

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Parish of Castlecomer

Parish Newsletter 14th December 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:

Eugene Brennan, Mill Lane

MONTH'S MIND:

Michael O'Neill, London & Maryville;
Teddy O'Neill, Bowden's Court

ANNIVERSARIES DEC 13TH/14TH

Sat 7pm: Kay Conway, Mayhora
Matt O'Connor, Drumgoole
Des Kavanagh, Donaguile
Sun, 8am Paddy & Elizabeth Purcell,
Chapel Lane, Moneenroe
Mon 9am: Jack and Nora Brennan, Firoda
Katie Moran, Cruttenclough
Tues: 9am: Ann Walshe, Donoughmore, Ballyragget.
Weds: 9am: Mark (Marki) Kennedy
Sat: 10am: David & Tom Coughlin, Hillside View
Michael & Catherine Stone, Skehana

Michael (Sonny) O'Neill, Maryville;
Margaret (Maggie), Kathleen (Kit), Andy & Mary Kennedy;
Thomas & Patricia O'Neill, Ballyhemmon

ADVENT HOPE

We, by virtue of the hope in which we were saved, can view the passage of time with the certainty that we are not doomed to a dead end or a dark abyss, but "directed to an encounter with the Lord of glory. As a result, we live our lives in expectation of his return and in the hope of living forever in him. In this spirit, we make our own the heartfelt prayer of the first Christians with which sacred Scripture ends: "Come, Lord Jesus!... "Hope is born of love and based on the love springing from the pierced heart of Jesus upon the cross". When one is in love, no wait is too long.

Pope Francis

ANNIVERSARIES NEXT WEEKEND 20TH/21ST:

Sat 7pm: Dick Holohan, The Square (MM);
George Mealy, Beechfield House; Anastasia Mealy,
Kilkenny St; Michael Owens, Kilkenny St.

Sun 11am
Noel Byrne, The Prince; Gerry Kelly, The Prince;
Jim & Annie O'Neill Donaguile; Martin Melody,
New York; John Healy, Donaguile Heights.

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: €1,910.00
Sincere thanks to all who contribute to parish funds and to the clergy fund. *Mile Buíochas.*

MINISTRIES IN OUR PARISH:

Ministers of The Word:

Sat 21st 7pm: Liz Byrne
Sun 22nd, 8am: Fintan Barrett
Sun 22nd, 11am: George Mealy

Ministers of The Eucharist:

Mon – Sat Eileen Mealy
Sat 7pm Catherine Greer
Sun 8am Noreen Curry
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

Documents & Policies on Diocesan Website.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Many thanks to Bishop Coll who celebrated our Mass on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Joined by the boys and girls of Scoil Íosagáin it was a lovely celebration which marked the feast day of our Church and the new chapter of education in our parish. Well done to all who lead the prayers, sang their hearts out and brought water which was used to bless the school. After Mass Bishop Coll was accompanied by the boys and girls of sixth class to the school where we had a short assembly outdoors when Bishop Coll prayed a prayer of dedication and blessing of the school. Pupils from sixth class brought Bishop Coll around to each classroom to greet each class group and bless each room.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND MASS CARDS

The parish has a selection of Christmas Mass Bouquet and Christmas Shared Mass Bouquet Cards available in the Parish Office. A Tridium of Masses will be celebrated over the Christmas period for the intentions of those who wish to include family and friends through these parish cards.

Mass Cards, signed by Fr Scriven and Fr Doyle, are also available in the Parish Office. These cards carry the name of Castlecomer Parish.

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish office is open on Wednesday and Friday morning, 9.30am – 12.30pm. You may also leave a message on the parish phone, drop a written message into the post box in the Church Porch or send an email to the parish office (castlecomer@ossory.ie).

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The monthly St Vincent de Paul collection will be taken up this weekend.

TWEET FOR EACH DAY

Thoughts, reflections, prayer and ideas - why not take a few moments each day during Advent to pause in prayer. Follow us on Twitter @ossorydiocese

DEENSIDE MAGAZINE – CHRISTMAS 2025

Bumper edition of the Deenside Magazine 2025 is out now. Great Read. Great Buy. Don't miss it!

SAFEGUARDING COUNSELLING SERVICE

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

PARISH ENVELOPES

If you would like a box of Parish Envelopes to use during the year please contact the office or one of the priests. The envelope system allows us to maximise your generosity through the Charitable Donations Tax Back scheme – it is of no further cost to you but of great benefit to the parish.

THE ADVENT WREATH

The circle signifies God's eternal love and life. The evergreen leaves and branches represent God's unchanging, constant love. The colour purple is the liturgical colour for Advent, symbolizing penance, preparation, and royalty.

- The first candle (Hope/Prophets Candle) reminds us of the Old Testament prophets' promises and humanity's hope for the Messiah.
- The second candle (Faith/Bethlehem Candle) symbolizes Mary and Joseph's journey and faith as they travelled to Bethlehem.
- The third candle (Joy/Shepherd's Candle) is rose/pink and is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, signifying the joy of the coming Saviour, as the waiting of Advent nears its end.
- The fourth candle (Peace/Angel's Candle) represents the angels' message of peace and good will to all

WELLIE RACE 2026 Committee appeal for support.

The bread and butter of our Annual Wellie Race are the Sponsorship Cards from where the revenue is raised to support so many local charities and organisations. The Sponsorship Cards are available from Bollards, Corner House, Shortalls, Q Healthcare, Holohan's, O'Rourke's, Ranchers Pub Coon, Village Bar Clogh, Tirlán or from any member of the committee.

ORGAN RECITAL - JOHNSWELL CHURCH

An organ recital in Johnswell Church given by Simon Harden (Organist Christ Church Cathedral Waterford) on Sat Dec 20th at 7.30pm. Soloist local soprano, Aoife McKiernan. Tickets (€20) from Brennan's Johnswell or James on 087 296 2039. All tickets entered into raffle on the night.

CONFESSIONS FOR CHRISTMAS

If you wish to avail of Confession in your preparation for the celebration of Christmas it will be possible on

Sat 20th December after morning Mass
Sunday 21st, 2pm-4.30pm.