

PARISH TEAM

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ST. MATTHEW'S GOSPEL AND ITS RELEVANCE FOR TODAY

Ecumenical prayer evenings on Weds

30th., March: Rev. Stephen Rea Presbyterian Church, Carlow.

6th. April: Bishop Michael Borrowes
Church of Ireland, Bishop of Cashel & Ossory

13th. April: Rev. Alec & Mrs. Gillian Purser
Church of Ireland, Deacon and his wife

Venue: The Community House, Haymarket, Carlow at 8pm.

TAX REBATES

We would like to thank all of you who returned your tax forms for 2009. As a result the Parish were able to claim a rebate of €11,571.00. Once again a big Thank You for your help. Within the next few weeks we will be sending out the forms for 2010 and look forward to once again getting your cooperation.

LENTEN LUNCH

Why not come along on Friday
the 1st. April between

12noon and 2pm

for soup and bread?

in the Cathedral Parish Centre,
College Street.

The proceeds will go to local causes.

CATHEDRAL ORGAN
RESTORATION PROJECT

Upcoming Concert on Thurs.

31st. March at 8pm

Musical Meditation on the

Gospels of Lent

The evening of reflection will be led by

Fr. Columba McCann OSB, and will

include readings and

congregational singing.

CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION, CARLOW PARISH PILGRIMAGE ITALY

12th -18th June 2011

(3 nights in Padua and 3 nights in Milan) Cost: €890 pps

Spiritual Director: Fr. Padraig Shelley Celebrate the Feast Day of St. Anthony in Padua. Visit the unique city of Venice.

Enjoy the beautiful scenery of

Lake Como and Verona

Enjoy a city tour of Milan and visit

Duomo di Milano - the second largest Cathedral in the world.

Visit the birth place of Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli - Pope John XXIII.

For more information contact Louise in Tully's Travel 059 - 9136100.



CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION
NEWSLETTER

3RD. SUNDAY OF LENT

Vol. 20 No. 17

27th. March 2011

PARISH NEWS

Meeting about groupings of parishes (Parish Pastoral Areas)

A series of gatherings took place last September/October at which people had an opportunity to reflect on how the diocese has grouped parishes to date - in deaneries and sometimes also in clusters. Clusters (where two or more parishes were grouped together under one Parish Priest) came about over the last ten years or so when and where vacancies appeared. At present, there are 8 clusters in our diocese involving 17 parishes (out of our total of 56 parishes). Askea/Benekerry is an example of a cluster;

Graigucullen/Arles is another.

The meetings then went on to consider a different approach to grouping parishes that would go beyond just the numbers of priests and a 'when and where' response. This different approach would involve grouping all parishes in order to support local faith communities fulfil the mission of the Church - to live and proclaim the Good News. A draft map of possible groupings was circulated for discussion.

An upcoming round of meetings will report back on what emerged from our discussions at the gatherings last year - including a re-drafted map of possible 'Pastoral Areas'. There will also be time to look again at how parishes could work together in their suggested 'Pastoral Area'. The meeting for Carlow, Askea, Benekerry, Graigucullen, Tinryland parishes will take place on Monday April 4 at 8.00p.m. in Carlow College.

All are welcome.

On this third Sunday in Lent we stand in solidarity with the people Trocaire works with in the poor communities of Honduras.

They are doing all in their power, sometimes at great personal risk, to improve the conditions and futures of their people.

Please help Trocaire to help them this Lent.

For more information on the Lenten campaign visit

www.trocaire.org/lent or call 1850 408 408 (0800 912 1200 in NI).

CATHEDRAL PARISH

Sunday 20th. March 2011
 Dev. Fund € 1389
 Offertory € 1476
 Thanks for your support.

PARISHBOOKCLUB
 Meeting on Monday 11th. April
 at 8pm in the Parish Centre.
 and currently discussing
 "Where the hell is God?"
 by Richard Leonard &
 "Stillness Speaks" by Eckhart Tolle.
 Available now in the Parish Shop.
 All welcome.

EASTER CEREMONIES- The liturgies for Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday & The Easter Vigil will be broadcast on RTE Radio, and Mass on Easter Sunday will be broadcast on KCLR. Mass time on Palm Sunday will be at 10am, (N.B. There will be no 11am Mass on Palm Sunday). Ceremonies on Holy Thursday will be at 7.30pm, Good Friday at 3pm, and Easter Vigil (Holy Sat) at 9pm.

CÓR AN AIFRINN - Singers and musicians are welcome to the choir for the Irish Mass in the Cathedral at 6.15pm on the 1st & 2nd Sat. of each month. Rehearsal in the sacristy prior to the Mass from 5.30pm on 2nd. & 9th April.

