

PARISH TEAM

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HAPPY NEW YEAR! THANKS FOR 2017

In wishing everyone God's Blessing for a happy New Year we take this opportunity to thank all those who contributed in any way to the life of our Parish in 2017. We particularly thank all who volunteer in the Parish and all Parish Staff. We look forward to continuing working together throughout 2018 building up our Parish Community.

Beannachtaí na hAthbhliana

CARLOW MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

would like to wish everyone joy, peace and mental wellness over the Festive Season. Once Christmas and New Year's celebrations have passed, January can be a challenging time for some of us.

Well this January – each Thursday morning from 10.30am - 11.30am, volunteers from Carlow Mental Health Association will be present in the lovely warm and welcoming café "Neighbourhood Espresso Workshop" on Barrack Street.

Thanks to the proprietors Brian and Kelly O'Gorman, you're encouraged to call in for a chat, to get information on services available locally or for some company and a cuppa.

The café is running a "pay it forward" random act of kindness coffee...so there may even be a free cup of coffee available, which is a nice way to start the new year.

BOX OF ENVELOPES FOR OUR DEVELOPMENT FUND

are now available at the back of the Cathedral. Please take one. Please place your name on at least the first envelope you use. This will enable us to record your number. This is important because our parish can then claim 33% tax back on your total yearly donation, and so your contributions can be maximised.

**Your donations will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.
Thank you for taking a box and for your continued support.**

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY

Patricia (Patsy) Walsh Burger, formerly of Burrin Street, Carlow, and Virginia U.S.A.
Jack (Jacko) Farrell, 37 Avondale Drive, Carlow.

**May they rest in peace.
Our sympathy to the families and to all who mourn.**



CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION NEWSLETTER

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Vol. 28 No. 7

7th. January 2018

REFLECTION

He came in search of John.
He came in search of baptism.
He came in search of blessing.
He came in search of the Spirit.
He came in search of God's favour.
He came in search of God's love.

The first active step that Jesus takes as he begins his ministry is to search. He journeys from Nazareth to the River Jordan to find John, in order to be baptised. While John feels he is "not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals", John still seeks him out. He needs the moment of baptism and blessing to begin his ministry. This is his moment of divine calling and endorsement from the Father: 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

We know what it is like to search. We yearn for meaning, for love, and our hearts are always searching for God.

Today's first reading from Isaiah speaks of this great thirst:

'Oh come to the water all you who are thirsty' Seek the Lord while he is still to be found' We must seek constantly to bring ourselves into the presence of God, who will give us his blessing and strength for the road ahead.

'You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless, until they can find rest in you.'

Cathedral Parish
Sunday 31st. December 2017
Dev. Fund €1811
Offertory €1313
Many thanks for your continued support

CHRISTMAS DUES
For the support of the Bishop and Priests of the Parish may be handed in today & during the next couple of weeks. Envelopes are provided for this purpose in your box & also at the back of the Cathedral. Thanks to those who already contributed.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS ROTA - for December, January, February and March in the sacristy for collection.

CARLOW CATHEDRAL CHOIR are looking for new members. They meet every Wednesday in the Cathedral Parish Centre from 7pm - 8.30pm. For more information please contact Marian on 087 6689943.

SAMARITANS - Support lines are available 24 hours a day, 365 day a year, offering non-judgemental and confidential support whenever you need us. Free phone 116123 SMS text 087 2609090 Email jo@samaritans.org

"ALL WILL BE WELL" - In Fr Paddy Byrne's first book, he draws on his years of parish ministry and pastoral care to outline the challenges we face. His book is now available in the Parish Shop.

AIFREANN GAEILGE - Irish Mass today 2nd December followed by a 'Pop Up cupán tae' in the Cathedral Parish Centre. Fáilte isteach!

