

Church of the Immaculate Conception Castlecomer



4th February 2024

PARISH NEWSLETTER

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



+ BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO DIE IN THE LORD +

RECENTLY DECEASED

Mary Dargan, Ballycomey; Fr Anthony Boran, Clogh; Margaret Grant, Kiltown/London;
Joseph (Joe) Brennan Reigh, Knocknadogue; Katie Graham, Arles.

ANNIVERSARIES

Sat 3rd, 7pm: Sean McSweeney, Maryville
Mon 5th, 10am: John & Emer Kelly, Ardra
Abraham Dowling, Eileen Ryan & Maureen Dowling, Carlow/Chatsworth St
Tues 6th, 9am: Eddie Fenlon, London/ Mill Lane
Fri 9th, 9am: Edward (Eddie) Holohan, Donaguile & Peter Salter, Kilkenny St
Wed 7th, 9am: Doug Merritt, North Carolina
Sat 10th, 10am: James O'Shea, Hillcrest, Donaguile

Michael Kelly, Upper Coolbawn; Charlie Brennan, Breda (Baby) Brennan, Mary Brennan,
Coolbawn; John & Annie Love, Cloneen; The Walsh Family, Kilkenny St; James & Mary
Brennan; Michael & Alice Campion; Michael Geoghegan, Barna.

ANNIVERSARIES WEEKEND 10TH/11TH FEB:

Sat 10th, 7pm: Seamus Walsh, Maryville
Sun 11th, 11am: Thomas (Theo) Finnegan, Kilkenny St; Eamon Kelly, Kilkenny St;
Elizabeth Bollard, Barrack St

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 or 085 8021633

ENVELOPE AND OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Week Ending 28th Jan: €1,890

Parish Office

Tue, Wed and Fri, 9.30am – 12.30pm

Lá Féile Bríde

St. Brigid's Day in ancient times became the reference point for all the seasons that followed. It dictated the ploughing, the sowing, the turning of the sod. The feast was seen as a celebration of the incarnation of Christ into all of life:

*"in the milking of cows
and the tending of the hearth,
In threading the loom
and gathering the peat,
The breath of prayer
blessing each movement,
A naming of Creator
upon each mindful deed.*

May we ensure the Creator is at the heart of
all we do and say in the name of Brigid.

Ministry Of Readers at Mass

Weekending 10th/11th Feb

Saturday 7pm: Eithne McKenna

Sunday 8am: Maria Reyes

Sunday 11am: Angela Molloy

St Brigid of Cill Dara

Saint Brigid of Kildare (The Church of the Oak), also known as the 'Mary of the Gael' was born in the mid-5th century, the daughter of a pagan chieftain and a Christian slave. She founded a monastic community at Kildare, which became one of Ireland's most important Christian centres, unique for its time as it housed both monks and nuns in separate convents under Brigid's leadership. Saint Brigid is associated with numerous miracles, one of the most famous miracles attributed to Saint Brigid is the spreading of her cloak over a large area of land. According to the legend, when Brigid asked the King of Leinster for land to build her monastery, he mockingly suggested she could have as much land as her cloak could cover. Miraculously, her cloak expanded to cover a vast tract of land, enough to establish her monastery.

This year marks the 1500 year since her death. Bishop Nulty celebrated the installation of a relic of Brigid in the church of Kildare last Sunday. The relic was presented by the Brigidine Sisters in Tullow who had received the relic in the 1930s from the Church of St John the Baptist in Lumiar, just outside Lisbon. The relic had been brought to the Church of St John in Lumiar by three Irish Knights in 1273. Bishop Nulty encouraged all who visit the church to pray and to take "a quiet moment in the presence of the relic of a saint and in the presence of Our Lord".

Confirmation Programme

The Confirmation Programme for those receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation began last Wednesday night. 71 boys and girls are presenting for the sacrament. The night, led by Fr Scriven, reflected upon Baptism and Eucharist. They will join us for Mass next Sunday for their Enrolment Ceremony. Another meeting will take place at the end of February.

Congratulations

We extend congratulations to Teresa Hetherington, Angela Byrne and Joseph Fitzpatrick who received the papal award, the *Benemerenti* Medal, at Mass on Friday evening. Mgr Ryan requested these medals through Bishop Coll from Pope Francisto recognise the wonderful and dedicated service which they have given to the parish over many many years. Many thanks for their service and we say *Mile Buiochais* as we gift them the *Benemerenti* Medal.

The Benemerenti Medal was instituted by Pope Gregory XVI in 1832 and is conferred on those who have given long and dedicated service to the Church, their families and the wider community. The medal has the word *Benemerenti* (to a well deserving person) on its face, surrounded by a crowd of oak leaves; the ribbon is made of Papal colours. With the medal is also given a scroll upon which is inscribed: The Supreme Pontiff, Francis, using his power to honour by a mark of distinction has seen fit to bestow upon this gold medal, established for those exceedingly well deserving in Christian matters. From the Office of the Vatican, 23 September 2023

Croagh Patrick Climb 2024

The clock is ticking and the climbers are in training. The steep climb should take about 6 hours and over 85 have volunteered to participate. Make sure to support the cause – donate online, fill in a line or contribute at mass. There is still lots of time to get involved. If you want to collect sponsorship, cards are available in the church porch or you can make a donation in the box provided. For more details about the logistics of the trip contact the following numbers: 086 051 4071, 087 639 0202, 087 181 0011 The RNLI were recipients of the climb last year and at the social night two weeks ago their letter of appreciate was read. They were overjoyed with the donation from the 2023 climb and assured all that the money would contribute so positively to their work. Well done to all.

Erins Own GAA LOTTO

This week's jackpot is €13000. The draw will take place Tuesday night. Be in to Win. The draw will take place Tuesday night. Tickets are on sale around the town or you can play online.