MASS TIMES & MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Saturday 2nd. April
 6.15pm Seán Mac Diarmada

Sunday 3rd. April
 8.30am Maeve McDermott
 11.00am Rea Jordan
 12.30pm Kayla Robinson
 7.00pm Bob Holmes

If you are unable to attend,
 please appoint a substitute.

40 HOURS OF ADORATION (QUARANT'ORE) - adoration continues through the night until Sunday 27th. March ending with Benediction before the evening Mass. Volunteers needed to pray in the Cathedral each hour of the Adoration, for the Saturday night through Sunday. This is a chance to take time out, to pray for ourselves and our families, to pray for the sick and troubled, to pray for peace and reconciliation. This is a real opportunity to pray for the renewal of our Church, for a deepening of faith, for vocations, and for the grace of conversion.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP in St. Andrew's Church, Bagenalstown every Tues. at 7.30pm (9 weeks) on 29th. March with Liam Holton (Testimony of Hope).

27th. March 2011

Bob's Your Uncle Lotto



Numbers drawn on the 20th. March '11
 3 - 8 - 24 - 26
 No Jackpot Winner
 9 Mt. 3's shared €1000

Lotto Tickets available in Lotto Office across from Cathedral after Saturday evening & all Sunday Masses or at the Parish Centre
 Bingo every Friday & Sunday night in the Youth Centre, Green Lane at 8.30pm

CARLOW CATHEDRAL PARISH - are holding a Family Fun day on Sun. 22nd. May. Anyone interested in helping with the organising of this event is invited to attend a meeting in the Parish Centre on Sat. 2nd April at 11am. All are welcome.

TO MARK THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEKEND - of the Pastoral Letter of Pope Benedict XVI to the Catholics of Ireland, the Irish Bishops Conference have published Towards Healing and Renewal.

Towards Healing and Renewal outlines various steps taken by the Church in regard to the survivors of abuse and their representatives. The document also mentions ways in which parishes can play their part in assisting the process of healing for survivors of abuse. It goes on to mention the launch of Catholic Counselling and Support Services called Towards Healing. This new service will continue and extend the work previously done by Faoiseamh. The normal opening hours for the Towards Healing service are: Mondays and Wednesdays, 11am to 8pm and on Fridays 11am to 4pm. Its free phone helpline numbers are: from the Republic of Ireland 1800 303416; from Northern Ireland and Britain 0800 0963315.

Mgr. Brendan Byrne recently met Cardinal Sean O'Malley and his team as part of the Apostolic Visitation of the Irish Church. They passed on the reports of what was raised at diocesan meetings since we first met to discuss the Pope's Letter to the Irish Church last March.

DAFFODIL WEEK - Mon. 28th March - Sun. 3rd April 2011. Delta Sensory Gardens, Strawhall, Carlow. Visit one of the most extensive collections of daffodils in the Country with 10,000 flowers and numerous varieties on show. Opening hours 9am - 5pm Monday - Friday, 11am - 5.30pm weekends. Admission €5 OAP/Students €4. Groups by arrangement. Guided tours available. Donations from this event to County Carlow Hospice Committee.

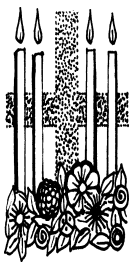
SULT - Interested in gathering to speak 'as Gaeilge' socially? If so then why not go along to SULT in Teach Dolmain, Carlow on Thurs. 31st. March at 9pm. SULT informal evenings take place at the bord gaeilge just inside the main door in Teach Dolmain on the last Thurs. of each month. All ages welcome. Bí ann agus fáilte.

CARLOW FLOWER CLUB - are hosting a Gala Demonstration, titled 'Essence of Spring', with Rose Hickey on Tues. 29th March in the Dolmen Hotel at 8pm. All arrangements will be raffled on the night. Club members €7, visitors €10. A donation will be made to Cystic Fibrosis.

TABLE QUIZ - in aid of the Carlow - Kilkenny Home Care Team in Carpenters Lounge on Thurs. 31st. March at 8pm. Table of four €40. Your support would be appreciated.

CARLOW SENIOR CITIZENS - Charity Sale in aid of Carlow Senior Citizens this Sun. 27th. March in the O'Brien Centre, Dublin Road, from 12 noon until 6pm. Bric -a- brac and bargains galore. Free Car Parking

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS THOSE WHO HAVE DIED DURING THE WEEK



Eileen Wilcox, (nee Kavanagh) formerly of Bethany House, Pollerton Big, Carlow.

James (Jimmy) Curran, John's Well Road, Kilkenny and formally Ballymanus Terrace, Carlow.

Margaret (Margo) Woods, (Nee Fitzgerald), 50 St. Killians Crescent. Carlow.

Moira Byrne, Hanover, Carlow and late of Newbridge.

May they rest in peace

OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILIES AND TO ALL WHO MOURN

'THEY HAVE
 GONE NO
 FURTHER
 THAN TO
 GOD AND
 GOD IS
 VERY NEAR'