



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

Parish Newsletter 22nd February 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:

Tom Foley, Donaguile (Wednesday 10.30am)

ANNIVERSARIES 21ST/22ND FEBRUARY

Sat 7pm: Sally, Barney & Catherine Young, Hillside View
Sheila Gleeson, Ballyragget Rd

Sun 11am: Kathleen O'Neill, Maryville
Bertha Swift, Kilkenny Rd
Michael Kealy, Yellow Rd

Danny & Chrissie Fitzpatrick, Dysart

Sat:10am Margaret Kavanagh, Marymount

ANNIVERSARIES

Eamonn Boland, Kilkenny Rd; Ned McEvoy, Finsboro, Ardra
Mary White (Née Murtagh) Bowden's Court;
Martin & Kathleen Coogan, Ballycomey.

Anniversaries next Weekend, 28th Feb/1st Mar

Sat 7pm Alan Kenny Oak Hill; David Boland, Crettyard
Sheila Comerford, Kilkenny Rd;
Katie Hurley, Hillside View

11am Michael Holden, Love Lane

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday 7pm – 9pm
Wednesday & Saturday
after Morning Mass

MASS CARDS

A variety of Mass Cards are available in the Parish Office.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

LOURDES 2026

There are two places available for assisted pilgrims travelling to Lourdes. Those wishing to be considered for a place, please forward your name and number by letter to the parish office (located in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Castlecomer) before the 2nd of March.

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: €1,670.00
Sincere thanks to all who contribute to parish funds and to the clergy fund. *Mile Buíochas.*

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

MINISTRIES IN OUR PARISH:

Ministers of The Word:

Sat 14th 7pm: Eithne McKenna
Sun 15th 8am: Oliver McGrath
Sun 15th 11am: First Holy Communion

Ministers of The Eucharist:

Mon – Sat: Mary Farrell
Sat 7pm: Catriona Brennan
Sun 8am: Lalaine Brennan
Sun 11am: John Kelly

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

Lent – Pope Leo XIV

The ancient practice of fasting from food during Lent can free us from complacency and lead us to “hunger” for God, Pope Leo XIV said as we begin Lent. Lent is a time to “place the mystery of God back in the centre of our lives, in order to find renewal in our faith and keep our hearts from being consumed by the anxieties and distractions of daily life,” the pope said. The pope also highlighted what he called an unappreciated form of abstinence: that of refraining from words that offend and hurt our neighbour:

“Let us begin by disarming our language, avoiding harsh words and rash judgement, refraining from slander and speaking ill of those who are not present and cannot defend themselves,” he said, urging Catholics to cultivate kindness *“in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political debates, in the media and in Christian communities.”*

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – 6TH MARCH 2026

The World Day of Prayer is an international, women-led, ecumenical movement that shares the hopes, concerns and prayers of women from around the globe. The theme this year – *I will give you rest* - speaks to us of our need for peace and solace in a world that is filled with struggle and anxieties. The day begins in Samoa and moves across the world in a continuous wave of prayer, finishing 38 hours later in American Samoa – a truly worldwide day of prayer! The local service will be held on Fri 6th March 7pm in St. Mary's Church, Castlecomer. All are welcome.

LAST SUPPER

The traditional Last Supper where the funds will be distributed to the chosen beneficiaries from Wellie Race 2026 will be held in Shortalls Lounge on Fri Feb 27th at 9 p.m. The Children's Merit Awards will be held in the Library on Tues Feb 24th, 7 p.m.

ERINS OWN GAA LOTTO

This week's jackpot is €15,800. The draw will take place Tuesday night. Tickets are on sale around the town, or you can play online. BE IN TO WIN.

CASTLECOMER COMMUNITY TEXT ALERT

Subscription fee of €10 is now due from all members who wish to continue with this important service. Please drop it into Castlecomer Credit Union or to any committee member.

PARISH OFFICE 085 827 8729

Trócaire 2026

The theme of the 2026 Trócaire Lenten campaign centres on the story of a multi-generational, female-led household in rural Rwanda. At just 28 years old, Uwamahoro is carrying the weight of three generations on her shoulders. Earning just 60 cent per day working on the land, Uwamahoro is doing the best she can to feed her family and keep the children in school, but it's never enough. The next storm could destroy everything Uwamahoro has built. Their house is crumbling, the roof is leaking, they live in darkness with no electricity, and with each storm, they fear for their safety. This is not unusual for women across Rwanda, where severe storms are striking faster and more often, before families can recover from the last. This Lent we are asking you to help Uwamahoro rebuild her family's lives and restore their hopes for the future.

Trócaire is the overseas development agency of the Catholic church in Ireland. Please take family fast boxes from the porch of the church, make regular contributions during Lent and return the proceeds to the parish during Holy Week. Alternatively scan the QR code on the boxes or write to Trócaire, Maynooth, Co. Kildare to make a donation.

THE WAY

Welcome to the Way. This platform was set up by the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference to help people to discover, live and pass on the Catholic faith. In the very early Church, the first believers were known as followers of 'the Way' (e.g. Acts 9:2). In answer to the question 'how can we know the way?' (John 14:5) Jesus declared that 'I am the Way, the Truth and Life.' Please follow THE WAY on social media and share the content on your own social media. Visit us on www.facebook.com/theway.ie/ or www.theway.ie

2026 ANNUAL TRÓCAIRE LECTURE

St. Patrick's College Maynooth “Care for Creation Amidst the Cries of War ~ Working for Peace in the Earth Community” in Renehan Hall at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, on Tues, 3rd March., 7.00pm. Keynote speaker: Dr. Hugo Slim, Director of the Las Casas Institute for Social Justice at Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford. It will also be live streamed for those who cannot attend in person. Registration for this free event is required: maria.murphy@trocaire.org

FASSADININ HISTORY SOCIETY

Pat Kelly will give a talk on "The Activities of the White Feet in the North Kilkenny area in the early 1800's" on Tuesday night 3rd March at 8.00pm in Castlecomer Hall, Adm. €5.00. All welcome