Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased:Tom Gregg, Rath Ullord & late of DunmoreEugene Woods, Emmett Street & late of Assumption PlaceAilish Cousins, Freshford Road.Tommy Purcell, Ballycallan.Br Nicholas Healy CSsr, Conahy.James Dalton, Mullinavat.Jerry Browne, USAValue of Assumption Place

<u>Anniversaries</u>: Molly Hennessy; Liam Maher; Tommy McMullan (6.00pm); Martin & Margaret Hanlon (10.00am); Eamon Walsh; Margaret (Mags) Smyth (11.00am); Mary Corr (11.30am); Tim Comerford (7.00pm); Breda Butler; McDermott & Monagle Families; Michael Bergin; Brigid O'Carroll; Marie Donnelly Nolan; Catherine Carroll;

Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed and very dear.



Pope Francis (1936 - 2025)

With Catholics and many people of good will around the world we were saddened to hear news of the passing of His Holiness Pope Francis on Easter Monday. The Holy Father was an inspiring figure who guided the Church with absolute faith in the Risen Lord. His papacy marked several firsts - he was the first pontiff from the Americas, the first Jesuit pope, and the first to take the name Francis—chosen in honour of Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of the poor and of ecology.

Throughout his papacy, Pope Francis served with pastoral warmth, intellectual humility, and a deep commitment to the Gospel. It was a papacy focused on mercy, simplicity, and outreach to the peripheries of society. We recall on the evening of his election on 13th March 2013 how he came out on the balcony in St Peter's Basilica and greeted the crowd with a warm "Buona Sera" (Good evening) and asked those gathered to pray for and bless him with their prayers before imparting his first Apostolic blessing.

His landmark 2015 encyclical Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home called for an "integral ecology" that binds together environmental, social, and economic concerns. In it, he challenged both the Church and the global community to confront the moral dimensions of climate change, environmental degradation, and economic inequality.

Pope Francis spoke up for the poor and the dispossessed and reminded us of our duty of care to the marginalised in our society. He leaves behind a legacy rooted in compassion, simplicity, and a vision of the Church as a "field hospital" in a wounded world. May the memory of Pope Francis continue to inspire in us the gift of joy in our following of Jesus and his Gospel and may he continue to intercede for the Church he loved and serve so humbly and faithfully. The words from his final testament are apt given his sickness over the last weeks "The suffering that has marked the final part of my life, I offer to the Lord, for peace in the world and for fraternity among people"

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning - 28th April			Readers for Next Weekend	
			6.00pm	Mary Lynch
Tuesday:	10.30am	Breda Butler	8.00am	Mary Elliott
Wednesday:	10.30am	McDermott & Monagle Families	10.00am	Teresa Dowling
Thursday:	8.00am	Jerry Browne - Recently Deceased	11.00am	Liam Burke &
Friday:	10.30am	Marie Donnelly Nolan		Liam Maddock
Saturday:	6.00pm	Bea Orr	11.30am	Mary Hanafin &
	1	Mary Lawless		Mary Lynch
Sunday:	11.00am	Ellen, Martin, Christy & Martin Jnr.	7.00pm	Linda O'Leary
		Brennan		
	11.30am	Johnny & Mai Butler		Contraction of the second s
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Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration - in Capuchin Friary, Kilkenny

To mark the Feast of Divine Mercy today Sunday, 27th April: 2.30pm Rosary; 3.00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet; 2.30pm - 3.30pm Confession; 3.30pm Celebration of the Eucharist, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Eucharistic Procession and Benediction. All are welcome.

Pope Francis RIP - Statement of Bishop Niall Coll

The news of the death of Pope Francis this morning fills us with a deep sadness as we mourn the loss of a kind, courageous, and gentle pastor. We also have a sense of gratitude to God for the great leadership he has given to the Church over the course of his long papacy, and this is deeply felt in Ossory and throughout Ireland. *Scan the QR code for the complete Statement from Bishop Niall Coll*



First Friday of May

Next Friday is the First Friday of May. The sick and housebound will be visited at the usual times. Please inform the Parish Office or one of the priests if you who would like this service.

Diocesan Mass for Pope Francis R.I.P.

Bishop Coll will celebrate Mass for the eternal repose of Pope Francis and in thanksgiving for his life and ministry on Sunday, 27th April, at 5.30 p.m. in St Mary's Cathedral. *Requiescat in pace.* Bishop extends an invitation to all parishioners, and to those who are unable to attend can join in prayer on the Cathedral webcam at www.stmaryscathedral.ie.

Castlecomer Male Voice Choir Table Quiz

Castlecomer Male Voice Choir will hold a Table Quiz Friday 2nd of May @ 9.00pm. Bollards Lounge Bar Castlecomer. 40 Euro per table. Raffle on the night . Please contact the following to enter your team in advance or on the night Sean Butler 087-2106854, Eugene Dillion 087-7924930, Jim Bollard 087-2438213,

castlecomermalevoicechoir@gmail.com

Please come and support our Table Quiz and have a great night out with lots of fun.

The Kilkenny Choir

The Kilkenny Choir with some of Ireland's leading instrumentalists from the National Symphony Orchestra are holding their annual spring concert on Saturday, May 3rd at 7pm in St. Canice's Cathedral, Dean Street. The choir is conducted by Patrick Rafter and will feature renowned Irish mezzo-soprano, Sharon Carty. Tickets €20 available on from Eventbrite.

Never Forgotten

St Lukes General Hospital will be holding its Annual Remembrance Ceremony on Wednesday 30th April at 7.30pm in St Fiacre's Church Loughboy for families who have been bereaved by the death of their child during pregnancy, shortly after birth or in childhood years. Whether you have been bereaved recently or long ago there will be an opportunity for families to light a candle in memory of their baby or child.