



Cathedral of the Assumption

Sunday, 17th December 2023.

Third Sunday of Advent

Parish Facebook... Carlow cathedral parish
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Newsletter

Rejoice!

Rejoice
in the LORD Always,
and again I say, REJOICE.
Philippians 4:4

Today, the Third Sunday of Advent, is a special Sunday in our season of waiting for the coming of Jesus. Traditionally, this Sunday is called the Sunday of Joy, from the Latin name Gaudete, which means justly - rejoice. So today we are called in a special way to rejoice. But do we have any reason to rejoice? Some would simply say that we do not. After all, there is so much violence, so much suffering in the world today. So many people are homeless, orphans ... and on and on. This is true, and each of us is well aware of it, but still we are called to rejoice. Not because there is no evil or suffering, but because someone is coming to clean up this whole - let us call it - "mess". Is that not a reason to rejoice? Thanks to the first coming of Jesus, which we will remember again in a week's time, and all that He did for us by living among us and dying for us, we have been given the chance to come closer to the God we can call Father. It is a cause for boundless joy and pride that we little ones have been called children of the Almighty Himself! The Second Coming of the Lord will in the end consolidate His reign and transform everything according to His plan. All those who belong to Him will experience unspeakable happiness that will last forever! The Lord has promised this and will certainly fulfil it. But will we be among the elect? If we do not feel worthy now, or if we have doubts, we still have time to change. Jesus always gives us a new chance in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. We can come to Him at any time and start again. We can also, if we wish, feed on the Saviour's body every day and receive the supernatural strength that enables us to transform our lives. All these gifts, and there are many more, are they not cause for rejoicing? So dear ones, let us rejoice!

Penitential Service

Christmas Penitential Service will take place in the Cathedral on Thursday the 21st of December at 7.30pm

Confession also available after 10am mass from Monday 18th to Friday 22nd
On Saturday 23rd Confession after 10am mass until 1 pm

SCHEDULE MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS

Vigil Mass for children 24th December at 6:15pm

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ—Midnight Mass (12 o'clock)

Christmas Day Masses 8.30am; 10.30am; 12.30pm

Daily Mass 26th– 30th December at 11:00am

Harmony of Hearts - Voices of Hope

Cathedral of the Assumption Christmas Carol Service

Sunday 17 Dec at 8:30pm

Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow

Donation on the night in aid of ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, CARLOW

Celebrate the festive season with us at our highly anticipated Christmas Carol Service, celebrating the true spirit of the season, a spirit of hope, peace, joy, and love. The Carol Service will be a spiritual journey of music, song, scripture, reflection, and prayer in preparation to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Save the date in your calendar – all are welcome. Invite your loved ones to join us. There is an opportunity on the evening to support the good work of St. Vincent de Paul.

Prayer and Mass in the Cathedral

Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am, 12.30pm and 7pm

Monday to Friday: 7.30am, 10am

Saturday: 10am and 6.15pm Vigil

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday following the 10am Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; Monday to Friday 4pm to 6pm

Christmas Collection

Bishop Denis, Fr. Tom, Fr. Yanbo and Fr. Theo are very grateful to all the Parishioners of the Cathedral who generously support the four Clergy Collections each year. The Christmas Collection will be taken up at all Christmas Masses. There are envelopes for this collection in the Envelope Boxes.

There are also envelopes specifically for this collection at the entrances of the Cathedral.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Digital Advent 2023 calendar on catholicbishops.ie

To celebrate this holy season, the 2023 digital Advent calendar on the homepage of www.catholicbishops.ie, offers

user-friendly resources for schools, parishes and in the home. Each day, open virtual double-doors to reveal short video and audio messages, seasonal crafts and prayers, to assist people of all ages in keeping Christ at the centre of our Christmas preparations.

To access the digital calendar please visit

www.catholicbishops.ie

Rainbows Spring Programmes

Twice yearly, Carlow Rainbows offers a nine-week programme for young people aged 7 to 16 who have suffered the loss of someone close to them, or, the separation of their parents.

A NEW PROGRAMME is now being offered for those aged 13-16. Held in Askea Parish Community Centre, the programmes are free to participants and will commence on February 5 2024. For further information contact Anne on 0876636499 or email carlowrainbows@gmail.com.

Divine Will Retreat Carlow

Queen of the Divine Will , Saturday 13th January 2024

11am-6pm, Speaker Daniel Shiels,

Woodford Dolmen Hotel,

Kilkenny Road, Carlow, R93 N207. Registration fee €20, Pre-booking essential , Please contact Maria 086 1020741

Social Coffee

Cabin Café in association with Carlow Older Person Forum launch a free monthly social coffee morning for those living with dementia and their carers. Open information morning Monday 15th January, 10am-12pm , Woodford Dolmen Hotel. Carlow, RSVP Laura Kelly, lkellyscarlowcoco.ie or phone 087 1025640

Synod News

Work is beginning towards the next phase of the Synod and the Second General Assembly in Rome next October. There is a dedicated page on the diocesan website: www.kandle/synod where you can keep up to date. You can also find plenty of information at www.synod.ie and on the Vatican website, www.synod.va.

Keeping Advent

You are invited to pray the Diocesan Advent Prayer for 2023 as we pray that nations and people will find a pathway back to the peace, hope, and love of God. Advent resources can be found on www.kandle.ie/resources/liturgy-pastoral/

Cathedral Collections

Last Weekend

Offertory € 1302.63

Development € 1705.05

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

2024 Cathedral Parish Envelopes

Many thanks to all the members of the Parish who support the Parish through their generosity.

The **2024 Envelopes** are available at the entrances to the Cathedral. You are invited to take a box.

The importance of your name and Envelope Number

You are requested to write your name on the first few envelopes used. This will enable the Parish to record your number. Each year, because of your generosity, the Parish benefits as a Charity from the Tax Back scheme from Revenue.

Accurate Parish records are essential to make claims to Revenue.

Buy a special book this Christmas

My Life in Your Hands Years B & C the thoughts and words of Fr. John Cummins, is available in the Cathedral Parish Shop retailing at €15. An ideal seasonal gift for use throughout the year.

Catholics in the South East of Ireland

Facebook Group invites you to join our next Book Club

Meetup on Saturday, 16th December, 2023,

3:00 - 5:00 p.m., Club House Hotel, Kilkenny

R95 DX76. Book: Theology for Beginners by Frank

Sheed. Contact Gissell at 087-761-7792.

GK Parish Christmas Carol Service

An evening of music, reflection and prayer will take place in St. Clare's Church, Graiguecullen on

Monday 18th December @7pm.

Our six parish choirs and our Sunday School children will lead us in traditional carols as well as some Christmas classics to help us enter into the festive spirit.

All are welcome to attend, entry is free. There will be a collection for SVP Christmas Appeal on the night.

Visitation of the sick

If you know of someone who is housebound and would like to have a visit from the Parish Team, please give the details to the Parish Office: Name, address, Eircode!! and phone number.

Bob's Your Uncle Lotto

Sunday 10th December 2023

€20,000 Jackpot

9-13-15-24

No Jackpot Winner.

1 Match 3 winner receives €500.

Jackpot this Sunday - €20,000