

**PARISH OFFICE**

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

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**



SCAN TO DONATE

**PARISH TEAM:** Fr. John Dunphy, Cathriona Kelly, Mary Dooley

**YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM:** Sarah Alsbyury, Isobel Brooker, Hannah Keogh, Gary Dowling, Aoife Whelan

**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 Alsbyury, Cathriona Kelly

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

**Tempted to Distraction**

*If we are not criminals, and we don't particularly consider ourselves to be sinners, do we really need to worry about the devil, or the dangers of temptation? If the temptations in our lives are simply to sit at the computer too long, or indulge in the odd tittle, how much does that really matter?*

*On the first Sunday of Lent we are always treated to the same lesson. We are asked to consider what we are about, how the devil might put spanners in the works, and what we can do about it. Today the devil finds Jesus in the wilderness. He finds him when he is hungry and weak and tempts him with attractive options, food, fame and protection. We don't see Jesus dithering, not even for a minute. Jesus is able to put the temptation behind him because he knows what he is about. Jesus understands his mission and it isn't about materialistic benefit or power. Jesus is able to put aside the temptation because he is confident that the same Holy Spirit that has taken him into the wilderness will lead him back out.*

*The wilderness comes in all shapes and sizes. For us it could be moments when we're feeling lost, broken, unloved, tired or overburdened. In these moments of weakness this is when we are most at danger. These are moments when the devil can come to us offering comfortable and attractive options. Comfortable and attractive options can tempt us to make poor decisions; decisions that provide distractions. The devil can be subtle. Temptations rarely lead the majority of us into crime or even into sin. Being tempted to finish off a bottle of wine or spend longer than we ought on Facebook doesn't seem so bad, but are the tens of little distractions we succumb to each and every day taking us away from who we really are, and from what is genuinely important?*

**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  
MONSTER BINGO**

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March  
St. Fiacc's Hall @8.30pm

**Jackpot on 50 numbers €2,000  
Double number €670    Lotto €500**



**NEWLY BAPTISED**

This week we welcome one new member into our parish community



**Angel Rachel Schaap Fasakin**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS - MONDAY MORNINGS**

Join us for praying the Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Communion each Monday during Lent beginning this Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 10am in St. Clare's Church. Praying the Stations of the Cross helps inspire deep prayer. God gives us the grace to contemplate the suffering of Jesus and feel deep empathy and love for Him. As we meditate on the events, they become more vivid and take root in our hearts.



**GRÁSTA MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE**

Weekend residential courses available. 23-25 May or 19-21 Sept. Details: [www.grasta.org](http://www.grasta.org) or email [info@grasta.org](mailto:info@grasta.org). Our Grásta Preparation for Marriage courses consist of a residential weekend course, away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life, for couples to focus on their relationship and what is important for them as a couple planning their married life together. We work in partnership with other lay people, clergy and the team at the beautiful De La Salle Pastoral Centre in Co. Laois to offer enriching residential courses in a peaceful and welcoming environment. Grásta also organise courses for Married Couples and Families.

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARISH PARADES**

Killeshin holds its 39<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade this year. All clubs and organisations and the general public are asked to assemble down at the new School at 9.15am with Flags and Banners to Parade to Mass for 10.00am.

Graiguecullen parade begins in Carlow Town Park. All participants must assemble inside the grounds of the town park at 10.30am sharp. The parade will leave the Town Park at 11am and proceed through the streets of Graiguecullen via Colclough Ave, St Clare's Rd, Pearse Rd, Maher Rd, '98 Street and Maryborough Street, finishing at St Clare's Church on the Leighlin Road side arriving for 11.30am Mass in St Clare's. **We are inviting everyone to attend this very special Mass to celebrate the faith, language, music sport and culture of our parish community.** Please contact Jackie on 086 3988548 if you have any questions or to let her know if you will be joining the parade.

**LENTEN HOLY HOUR - MONDAY EVE**

Our Holy Hour begins this Mon 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in St. Clare's Church. When we make a Holy Hour, we remain and stay awake with Jesus. It is a powerful and beautiful way to grow closer to Him. God takes our small efforts and does great things with what we give Him. His generosity is incomparable.



**NEWLY CONFIRMED**

Congratulations to the 53 young people who were confirmed this weekend in Holy Cross church by Bishop Denis. We wish them every blessing as they embark on this next step on their faith journey. Thank you to their teachers and all who helped them become full members of our Christian Community.



