



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

Parish Newsletter 8th March 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+

Anniversaries 7th/ 8th March

Sat 7pm: Lucy Meally, Clogh Rd;
Ned & Mollie Brennan, Knocknadogue;
Kathleen Knox, Donaguile/Kilkenny;
Gerard (Ger) Walsh, Kiltown;
Mon 9am: Martin Downey, Tinnalinton;
Tue 9am: Larry Callery, Barrack Hill.

ANNIVERSARIES

Paddy Simms, Chatsworth Street;
John Kely, Warrenpoint/Moneenore;
Margaret Power (née Ryan) Kilkenny/Aughamuckey;
William (Bill) Brennan, Coon West.

ANNIVERSARIES Next Week 14TH/15TH MAR:

Sat 7pm: Paul O'Connor, Kiltown (MM);
Sun 11am: Helen Shea, Kilkenny Rd.
Mary O'Meara, John O'Meara and deceased
members of the Tyan Family, Skekana.

Go raibh suaimhneas sioraí ag anamacha na ndaoine nach maireann

CONFIRMATION 2026

Congratulations to all who will receive the sacrament of Confirmation this weekend in our parish.

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.
See Church Notice Board.

Trócaire 2026

Don't forget the TROCAIRE
BOX – Bring one home.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The monthly SVP collection will be taken up at all masses this weekend.

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: €2,070.00
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: Maureen Holohan
Sun 15th 8am: Dick Mullins
Sun 15th 11am: Angela Molloy

Ministers of The Eucharist:

Mon – Sat: Eileen Mealy
Sat 7pm: Catherine Greer
Sun 8am: Lalaine Brennan
Sun 11am: Jeannette Harding

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

This Lent – Count Your Blessings

This Lent, let's take Irving Berlin's advice and count our blessings, though of a quite particular sort. Who are the people who have been God's blessings to you? Who comes to mind when you look for those who have been your blessings from God?

Your parents? Brothers and sisters? Aunts and uncles? Your friends from school? Teachers? Coaches? Mentors? Your spouse? Children? Grandchildren? A priest or religious? A neighbour? Your list will reveal that God blesses us every day. God blesses us with so many gifts each day.

LENT 2026: THE WORK OF TROCAIRE

Rising to the Challenge of Poverty and Injustice: What is the Irish Church doing? Seán Farrell, CEO of Trócaire, will lead a reflection on the work of Trócaire in our world today confronting poverty and injustice in St Kieran's College on Mon 9th.

MEDJUGORJE GROUP MASS

The monthly Medjugorje Group Mass will be celebrated on Mon 9th, 7.30pm, the Capuchin Friary Kilkenny. The Mass is being offered for the repose of the soul of Sr Margaret Mary. Rosary after Mass. All are welcome.

CONFIRMATION 2026

My confirmation name is Cecelia, patron of music and musicians.....In school we have been talking and learning about the renewal of baptismal promises...I like fishing, hurling with Erins Own and soccer with Dean Celtic; my sponsor is my godfather...In school we talked about the pledge!!!...My godfather is Dessie – he used to play hurling for Ballyragget...I'm picking Gabriella who was from Sardinia...My hobbies are going for walks and doing my nails...At home I discussed my name and sponsor and I invited people...My confirmation name is Brendan, the patron saint of sailors - not to mention he was Irish too!...I can't wait for the 8th and I'm very excited for it...In the parish we had a meeting and we had mass...I've chosen Seraphina because it reminds me of the Seraphims who are the highest order of angels – she lived in San Gimignano... We have a cat called Star and we live in the countryside – at school we learned about gifts/fruits of the Spirit...I'm picking the name Sophia which means wisdom. She is from Rome and had three children: Faith Hope and Charity...My confirmation name is Ruadán, one of the 12 apostles of Ireland.

THE CHURCH'S RESPONSE TO THE WAR IN IRAN

In a conflict that has already cost more than 1,000 lives in Iran and 12 in Israel and taken the lives of six U.S. service members and a conflict that has expanded to Lebanon where more than 200 have been killed and 300,000 displaced and now sees Iranian refugees appearing at the Turkish border as they flee cities under attack; what has the church to say about war? - . War – St. John Paul II memorably called the “adventure with no return.”

Pope Leo: In a rare and strongly worded message Pope Leo XIV appealed to US President Donald Trump over the escalating conflict in the Middle East, warning of the grave consequences of continued aggression. *“I address to the parties involved a heartfelt appeal to assume the moral responsibility of halting the spiral of violence before it becomes an irreparable abyss...Stability and peace are not built with mutual threats nor with weapons that sow destruction, pain and death, but only through a dialogue that is reasonable, authentic and responsible”.*

Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Parolin: *“This erosion of international law is truly worrying: justice has given way to force; the force of law has been replaced by the law of force.”*

The Melkite Greek Catholic Archbishop Georges Iskandar of Tyre: *“What weighs most heavily upon the heart is that those paying the price are simple and peaceful people: families in their homes, children, the sick and the elderly — men and women who have no part in the calculations of greater conflicts and no responsibility for the forces that have brought about this violence,” the Melkite archbishop said. “In a matter of moments, they found themselves at the centre of a storm they did not choose, armed only with fear and prayer,” he added.*

Pope Leo XIV prayed: "Lord, enlighten the leaders of the nations, so they may have the courage to abandon projects of death...Today we lift up our prayer for peace in the world, asking that nations renounce weapons and choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy."

ERINS OWN GAA LOTTO

This week's jackpot is €16,200. The draw will take place Tuesday night. Tickets are on sale around the town, or you can play online. BE IN TO WIN.