WE WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING INTO THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY THROUGH BAPTISM

Rudy O'Keeffe, Eibhlínn O'Regan, Margaret Berry, Oscar Murphy, Sadie O'Dwyer, Juliette Buzea, Beibhinn English, Hannah Murphy, Scott Roche, Joseph Moran, Rós Lancaster, Alfred Howard, Leah Fitzpatrick, Cullen Farrell, Matthew & Naomi Janicki, Caleb Nevin, Sofia Bidas, Rory Kelly, Zane Browne, Daniel Czaplá, Óisín Biernat, Ella Czyzak, Peter Quinn, Maya MacDonnell, Caoimhe Podger.

MASS TIMES
MINISTERS OF THE WORD
Saturday 13th. January
6.15pm Gearóidín Mhic an tSiobhaird

Sunday 14th. January
8.30am Paddy Behan
11.00 am Sean Scanlon
12.30pm Diarmuid O'Donovan
7pm Rosemary O'Hara

If you are unable to attend
PLEASE APPOINT A SUBSTITUTE
WEEKDAY MASSES - MONDAY TO FRIDAY
7.30AM AND 10AM / SATURDAY 10AM

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE - June 27th spiritual director Fr Ruairi O'Domhnaill. September 12th. Fr. Eugen Dragos Tamas. For more information contact Noeleen Dunne 0599142670.

ASPIRO - is one of Ireland's leading choirs celebrating its 20th year in Carlow. New members are welcome in all age categories from age 4 - 18+ as well as Aspiro Inspired Adult Community choir. Classes resume Tuesday 9th January. Limited number of places available in all groups, contact info@aspirochoir.ie Ph. 085-7451111.

GRANDPARENTS ASSOCIATION - Monthly meeting after morning tea/coffee on Thursday 11th. January in the Cathedral Parish Centre. New members welcome.

7th. January 2018



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. All welcome.

Bob's Your Uncle Lotto

Numbers drawn on 29th. December 2017
1 - 4 - 6 - 23
No Jackpot Winner
6 Match 3 match 3's share €1,000

DATES TO REMEMBER 2018

FIRST COMMUNION

Sunday 6th. May at 10.30am
Sunday 13th. May at 10.30am
St. Laserian's Thursday 17th. May at 11am

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Ceremonies on
26th May at 11a.m. and 2.30p.m.

CEMETERY MASS

Monday 9th. July at 7.30pm

PRE-MARRIAGE COURSES

February 2nd. & 3rd, March 2nd & 3rd. Couples getting married in spring or early summer 2018 should book their course now. Bookings can be made on line at www.accord.ie. For further information please contact Mary 059 - 9138738.

PRAYER MEETING - every Wednesday in the Cathedral Parish Centre at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

DANCE CLASSES - Adult Jiving, Quickstep & Waltzing dance classes commencing on Thursday 25th January 2018. Course runs for 6 weeks from 8pm - 9pm every Thursday. No Partner Required. Registration & Full Payment (€60) on the night. Academy of Dance, Carlow Youth & Community Centre, Green Lane, Carlow. Phone Fiona 087 2727315.

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS - meet every Monday evening in the Cathedral Parish Centre, College Street at 8pm. For more information contact the Parish Office 059 - 9164087. All welcome.

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT SCHEME

Have the following vacancies available: -
Housekeeper, Admin Assistant/Promoter, Cleaner, Maintenance, Admin Assistant/Cleaner, Project Assistant, Day Care Assistant. All positions on Assumption Parish Services Employment Scheme are subject to eligibility for CE and garda vetting. For further information please contact Jo on 085 8726367 Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm

FREE TRAINING - Did you get a new smartphone, tablet or computer for Christmas- Free Courses are now available to help you get started on your new device.

Courses are currently being organised in various locations around the county, if you are interested in enrolling yourself or arranging some FREE training for a group you are involved with, please contact Andrea Dalton in St Catherine's Community Services Centre on 059 9138706 or email andread@catherines.ie.

CARLOW YOUTH CENTRE HIRE

Now taking bookings for all indoor events, sporting and otherwise, at very competitive rates. Ample parking and accessibility. For enquiries contact Jimmy on 087 3261578