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



## ANNIVERSARIES

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

**St. Clare's**  
6.30pm

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>**

Rosa Dillon Gonzales, Burren Road - **MONTHS MIND**  
Thomas Ollie Nelson, New Oak Estate  
Seamus and Gaby Grant, Killeshin Road  
Kathleen Malone, Coolane, Killeshin  
Martin Cleare, The Numbers  
Tom Whelan, Ardenteggle  
Christy and Mary Kelly, Coolane  
Mick Darcy, St Clare's Road  
William and Bridie Walsh, Milford  
Patrick and Jenny Conlan, Kellistown  
Elizabeth Clarke, Maher Road, and her husband Harry  
Joseph Lawler, St Fiacc's Terrace, and his wife Margaret  
John and Annie O'Reilly, Lower Rossmore, and their son John  
Baby Callum Nolan - **ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**



**St. Clare's**  
9am

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>**

Ita and Pdraig Culliton, Raheenduff, Timahoe their daughter Ita, her husband Simon, and their Grandson Oisin Osborn

**HOLY CROSS**  
10.15am

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>**

Sean Brennan, Killeshin - **MONTHS MIND** and his son Sean Jnr.  
Ida Walkers, Bray, Co Wicklow  
Tom and Mary Anne Fitzpatrick, Crossleigh and their son Dick  
Josie Dempsey, Killeshin - **20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
Margaret and Denis Touhy  
Patrick Whelan  
Joe Whelan, Ardenteggle - **30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**St. Clare's**  
11.30am

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>**

Noel Murphy, Green Road  
Aisling Nolan, Graiguealug, Nurney  
Larry Joyce, Ballyhide  
Elizabeth Callinan, 98 Street - **BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**



**TUES 11<sup>th</sup>**

**10am** Baby Isadora Connolly – **First Anniversary**  
Intention

**WED 12<sup>th</sup>**

**10am** Elizabeth Maher, Cullenagh  
John Hart, Sleaty Street

**FRI 14<sup>th</sup>**

**10am** Jim Ryan, Crossneen and deceased family members

**ST. CLARE'S**  
6.30pm

**SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup>**

Simon Lacey, Manchester and Brownhill  
Eileen Looney, Church Street  
Annie Comerford, Duggan Ave  
Breda Kenny, Sherwood Park  
Charlie Haughney, St Fiacc's Terrace  
Breda Grant, St Fiacc's Terrace  
Laurence Dowling, Whitney Place, his wife Rita and deceased family members  
Paddy Nolan, St Fiacc's Terrace - **BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**



**HOLY CROSS**  
10.15am

**SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup>**

Josephine Twomey, Killeshin Road  
Denis (Dinny) Hennessy, Springhill Road

**ST. CLARE'S**  
11.30am

**SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup>**

Liam and Bridie Flemming, Marlborough Street  
Ger and Mary Nolan, Henry Street, son Stephen and deceased family members



**REST IN PEACE**

**Indie Mai Byrne**



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

Blue Bag €1523      Donations €70  
Red Bag €845      Tap Machine €69  
D. Debit Donation €65

Thank You

## 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.

## KILLESHIN TIDY TOWNS

Killeshin Tidy towns will host our next community clean up on Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup> of March at 10am. Meeting outside Killeshin community centre. For more details contact Eoin Barry on 087 7412748

## MOVIE SUGGESTION

**BONHOEFFER** is a gripping historical drama based on the life of German anti-Nazi resistance leader and true hero of the faith, Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Directed by award-winning filmmaker Todd Komarnicki (*Elf, Sully*) and with Cinematography by John Mathieson (*Gladiator*), don't miss the chance to see this powerful movie at IMC Carlow on 7<sup>th</sup> - Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> March. Showing daily at 5.15pm & 8.15pm.



## THE CARLOW STROKE SUPPORT GROUP

meet next Friday March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2.30-4pm, at St. Dymphna's Hospital, Carlow. Meetings are open to stroke survivors and carers, are informative and social. For further information - Lynda 085 7331522.

## VOICES FOR PALESTINE

Concert of Love and Support St Mary's Church Carlow on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 8pm. Tickets €25  
[www.gr8events.ie/palestineconcert](http://www.gr8events.ie/palestineconcert).

## CARLOW LIONS CLUB

Charity Auction in aid of Eist Cancer Support Centre. **Seven Oaks Hotel Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm**  
Great selection of Lots on offer.  
Your support is very much appreciated.

## RENOVATIONS IN HOLY CROSS CHURCH

The recent storms and adverse weather conditions caused substantial leaks in Holy Cross church, Killeshin. *MB Homes* are currently working to prevent further damage. We apologise for any inconvenience caused during this time.



## ASKEA SENIOR CITIZENS

April holiday is to Galway on 6<sup>th</sup> of April. New members welcome. Easter party is in the afternoon on Sun 13<sup>th</sup> in The Seven Oaks. Contact Marian 059

## CARLOW ACTIVE RETIREMENT

Carlow Active Retirement Members' Meeting will be held on Wed 12<sup>th</sup> March @ 2.30pm in the Cathedral Parish Centre. New members welcome.