill  
Joseph Moore, Mullins Lane, son Tommy, daughters Masie, Kitty and  
Maudie and deceased members of the Moore and Fenelon families

### SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup>

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**9am** Jim Lawler, Oakley Crescent  
Michael Loughman, Sleatty Road

**HOLY CROSS**  
**10.15am** Brigid (Patty) O'Regan, Killeshin  
Matt McDonald, Old Derrig

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**11.30am** T.V. Stafford, Pitcairn Lodge, Crossneen  
William O'Brien, Rochford Manor and Graves End, Kent  
Shelia Clifford, Knockbeg and Liverpool

**Tues 11<sup>th</sup>** **10am** TV Stafford, Pitcairn Lodge Crossneen  
Bernadette Mannion, Ballyhide, (*Birthdays Remembrance*)  
Peggy Byrne, Duggan Ave., (*Birthdays Remembrance*)

**Wed 12<sup>th</sup>** **10am** Breda Woods, Tolerton and Pacelli Ave  
Jo and Kieran Blake

**Fri 14<sup>th</sup>** **10am** Elizabeth Doran, Ivy Cottage, Fruithill, (20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

### SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup>

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**6.30pm** Paddy Looney, Church Street  
Lily McDonald, Maher Road

### SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup>

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**9am** Bridie and Paddy O'Rourke, St Clare's Road, son Seamus, daughter  
May Carpenter

**Holy Cross**  
**10.15am** Tony Fitzpatrick, Clonmore Killeshin  
Tom Nelson, Killeshin  
Michael and Annie Brennan, Coolnariska Killeshin

**ST. CLARE'S**  
**11.30am** Halina Krol, Governey Square and Poland (Months Mind)  
Gerry and May Nash, Maher Road  
Rita Doogue, St Clare's Road  
Peggy Byrne, Duggan Ave (*Birthdays Remembrance*)



### REST IN PEACE

SEAN O' KEEFFE OAK PARK



## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb

Red Bag €810 Donations €250  
Blue Bag €2054 D. Debit Donation €69  
Tap Machine €75 Thank You

## CARLOW STROKE SUPPORT GROUP

meet next Fri, Feb 14<sup>th</sup>, 2.30-4pm, at St. Dymphna's Hospital, Carlow. Meetings are informative & social, open to survivors & carers. Guest speakers attend. For further information call/text Lynda 085 7331522



## DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE

Bus travelling from Carlow to the Divine Mercy Conference in the RDS Dublin on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. Booking essential. For enquiries contact

## DARKNESS INTO LIGHT

Volunteers are needed in advance for Carlow Darkness Into Light Walk which will take place in May 2025. Please contact: Nerissa on 086 7380842 if you can help out.



## BEST OF LUCK TO AREA 6

**GRAIGUECULLEN INDOOR SOCCER** teams competing in Community Games this weekend.

If your child is interested in taking part in Graiguecullen Community games, please visit our Facebook page for more information or email graiguecullencommunitygames@gmail.com

## MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE 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.

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## CARLOW FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Drugs and Alcohol abuse affects families regardless of status in life. You did not cause it; you cannot control it, and you cannot cure it. Help is available for those who live with this dreadful disease. Call 085 7872730

## Killeshin Dancing Group

Outing to the Glenavon Hotel, Cookstown, Co. Tyrone, Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> May – Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> June. B&B, lunch, evening meal, daily tours. Cost: €650. Deposit €200 to Eddie Whelan (086 8173843) before Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March.

## CARLOW ACTIVE RETIREMENT

A meeting for all members will be held on Wednesday Feb 12<sup>th</sup> @2.30pm in the Cathedral Parish Centre. New members are always welcome.

## TRACTOR RUN

Ballinabranna N.S. is running a *Charity Tractor Run Fundraiser* with proceeds going towards Ballinabranna NS and Éist Cancer Support Centre Carlow.

**When?** Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb, with registration commencing at 12.30pm and leaving at 2pm

**Where?** The Leinster Mart, Killeshin Fee €25.

**Route:** Leaving the Leinster Mart, Killeshin rd, travelling straight up through Carlow town to Thompsons corner, turning right out the Kilkenny Road, turning right at Arboretum and back to Ballinabranna Gaa grounds, where refreshments will be served.

All vintage vehicles, cars, tractors, lorries etc are very welcome to come along and help us raise much needed funds for a fantastic cause.