

# church of The Immaculate Conception Castlecomer



PARISH NEWSLETTER

18th December 2022



## Blessed Are Those Who Die In The Lord

### Died Recently

Michael Coady Skehana.

### Anniversaries

Michael Owens (Sat. 7.00pm.)  
Kilkenny St.

John Healy (Sun. 11.00am.)  
18 Donaguile Heights.

Tom & David Coughlan (Mon. 9.00am.)  
27 Hillside View.

Michael & Catherine Stone  
(Tues. 9.00am.) Skehana.

Kay (Caitlín) Conway  
St. Margaret's, Mayhora.

Michael & Margaret Nolan 16 Deepark.

Helen & Paddy Loughlin Ardra.

Mary & Peter Walsh Drumshambo.

Patrick O'Brien Maryville.

Chrissie O'Brien Maryville.

Maureen Vassallo O'Brien England.

Ellen Preston Donaguile Heights.

James & Johanna Ryan Ardra.

Thomas Fogarty Chatsworth St.

William Curran Aughamuckey.

Michael Dwyer Ballyhemmon House.

Martin McKenna The Square.

Owen McEntee Conahy.

*Visiting the sick and those confined to their homes – Fr. Doyle will visit on Thursday and Fr. Ryan will visit on Friday.*

### Parish Office

Open on Thursday from 9:30am – 1:30pm.  
Only one person in the Parish Office at a time.  
Thank you.

### Priests on duty:

Fr. Michael Ryan Tel: 4441262 - 086 3693863

Fr. Ian Doyle Tel: 087 9669223

Secretary: Tel: 056-4441969

Parish Webpage: castlecomerparish.ie

Parish Email: [castlecomer@ossory.ie](mailto:castlecomer@ossory.ie)

### Readers for Feast of Nativity of Our Lord

6.00pm. Parent.

Vigil Mass 8.00pm. Mrs. Maureen Holohan.

### Readers for Christmas Day

8.00am. Mr. Tom Teehan.

9.45am. Mr. John Kelly.

11.00am. Mr. Fonsie Mealy.

### Readers for Feast of the Holy Family

7.00pm. Martin Walsh.

8.00am. Mrs. Margaret McGrath.

11.00am. Mrs. Sheila Pedini.

### Eucharistic Ministers' Rota

#### 9.00am. Monday 19th - Friday 23rd

Angela Byrne.

#### Christmas Eve, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December

6.00pm. EMC

#### Vigil Mass Christmas Eve,

Louise Walsh.

#### Christmas Day 8.00am.

Margaret O'Neill.

#### Christmas Day 9.45am.

Ingrid Brennan.

#### Christmas Day 11.00am.

11.00am. Eucharistic Minister from the Congregation.

### The Race is on in Wellies

Wellie Race Magazine will be available after all Masses this weekend. Sponsorship Cards are now available from Bollards Bar, Corner House, Quick Pick, and Smoking Mirrors and from any Committee member.

## The Celebration of Christmas 2022

### Christmas Eve Masses 24th December

6.00pm. Young children & families  
(Mary Kelly - Harpist)

8.00pm. Mass of Christmas Night  
Parish Choir

Christmas Day

8.00am. Dawn Mass (Piped Music)

9.45am. Mass of Christmas Day  
(Male Voice Choir)

11.00am. Mass of Christmas Day  
(Mary Kelly - Harpist)

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

**Joseph, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife.**

Isn't it a story of faith?

Joseph, wondering and afraid of what was going on in Mary?

Mary, afraid of her call to be the mother of God?

Fear and faith go together.

You believe in a person and maybe you'll be let down.

You believe in God and you can't pin him down.

So much of life is lived in trust: that love once promised will last, that children will be safe and will do the right thing, that health will last and old age will be safe; we want our security.

And Mary and Joseph were the same; wanting security in relationship and religion.

And their real safety was in God.

Do not be afraid, the Lord says; I am your companion all your days.

And Jesus who became a man in Palestine, is with us today in bread and wine.

**Joseph, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife.**

## Fourth Sunday in Advent

### A Reflection on the Gospel in today's Mass

A betrothal in Jewish society in first-century Palestine was an expression of the solemn intention and commitment of the betrothed to marry and was taken very seriously by the couple, the extended family and wider society. Betrothal vows and the sanctity of marriage were bedrocks of Jewish life and culture.

*Joseph's 'Yes' to God and his embrace and acceptance of God's plan of salvation were as crucial as Mary's acceptance and embrace. All believers for all time will be forever grateful to him. This great saint revealed in that one significant moment that bedrock quality needed to live life in the power of the Holy Spirit: obedience.*

### Christmas Greetings

*Fr. Ryan and Fr. Doyle wish all the people of the Parish every Blessing for Christmas and the New Year.*

*"May each Christmas, as it comes, find us more and more like Him Who at this time became a little child, for our sake;*

*More simple-minded, more humble, more affectionate, more resigned, more happy, more full of God."*

### Christmas Collection for the Priests of the Parish

Contributions will be gratefully received this weekend, Christmas Day and the following Sunday. Sincere thanks to all who contribute so faithfully throughout the year. *Please use envelope supplied*

### Weekly Envelope/Church Collection

Sunday, 11th December - €1,920.00.

Sincere thanks.