

# Church of the Immaculate Conception Castlecomer



18th February 2024

PARISH NEWSLETTER

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



## + BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO DIE IN THE LORD +

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Kathleen Coogan (nee Mansfield), Lakeview Rd, Wicklow/Castlecomer

### ANNIVERSARIES

Sat 17th, 7pm: Sean Smith, Ballyhemmon

Sun 18th, 11am: Patrick, Chrissie & Bridget O'Brien, Maureen Vassallo (nee O'Brien)  
Ellen Preston (nee O'Brien), Castlecomer

Mon 19th, 9am: Alec & Bridie McDonald, Donaguile

Wed 21st, 9am: Shelia Gleeson, Ballyragget Rd

Thu 22nd, 9am: Kathleen O'Neill, Maryville

Bill Carroll, Donaguile; Paddy Downey & Har Downey, Firoda; Patrick (Pat) Ryan, Maryville  
William Brennan, Coon West

### ANNIVERSARIES WEEKEND 24TH/25TH FEBRUARY

Sat 24th, 7pm: Alan Kenny, Oak Hill

Sun 25th 11am: Mary O'Shea (nee Bradley) Drumgoole (Months mind)  
Bertha Swift, Kilkenny Rd

### 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: www.castlecomerparish.ie

### SAFEGUARDING:

The Diocesan Designated Liaison Person is  
Ailish Higgins

[dlp@ossory.ie](mailto:dlp@ossory.ie) or 085 8021633

The Parish Representatives are:

Eilish Dunne & Ger Comerford

They can be contacted through the parish  
office telephone number.

### ENVELOPE AND OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Week ending 11th Feb: €2,005

Sincere thanks to all

### DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

Pope Francis tells us how:

Fast from hurting words and say kind words

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worried and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful

Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be. Compassionate.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled

Fast from words; be silent and listen

### Trocáire Lenten Appeal 2024

Family Fast Boxes Available in Church Porch

### The Parish Office Opening Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday Friday 9.30 – 12.30

### Readers at Mass 24th/25th Feb

Saturday 7pm: Mary Buggy

Sunday 8am: Tom Teehan

Sunday 11am: FHC

### Ministers of the Eucharist

Mon-Fri 19th-23rd, 9am: Chrissie Brooke

Saturday, 24th, 10am: Chrissie Brooke

Saturday 24th, 7pm: Shelia Loughlin

Sunday 25th, 8am: Lalaine Brennan

Sunday 25th, 11am: Eoin Stowe

### First Holy Communion Class

Next weekend we welcome the boys and girls  
preparing for First Penance and First Holy  
Communion to their preparation Mass. Please  
pray for them and their families.

### Croagh Patrick Climb 2024

Congrats to all who participated in the  
Croagh Patrick Climb on Saturday. Over 80  
climbed the reek and supported one another  
along the way. They say it has become  
easier with work to the track and some  
steps...it's still a hard slog to the top and a  
careful and slow journey down. Thanks to  
all who supported the climbers through  
sponsorship. Why did you do it? Is it far  
more? I doing it memory of my mother. I'm  
doing it for a friend who died of cancer.  
What time did you start? Did you come you  
last night? Should have gone to bed earlier.  
Thank God for the second sausage. We're  
lucky: we have a nurse, a priest and an  
undertaker. And so we reach the top. In the  
footsteps of generations before us. Well done  
to all who climbed and donated. All  
downhill from here. If people still wish to  
make donations there will be a box at the top  
of the church during the weekend masses.

### The Lenten Stations this weekend

This is one of six collections during the year  
for the Priests of the Parish. Please use  
envelope from the envelopes supplied.  
Envelopes may be dropped into Box in Church  
Porch or Parochial House. Sincere thanks to all  
those who contribute so faithfully every year.

### The Season of Lent

The Season of Lent is a 40 day season of  
prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on  
Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy  
Thursday. It's a period of preparation to  
celebrate the Resurrection in Easter.

During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by  
reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving  
alms; and we practice self-control through  
fasting. We are called not only to abstain from  
luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner  
conversion of heart as we seek to follow  
Christ's will more faithfully. We recall the  
waters of baptism in which we were also  
baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and  
evil, and began new life in Christ.

Many know of the tradition of abstaining from  
meat on Fridays during Lent, but we are also  
called to practice self-discipline and fast in  
other ways throughout the season. In addition,  
the giving of alms is one way to share God's  
gifts - not only through the distribution of  
money, but through the sharing of our time and  
talents. As St. John Chrysostom reminds us:  
"Not to enable the poor to share in our goods is  
to steal from them and deprive them of life.  
The goods we possess are not ours, but theirs."  
*(Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2446)*

### Kilcquan Drama Group

Due to popular demand Kilcquan Drama Group  
present "Separate Beds" by Sam Cree for one  
extra night in Coon Hall (Eir-Code R93 EC89) on  
23rd Feb 2024 at 8pm. Doors Open at 7.00 pm.

### Date for your Diary – Firoda School

Fundraiser" night in The Avalon House Hotel,  
Castlecomer, Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March, Music on the  
night by "Olivia Douglas". Details from the  
School. Great night promised.

### Kilkenny Archaeological Society

The society invites you to The Jerpoint Abbey  
Cloister in Rothe House, Kilkenny,  
21<sup>st</sup> February, 8.00 pm. Unravelling a Sculptural  
Masterpiece. A Lecture by Christiaan Corlett.  
Adm. €8 Members, €10 Non Members.