

Parish of Castlecomer

Cluster of Clogh, Castlecomer and Muckalee

22ND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Parish Newsletter 31ST August 2025



+BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO DIE IN THE LORD+

ANNIVERSARIES 30TH/31ST AUG

Sat 7pm: Ronan Dowling Woodlands Grove
Rosie Holden, Love Lane
Charlie and Elizabeth Geoghan, Maryville
Sun 11am: Eileen Sherwood, Maryville
Dec members of the Sherwood, Lawlor and Egan Family.
Mon 9am: Maryanne & Patrick Shore, Firoda;
Catherine Carroll (Nee Shore) Jenkinstown;
Julia & William Shore, Firoda
Tues 9am: Moyra Murphy, Maryville
Fri 9am: Dec of the Hanrahan Family, Kilkenny

ANNIVERSARIES:

Dorothy Byrne, Maryville; Ger, Anne, Daphne, John, Cecelia, Terry, Pat and Gar Moran, Marymount; Kevin Wallace, Kilkenny St

ANNIVERSARIES SAT 6TH/7TH SEPT

Sat 7pm: Joe Dowling, Upper Firoda (Month's Mind)
Sun 11am: Daniel and Shiela O'Neill, Kilkenny St.

CARLO ACUTIS PRAYER

O God our Father,
we thank you for giving us Carlo,
a model of life for young people,
and a message of love for all.
He made the Eucharist
his "highway to heaven."

You gave him Mary
as a beloved mother,
and with the Rosary you made him
sing the praises of her tenderness.
Accept his prayer for us.
Attend especially to the poor,
whom he loved and helped.

Through his intercession
may I receive the grace that I need...
(mention your intention).
And make our joy full,
raising Carlo among
the saints of your Church,
so that his smile
may shine again for us
to the glory of your name. Amen.

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:

Week Ending Aug 24th: €1,655.00
Sincere thanks to all who contribute to parish funds and to the clergy fund. *Mile Buiochais.*

CANONISATION OF BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS

Bishop Coll will celebrate the 11am Mass next Sunday. The bishop joins us to celebrate mass on the day of canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis. We join with the whole church as we rejoice on the declaration by Pope Leo that Carlo Acutis is counted among the saints of the church.

MINISTRIES IN OUR PARISH:

Ministers of Word:

7pm: Eithne McKenna
8am: Dick Mullins
11am: George Mealy

Ministers of Eucharist

Mon – Sat Chrissie Brooke
7pm: John Holohan
8am: Elalaine Brennan
11am Jeanette Harding

Parish & Diocesan Safeguarding

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

Parish Safeguarding Reps:

Eilish Dunne & Ger Comerford
Contact: Parish Email or 085 827 8729

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 3PM–5PM
Tuesday 7pm–9pm
Wednesday & Saturday after Morning

WELCOME BACK

We welcome back the boys and girls of our parish schools as the summer holidays come to an end. In particular we salute the work and commitment in our parish schools in the town and in Firoda and wish the staff and students a great year ahead.

SCOIL ÍOSAGAÍN

Scoil Íosagaín will welcome boys and girls to school after the summer holidays on Monday. We wish Ms Aileen Lynch, the staff and all involved in our school every success as a new chapter of education in the town of Castlecomer begins. We again acknowledge the wonderful traditions of Castlecomer Boys' School and Presentation Primary School Castlecomer as they fuse now into our new parish school: Scoil Íosagaín.

As reported last week much work has been undertaken during the summer holidays and this work will continue now into the new term.

Bishop Coll, Patron of our School, will appoint the Board of Management in the next few weeks and under their stewardship Ms Lynch and the staff will mould our new school, offering the best of education in our school under the guidance and protection of the Child Jesus whose name they bear.

We wish all the very best in the weeks, months and years ahead. **AR AGHAIDH LE CHÉILE**

SMITHSTOWN GRAVEYARD

Mass and blessing of Graves in Smithstown Graveyard on Sunday 21st September at 12.30pm. Please pass on word to family, friends and neighbours.

CATHEDRAL DRAW

Congrats to winners in the final draw of the 2024/2025 monthly draw. Bishop Coll has forwarded tickets for the new draw which will commence in September. Tickets available locally through Maureen Kelly and the Parish Office. Thanks to all who have loyally supported this diocesan draw over the past years.

LADYWELL NOVENA

The 2025 Novena commences on August 31st at 7.30pm. Speakers this year include Bishop Denis Nulty (Aug 31st); David Walsh (Sept 1st), Fr Willie Purcell (Sept 2), Fr Paddy Byrne (Sept 3), Fr Martin Delaney (Sept 4), Fr Eugene O'Sullivan (Sept 5), Fr Ollie Maher (Sept 6), Fr John Dunphy (Sept 7) and Fr Eamon O'Gorman (Sept 8).

REGIONAL MARCH FOR PALESTINE

Solidarity groups from Kilkenny, Laois, Carlow and Kildare will hold a Regional March for Palestine, in Carlow on Saturday Sept 6th, departing at 1pm from the Liberty Tree. All are warmly invited to take part.

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office, based in the Parish Church, is open on Wednesday and Friday mornings, 9.30am – 12.30pm. Please drop in, call or email to book anniversaries or other enquiries re parish business.

FIRST FRIDAY

Fr Doyle and Fr Scriven will visit the housebound with Holy Communion on Fri 5th Sept.

BLACK ABBEY – 800 YEARS CELEBRATION

To celebrate 800 years of the Black Abbey, Lake Productions, present **The Man Born to be King**; 9th, 10th & 11th Sept in the Black Abbey. 7.30pm (€15).

AUGUST 30TH – FEAST OF ST FIACRE

Fiacre was born in Ireland in the 7th century. He chose to become a monk and established a monastic settlement in Kilkenny at Kilferra. Later, because of the large crowds who visited, he chose to travel to France, where he established a hermitage in a forest near Meaux, not far from Paris. Known for his love of nature and his gift for gardening he grew herbs and vegetables and was known for his healing remedies. Fiacre's fame spread, and he became known for his miracles. Realizing that he needed more space to accommodate visitors, and he asked the local bishop for some land who granted Fiacre a plot of land. Fiacre started building a hospice for the poor and sick. It became a place of refuge for those in need, and he spent the rest of his life caring for the sick and the poor. He died on August 30th, 670, and was buried in the hospice he had built.

Interestingly, Fiacre is the patron saint of cab drivers - French cabs are called *fiacres* because the first establishment to let coaches on hire was in the Rue Saint-Martin, near the hotel Saint-Fiacre, in Paris.

The Gardener's Prayer

I have worked in the fertile earth
and planted a garden;
so I know what faith is.
I have listened to the birds
carolling in the morning and at dusk;
so I know what music is.
I have seen the morning
without clouds after showers;
so I know what beauty is.
I have seen the miracle of spring,
the fruition of summer and the beauty of autumn,
followed by the repose of winter;
so I know what life is.
Because I have perceived all of those things,
I know what God is. Amen.