



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

Parish Newsletter 3rd May 2026

Cluster of the Parishes 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:

Anthony Joseph Dunne, Yellow Rd/Rugeley UK.
Sean Farrell, Portlaoise and formerly Damerstown.

Anniversaries WEEK BEGINNING 3RD MAY:

Fri:9.30am: Catherine James, Castlecomer/London
Sat:10am: Brendan Dowling, Marymount Kilkenny

ANNIVERSARIES

Nellie Stone, Skehana; Denis Byrne, Clashduff

Please note Mass times during this week

Monday (Bank Holiday) 10am.

Tuesday – Thursday 9am. Friday 9.30am.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

A word of thanks to all who helped with our First Holy Communion Class this year. What a beautiful celebration we had last Sunday? The weather was fantastic, the children looked incredible, a lovely family day for all. A most important day in the young peoples' lives and a most important day in the life of our parish. May Christ, the Bread of Life, nourish and sustain us all on our pilgrim journey.

Anniversaries Next Weekend, 9th/10th May

Sat 7pm: Patricia (Patsy) Dowling, Knocknadogue; Sylvester Hennessy, Smithstown; Teddy Bradley, Molly Bradley & Mary O'Shea, Drumgoole

Sun 11am Margaret Kennedy, Mayhora
Kathleen (Kit) Kennedy, Mayhora;
Brigid & Joe Breen, Knocknadogue;
Anne McInerney, Ballyhemmon

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 Collection: €1920. *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

MINISTRIES IN OUR PARISH:

Ministers of The Word:

Sat 7pm: Liz Byrne
Sun 8am: Oliver McGrath
Sun 11am: John Kelly

Ministers of The Eucharist:

Mon – Sat: John Kelly
Sat 7pm: Eoin Stowe
Sun 8am: Lalaine Brennan
Sun 11am: Teresa Hetherington

PARISH & DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING

Diocesan Liaison Person:

Ailish Higgins

Contact: dlp@ossory.ie or 085 802 1633

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:

Ailish Dunne & Ger Comerford

Contact: Parish Email or 085 827 8729
Documents & Policies on Diocesan Website.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Sunday 3rd May 3 - 5 PM

Tuesday 7pm – 9pm;

After Mass on Wed and Sat

Rosary/Chaplet recited on Mon-Sat

12 noon and Sunday 3pm.

A NOTE FROM FR SCRIVEN....

As you may have heard I will be away from Castlecomer over the next few months.

I applied for sabbatical leave in 2023. It had been my intention to avail of a sabbatical on the 40th anniversary of priesthood in 2024 – I took a sabbatical in 2004 when I was 20 years ordained. For various reasons when I came to Castlecomer - my involvement in Clogh Parish, work in the Parish Church, the planning of and the necessary work in the Parish House, the amalgamation of our parish schools and other commitments - it was not possible until now to avail of this sabbatical leave. Initially, I will avail of a renewal course offered to priests and religious in Scotland over the next few weeks; I am exploring the possibility of spending some time in the Gaeltacht and Lourdes, will make a retreat, will return to continue walking the Camino and I will take a holiday with family down under.

I have endeavoured over the past two years to put structures in place in the parish to enable my absence and to facilitate the smooth running of the parish. I am grateful that Fr Doyle is available to take pastoral responsibility for the parish. Parish Secretary Sharon, Eoin our sacristan, Tom our groundsman will continue in their various roles.

As for myself: Let's be clear...

- I am taking a six-month sabbatical... a time of renewal and retreat... some personal time also. This is a planned sabbatical – thankfully I have no health or other issues, and I look forward to in interesting mix of activities in the next few months.
- I continue to be Parish Priest of Castlecomer and will return to the parish in November. There has been no conversation with Bishop Nash about a change of appointment on my return in November – and I do not expect that such a conversation will take place.
- I will continue remotely to be involved in the administration of the parish.

Feast Day of Blessed Edmund Rice: May 5th

On the Feast of Blessed Edmund Ignatius Rice, Bishop Ger Nash will celebrate Mass in the Blessed Edmund Rice Chapel, Callan on Tues, 5th May at 7 p.m.

All welcome.

"Cast all your cares into the hands of Divine Providence"
Blessed Edmund Rice.

GIVE BLOOD

The Blood Transfusion Service will be in The Avalon Hotel on Wed 6th May 3.45pm – 8pm. You are invited to check your eligibility and book your appointment at giveblood.ie or call 1 800 222 111.

FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS...

The bell from Castlecomer Boys' School has been refurbished and this week will be placed in the sanctuary of the church. For many years it called time in the Boys' School...it now has a new lease of life when it will be used to call us to pray at the beginning of Mass. Tony Patterson, former principal, recalls that it was in his early years as principal that the bell was installed in the school. The bell will now continue a connection between the school and our parish.

DIOCESAN NURSE

The Diocese of Ossory requires a nurse to provide an advocacy and support service to priests in the Diocese of Ossory. The post will be part-time, flexible and initially for a three-year period.

Please email your application to admin@ossory.ie or by post to **The Diocesan Secretary, Diocesan Office, James's St, Kilkenny, R95 NH60.**

Closing date: Fri, 29th May 2026.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Monthly collection next Sunday at all masses.

BLACK ABBEY NOVENA

Annual Novena in honour of Our Lady of Fatima from Tues 5th to Wed 13th May in the Black Abbey daily at 10.30 am & 7.30 pm. Preacher Fr David Barrins, O.P.

TRÓCAIRE

Don't forget to return your Trocaire box.

QUEEN OF THE MAY

Bring flowers of the rarest,

Bring blossoms the fairest,

From garden and woodland and hillside and dale;

Our full hearts are swelling,

our glad voices telling

The praise of the loveliest flower of the vale!

Refrain

O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today!

Queen of the angels and Queen of the May.

O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today!

Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May.

Their lady they name thee,

Their mistress proclaim thee,

Ah, grant that thy children on earth be as true

As long as the bowers are radiant with flowers,as

long as the azure shall keep its bright hue