

DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

Parish of Castlecomer

Parish Newsletter 9th November 2025

Cluster of Clogh, Castlecomer and Muckalee

Grupa Paroistí: Chaisleán an Chomair, Maigh Coillí agus An Chloch



+BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO DIE IN THE LORD+

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Edward (Eddie) Kelly, Kilkenny Street & Dublin

ANNIVERSARIES SAT 8TH NOV/9TH NOV

Sun 11am: Billy & Helen Mulcahy, Coon & Yellow Rd

Sat:10am Deceased Members of the Active Retirement

ANNIVERSARIES

Patrick Geoghegan, Rosaleen Geoghegan, Cyril Geoghegan, Aidan Geoghegan, Barrack St; James Brennan, Julia Brennan, Elsie Brennan, Margaret Brennan, Patrick Brennan, Theresa Brennan, Adam Brennan Kearney, Donaguile; John Byrne, Market St & Crosshill; Frank & Mary Byrne, Crosshill; Laurence Holohan, Skehana; Michael Murphy, Chatsworth St.

ANNIVERSARIES 15TH/16TH NOV

Novena of Mass for all who died in the last year and remembering all names of our deceased left in the Sanctuary Sacred Space

NOVEMBER - MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

During the month of the Holy Souls all our deceased will be remembered at masses celebrated in the Parish Church. You are invited to write the names of your deceased and place them in the basket in the sanctuary. May they rest in peace.

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:

Last Week's Sunday Collection: €2,010.00

Sincere thanks to all who contribute to parish funds and to the clergy fund. *Mile Buíochas.*

NOVEMBER CLERGY COLLECTION

Please return November Clergy Collection Envelopes. Your generosity through these collections contribute to the monthly salary of Fr Scriven and Fr Doyle.

Mile Buíochai

ANNUAL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE Sat 15th, 7pm
remembering all who have died in the past year.

PRAYER IN NOVEMBER

Loving God, your embrace supports us in life, your spirit watches over us in death. In our remembering allow us to commit ourselves and those we love into your care and blessing. Forgive us when we take your gifts for granted and bring us to trust in the love you offer us. In our feelings of painful sadness and loss, may we remember our loved ones in love, entrusting them to your keeping, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen

*O Sacred Heart of Jesus,
I place all my trust in thee.*

MINISTRIES IN OUR PARISH:

Ministers of The Word:

Sat 1st 7pm: First Holy Communion

Sun 2nd, 8am: Fintan Barrett

Sun 2nd, 11am Fonsie Mealy

Ministers of The Eucharist:

Mon – Sat Angela Byrne

Sat 7pm Ingrid Brennan

Sun 8am Margaret O'Neill

Sun 11am Angela Molloy

PARISH & DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING

Diocesan Liaison Person:

Ailish Higgins

Contact: dlp@ossory.ie or 085 802 1633

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:

Eilish Dunne & Ger Comerford

Contact: Parish Email or 085 827 8729

Please consult the Diocesan website
www.ossory.ie

FEAST OF THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN

Why are we celebrating this feast? Why does the Feast Day take precedence over a Sunday?

When the Emperor Constantine granted full liberty to Christians in the early fourth century the Christians immediately starting building churches. Constantine himself built a church on the Caelian Hill (one of the seven hills of Rome) over the Lateran Palace. Pope Sylvester I dedicated the church to Christ the Saviour and later a chapel dedicated to St John the Baptist was added. In the 12th century Pope Lucius II dedicated the basilica to St John Evangelist and the Basilica of the Most Holy Saviour and of Sts John the Baptist and John the Evangelist became known as *Mater et Caput Omnium Ecclesiarum - the Mother and Head of all Churches in Rome and the World*. The basilica was destroyed several times and the final reconstruction took place under Benedict XIII – the church was rededicated in 1724 and at that time this feast which we celebrate was established and extended to the universal Church.

So why do we keep the Feast of the Dedication?

We are all members of the one church and Pope Leo XIV is also our bishop and his cathedral church is St John Laterans. Just as the cathedral in a diocese in the central church and where we are united around the bishop so we are united together around Pope Leo in his cathedral: St John Lateran.

Why is it called the Lateran Basilica? The church is built on what used to be the palace of the Laterani family, whose members served as administrators to several Roman emperors. In the early part of the fourth century, the Laterani family were stripped of their land as one of their members was accused of conspiring against the emperor.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The monthly collection for St Vincent de Paul will be taken up at all masses this weekend. Thank you for your generosity.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

11th Nov 7.30pm: Eucharist Ministers' Evening

15th Nov, 7pm: Annual Memorial Mass

8th Dec, 11am: Formal Opening of Scoil Íosagáin

8th March 2026, 11am: Sacrament of Confirmation

26th April 2026, 11am: First Holy Communion

SAFEGUARDING COUNSELLING SERVICE

Towards Healing Confidential Helpline: 1 800 313 316 - www.towardshealing.ie

RETIREMENT OF MRS MARY JACOB

Mrs Mary Jacob, former principal of Presentation Convent N.S. has retired. 32 years of service was celebrated and honoured on 22nd October in the school with colleagues, former staff members, pupils and friends. Her love of teaching was evident to all, her classroom always a place of active learning, a love of nature, music, Gaeilge and writing.

Mrs Jacob guided many classes in their preparation for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. She loved to teach hymns and songs to complement the religious programmes and enrich school Masses.

Planting of fruit trees, shrubs, bulbs and vegetables were a hallmark of Mrs. Jacob's time in Castlecomer. Cultivating local links was another priority, as was encouraging pupils in a rich variety of sporting and artistic endeavours. Digital learning was enhanced under her principalship.

In recent years Mrs Jacob worked actively for the good of the school and greatly assisted the work of amalgamation which has just taken place. All her colleagues at Scoil Íosagáin wish Mrs. Jacob the very best for a healthy, happy and active retirement.

WELLIE RACE 2026 – LAUNCH NIGHT

Open Invitation to all for the Launch Night of the Wellington Race 2026 in Bollards on Friday 5th December at 9pm. By popular demand a Powley Vale Table Quiz (Table of 4 €20) – Raffle, music & craic. Announcement of Race Personality on the night and sponsorship cards available

TIRLÁN MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

A remembrance mass in memory of deceased family members, work colleagues and friends of Tirlán and Glánbia will be celebrated in St Canice's Parish Church on Thurs 13th Nov at 7.30pm.

SR STANISLAUS KENNEDY RIP

Bishop Coll acknowledged the death of Sr Stanislaus Kennedy with a sense of great sense of sadness and also with deep gratitude commenting that '*Hers was a life of vision and service*'. She worked closely with Bishop Birch to establish an umbrella group in Kilkenny in the 1960s to co-ordinate the work of disparate voluntary organisations, local statutory bodies and religious orders in the city and county. On moving to Dublin she founded Focus Point in 1985 advocating that everyone had the right to a home and through Focus Ireland '*transformed the lives of thousands of people for the better*'. Extending sympathies to Sister Stan's family and her religious community Bishop Coll prayed that the Lord who called her to service may now grant her eternal rest.