

## SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

### Parish of Castlecomer

Parish Newsletter 18<sup>th</sup> January 2026

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:

Jimmy Doyle, The Spike, Donaguile

Ann Quinn, Clogh Rd

Alice Malone, Cavan/Smithstown

##### ANNIVERSARIES 17<sup>TH</sup>/18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

Sun 11am: Angela & Michael White, Knocknadogue

Sean Ryan, Upper Yellow Rd

Mon: 9am: Josephine Brophy, Maryville

Tom Dwyer, Massford

Weds: 9am: Gerald Joseet, England

Thurs: 9am Liam Coogan, Yellow Rd

Terence Dunne, Skehana

Fri: 9am: Michael & Maureen Ferris, Ardra

Sat: 10am: Michael Tyrrell, Ballyragget Road

Tommy Coogan, The Square

James Nolan, Maryville; Seamus (Builder) Walsh,

Marymount; Collette Barrett, Donaguile; Rita Smith,

Bodwen's Court; John Smith, Golf Course

##### 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 Sunday's Collection: €1,645.00

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

##### PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office is open on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Contact can be made with the Parish Office by leaving a message on the parish phone, drop a written message into the post box in the Church Porch or email to castlecomer@ossory.ie

#### MASS CARDS

Mass Cards are available in the Parish Office. These cards are identified as from the Parish of Castlecomer and Fr Scriven and Fr Doyle will take responsibility for celebrating the masses. The suggested stipend for a Shared Mass Card is €3. Mass will be celebrated monthly for the Shared Mass Intentions. Parishioners are asked to give an appropriate stipend for single Mass Card Intention.

#### ANNIVERSARIES NEXT WEEKEND

**Sat 24<sup>th</sup>, 7pm:**

Eleanor Ivory (MM), Maryville  
Tony Murphy, Oak Hill  
Richard & Kate Brennan,  
Smithstown

**Sun 25<sup>th</sup>, 11am:**

Patrick (Paddy) Coogan,  
Smithstown Road.

#### MINISTRIES IN OUR PARISH:

##### Ministers of The Word:

Sat 24<sup>th</sup> 7pm: Liz Byrne

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> 8am: Fintan Barrett

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> 11am Angela Molloy

##### Ministers of The Eucharist:

Mon – Sat: Sheila Loughlin

Sat 7pm: Catriona Brennan

Sun 8am: Lalaine Brennan

Sun 11am: Angela Moloy

#### 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

#### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, from 18 to 25 January 2026, marks this annual occasion for prayer, reflection and dialogue on the journey towards that unity which Christ himself prayed (John 17:21-23), with the theme: 'There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling' (Ephesians 4:4). The resources for the 2026 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity have been themed and written by the Armenian Apostolic Church, which is recognized as one of the world's oldest Christian communities. Pope Francis in 2024 reminded us that prayer must hold a preeminent place in efforts to restore unity to the Christian church. "As we pray together," he went on, "may we acknowledge, each of us starting with himself or herself, our need for conversion, for letting the Lord change our hearts. This is the path before us: journeying together and serving together, giving priority of place to prayer".

#### OSSORY DIOCESE BECOMES VACANT

The See of Ossory will become "vacant" (known in Latin as "Sede Vacante") when Bishop Coll takes up his appointment in Raphoe next Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> January.

It is expected that the Holy See, through the offices of the Papal Nuncio, will announce an Apostolic Administrator to administer the diocese during the interregnum. No major decisions or changes can be made by the Diocesan Administrator while the See of Ossory is vacant, since Church Law forbids him from doing anything which could in any way prejudice the Diocese, or the rights of the new Bishop.

#### THANKS

The Spiritans (formerly known as the Holy Ghost Missionaries) have acknowledged the generosity of the Parish following their visitation to the parish last year. €1,823.70 was given to the work of the order. Thanks to all.

#### ANNUAL CROAGH PATRICK CLIMB 7 FEB 2026

This year's climb is in aid of The Prince Grounds (Lighting and Pitch Redevelopment) AND the purchase of Defibrillator for Castlecomer and surrounding areas First Responders. For sponsorship cards please contact one of the following numbers:

0860514071 or 0871810011 or 0876390202

#### OSSORY PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

The Ossory pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from May 25 to May 30, 2026. All bookings should be made through Joe Walsh Tours by telephone 01-2410800, or by post to JWT 89 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2, D02WY88. Online booking also available. **SPECIAL ASSISTED/SICK SECTION**

Pilgrims who would like to travel with the Special Assisted Section should apply to Anna Colleton at a.colleton@cbskilkenney.ie. This special assisted/sick section is accommodated at the Accueil. Acceptance for travel with the special section for the sick is subject to the approval of the Pilgrimage Medical Board. Early booking is advisable as space is limited to one plane load.

#### RADIO MARIA

Radio Maria is an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station commercial free broadcasting Prayer, Catechesis, Uplifting music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies. You can listen via:

1. Digital TV - Saorview Channel 210
2. FREE App "RADIO MARIA IRELAND"
3. Streaming on our WEBSITE - [www.radiomaria.ie](http://www.radiomaria.ie)
4. 'Listen Live Radio' link on our Facebook Page.
5. Via PHONE – get live radio feed by calling +353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply).
6. Via DAB Radio in Leinster area.

#### COON PLAY

Kilquan Drama Group presents A Three Act Comedy, **Who has Been Sleeping in My Bed?** by Benny Mills in Coon Hall on January 29, 30 and February 1,2,6,7, & 8. Door opens at 7 p.m.

#### LEAVING CERT IRISH ORAL EXAM WORKSHOP 2026

A three-part Leaving Cert Irish Oral Workshop which will cover all elements of the Leaving Cert Irish Oral exam will take place in Gaelscoil Osraí R95 AT85 on the following dates: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of March 6-8:30pm. These workshops will provide an opportunity for students to learn, prepare and practice for their upcoming Leaving Cert Irish Oral Exam. To book or for further information contact [tobarnagaeilge@yahoo.com](mailto:tobarnagaeilge@yahoo.com) or 0876673302 (Maria Ni Thuama).

#### ERINS OWN GAA LOTTO

This week's jackpot is €14,800. The draw will take place Tuesday night. Tickets are on sale around the town, or you can play online. **BE IN TO WIN**

**PARISH OFFICE 085 827 8729**