

Church of the Immaculate Conception Castlecomer



7th January 2024

PARISH NEWSLETTER

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



+ BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO DIE IN THE LORD +

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Fr Michael Murphy, OFM Cap, The Friary, Kilkenny

ANNIVERSARIES

Sat 6th, 7pm: Helen O'Mahony & Tim O'Mahony, Castlecomer
Sun 7th, 11am: John Power, Hillside View
Mon 8th, 9am: James Nolan, Maryville
Tues 9th, 9am: Kieran Moran, Kiltown; Finbarr & Dodie Dineen, Stradbally
Wed 10th, 9am: Thomas and Margaret Connery, Maryville
Thur 11th, 9am: John Comerford, The Square
Sat 13th, 10am: Michael Bourke, Kilkenny Rd

Michael Kennedy, Skehana; Eamon Curran, Yellow Rd; Paddy & Helen Loughlin, Ardra;

ANNIVERSARIES WEEKEND 13TH/14TH JAN:

Sat 13th, 7pm: Mat O'Connor, Smithstown Rd (Month's Mind)
Sun 14th, 11am: Sean Ryan, Upper Yellow Rd; Paddy and Kathleen Kearney, Barrack St;
Desmond Kavanagh, Doneguile.

Masses during the Week

Please note mass will be celebrated each morning at 9am.

CONTACTS:

Fr. Scriven: 087 242 0033
rscriven2009@gmail.com
Fr. Ian Doyle 087 9669223

THE PARISH OFFICE:

Parish Office: 056 444 1262
Parish Email: castlecomer@ossory.ie
Parish Web Page: castlecomerparish.ie

Christmas Dues

This collection contributes to the salary of the priests of the parish. Sincere thanks to all who contribute. Please use envelope supplied.

ENVELOPE AND OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Feast of the Holy Family
€1,765.00
Sincere thanks to all.

PRAYER DURING THE DAY:

The Angelus, Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy every Monday – Saturday at 12(noon) & Sunday at 3pm.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Tuesday: 7pm – 9pm; Rosary at 8pm
First Sunday of the month 3pm – 5pm.

SAFEGUARDING:

The Diocesan Designated Liaison Person is
Ailish Higgins
dlp@ossory.ie or 085 8021633.

The Parish Representatives are:
Eilish Dunne
Ger Comerford

They can be contacted through the parish office telephone number.

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is an opportunity to renew with gratitude and conviction the promises made at our Baptism, by committing ourselves to live in harmony with it daily. It is also very important also to know the date of our Baptism. I could ask: 'Who among you knows the date of his or her Baptism?'. Not everyone, to be sure. If some of you do not know it, when you get home, ask your parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, godparents, family friends.... Ask: 'On what date was I baptized?' And then, do not forget it: let it be a date kept in your heart to be celebrated every year.

Pope Francis 2019

Ministry of Readers at Mass

Week Ending 13th/14th January

7pm: Maureen Holohan
8am: Margaret McGrath
11am: Fonsie Mealy

Bishop's Pastoral Letter

Bishop Coll has issued a Pastoral Letter for Christmas 2023 and it is available on the Diocesan Website (www.ossory.ie) or in print in our churches.

Thanks – Mile Buiochas

A word of thanks to all who gave of their time, talents and commitment to the parish over the past few weeks as we celebrated Christmas – Sacristans and Servers, Singers and Musicians, Readers and Ministers of the Eucharist, to one and all. May you be blessed for your generosity and we all be blessed through your ministry.

Ossory Times

The Christmas edition of Ossory Times is available at the back of the Church. It is packed with news of our diocese. Cost: €2.

**Parish Office will be open
Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday
9.30am – 12.30pm**

20 + C + M + B + 24

While in Ireland the 6th January is called Nollaig ne mBan it is also known as the Three Kings Day, Little Christmas or Twelfth Night. In many European countries there is a tradition of "chalking the doors" in celebration of this day. For centuries, the faithful have marked the entrance to their homes with a symbol of faith, asking that Jesus Christ bless all who live within the home. The message is as follows, [the first two digits of the year] + C + M + B + [the last two digits of the year]". The "C", "M", and "B" stand for the names of the three Magi – Caspar, Malchior & Balthazar, and the "+" represents the cross. For example, in 2024 people will mark "20 + C + M + B + 24" in chalk above their front door. The message also abbreviates the Latin phrase, **Christus Mansionem Benedicat**, meaning "May Christ bless the house."

Anniversary Masses

It has become increasingly difficult to accommodate in the parish Mass schedule the number of anniversary Masses requested by parishioners. This has led to disappointment when people cannot book an anniversary or months mind Mass near the desired date. From 1st January - as is the practice in other parishes - more than one anniversary remembrance may be assigned to all Masses. Please note that a previously booked anniversary Mass will have to be rescheduled on the occasion of a funeral.

Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The annual Ossory Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024 is now available to book! The departure will take place on 22nd May 2024 from Cork flying direct to Lourdes with accommodation available in the hotels La Solitude, Padoue or Agena. Please contact info@joewalshtours.ie or 01 241 0800 for further information. Assisted Pilgrims should contact Fr. Anthony O'Connor on 087 251 7766 or by email on maoc50@me.com.