



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

Parish Newsletter 12th April 2026

Cluster of Clogh, Castlecomer and Muckalee
Grupa Paroistí: Chaisleán an Chomair, Maigh Coillí agus An Chloch



+BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO DIE IN THE LORD+

Anniversaries WEEK BEGINNING 12TH APRIL:

Sat 7pm Daniel, Margaret and Patrick Dunne, Skehana Bridge
Sun 8am: Bridget Kenny, Rathkyle
Sun 11am: Catherine Dunne (née Hughes), Barrack Street
Mon 9am: Joachim McNulty, Ballycastle
Tues 9am: Shared Mass
Wed 9am: Shared Mass
Thur 9am: Michael Coady, The Square
Fri: 9am: Andy Brennan, Mill Lane

Anniversaries:

Maurice Hughes, Annie (Babs) Hughes, Tom Hughes, Fintan Hughes, Ellie Hughes, The Lodge
Larry Dunne; Rosie Ryan, Kiltown; Eileen Gleeson, Kilkenny Road; Brigid Brennan, Knocknadogue.

ANNIVERSARIES Next Week 18th/19th April

Sat, 7pm:

Mary Ryan, Ardra, Month's Mind.

Sun, 8am:

For the People of the Parish

Sun 11am

Jack O'Neill, Maryville.

PARISH CONTACTS:

Fr. Scriven: 087 242 0033
rscriven2009@gmail.com
Fr. Doyle 087 966 9223

THE PARISH OFFICE:

Parish Office: 085 827 8729
Parish Email: castlecomer@ossory.ie
Webpage: www.castlecomerparish.ie

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION:

Good Friday: (Trócaire & Holy Places) €350
Easter Sunday's Collection: €2,790. *Mile Buíochas.*

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office is open on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Contact can be made with the Parish Office by leaving a message on the parish phone, drop a written message into the post box in the Church Porch or email to castlecomer@ossory.ie

MINISTRIES IN OUR PARISH:

Ministers of The Word:

Sat 7pm: Brigid Coady
Sun 8am: Tom Teehan
Sun 11am: Teresa Heatherington

Ministers of The Eucharist:

Mon – Sat: Eileen Mealy
Sat 7pm: Louise Walsh
Sun 8am: Lalaine Brennan
Sun 11am: John Kelly

PARISH & DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING

Diocesan Liaison Person:
Ailish Higgins
Contact: dlp@ossory.ie or 085 802 1633

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:
Eilish Dunne & Ger Comerford

Contact: Parish Email or 085 827 8729

Documents & Policies on Diocesan Website.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026

Final meeting for Parents on Wednesday
15th April at 7.30pm, in Scoil Íosgáin.

WHAT IS DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY?

Divine Mercy Sunday 2026 falls on April 12 — the Second Sunday of Easter — a day of unique promise for those who approach the Lord with trust. It is important to understand that Divine Mercy Sunday is not a feast based solely on private revelation — indeed, it is not primarily about St. Faustina, nor is it altogether a new feast. The Second Sunday of Easter was already a Solemnity as the Octave Day of Easter. What the title "Divine Mercy Sunday" does is illuminate and deepen the meaning that was always there — the merciful love of the Risen Christ poured out upon the world. In the year 2000, Pope St. John Paul II — who had a deep personal devotion to St. Faustina — canonized her and officially established Divine Mercy Sunday as a feast of the universal Catholic Church, announcing it on Divine Mercy Sunday itself.

TRÓCAIRE

You are invited to return your Trócaire Box at this time. Envelopes available at the back of the church if you wish to contribute. There is also a box, marked Trócaire, in the Church Porch through which you can give ongoing support this Irish Church agency who care for those in great need in our world. **The Trócaire Box: It's not just a box, it's a lifeline.**

VIBRANT HEALTH

All are welcome to join Core College staff members Donna Weir, Master Medical Herbalist and Sarah Douglas, Living Food Instructor for a Demonstration and Taster Session on Wednesday April 22nd in the Community Hall at 7.30 to 9 p.m. Admission €25. Book your place on (087-1934896).

COIS NORE

Cois Nore visits Castlecomer - (change of day) to every **Wednesday in the Community Hall from 11am to 1pm. starts on Wednesday the 15th of April.** The service is for people diagnosed with cancer, support for their families, or to find out more information about Cois Nore's Cancer Support services in Kilkenny. please drop in on a Wednesday, or ring Aileen on 087 4833941 for an appointment. All callers welcome.

PARISH CEMETERY

Parishioners are asked to keep vigil around the cemetery as several flowers/plants have been stolen off graves. Please call the Gardaí if you see any activity.

OSSORY TIMES

New edition of the Ossory Times is now available in the church. Cost €2.

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL

Pope Leo asks us in April to entrust all priests into the Father's hands, especially those going through moments of crisis, "when loneliness weighs heavily, when doubt clouds their hearts, and when exhaustion seems stronger than hope."

"Good Father, teach us as a community to care for our priests: to listen without judging, to give thanks without demanding perfection, to share with them the baptismal mission of proclaiming the Kingdom in word and deed, and to accompany them with closeness and sincere prayer."

POPE LEO ON THE WAR IN IRAN

"I'm told that President Trump recently stated that he would like to end the war...Hopefully he's looking for an off-ramp. Hopefully, he's looking for a way to decrease the amount of violence, of bombing, which would be a significant contribution to removing the hatred that's being created and that's increasing constantly in the Middle East and elsewhere."

The Pope was responding to Christopher Lamb, of CNN, who had asked him if he had a message for President Trump and the leaders of the US and Israel, "with the war escalating in the Middle East". Pope Leo replied: *"Come back to the table, to dialogue. Let's look for solutions to problems, let's look for ways to reduce the amount of violence, that peace – especially at Easter – might reign in our hearts."* On Palm Sunday the Pope had invoked the prophet Isaiah to warn that God *"does not listen to the prayers of those who wage war but rejects them"*.

WHY SUNDAY MATTERS

'The Mass is not just a ritual; it is the source and summit of our faith. It is where we encounter Christ in His living presence, and it is through the Eucharist that we are strengthened to live as true disciples. Attending Mass on Sundays, or its vigil on Saturday evening, is not just an obligation; it is a profound privilege and chance to experience God's love in a deeply personal way. As we come to this sacred celebration let us do so with hearts full of gratitude for the precious gift of Christ's presence among us.'

(Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference, Why Sunday Matters, 2025)