

Cathedral of the Assumption

Sunday, 2th February 2025.

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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Newsletter

info@carlowcathedral.ie

By 4pm Wednesday

Have you heard Pope Francis has written a book about himself?

This week Pope Francis made history as the first Pope to write and published an autobiography.

He offers us an insight to his life and spirituality. It covers his early life and times.

He remarks on his elevation to Archbishop and his decision as to where to live, "My people are poor and I am one of them", so I have decided to live in an apartment and cook my own supper. He has always advised his priests to show mercy and apostolic courage and to keep their doors open to everyone. The worst thing that could happen to the Church, he has said on various occasions, "is what de Lubac called spiritual worldliness", which means, "being self-centred". And when he speaks of social justice, he calls people first to pick up the Catechism, to rediscover the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes. His project is simple: if you follow Christ, you understand that "trampling upon a person's dignity is a serious sin".

Despite his reserved character — his official biography consists of only a few lines, at least until his appointment as Archbishop of Buenos Aires — he became a reference point because of the strong stances he took during the dramatic financial crisis that overwhelmed the country in 2001.

He was born in Buenos Aires on 17 December 1936, the son of Italian immigrants. His father Mario was an accountant employed by the railways and his mother Regina Sivori was a committed wife dedicated to raising their five children. He graduated as a chemical technician and then chose the path of the priesthood, entering the Diocesan Seminary of Villa Devoto. On 11 March 1958 he entered the novitiate of the Society of Jesus. He completed his studies of the humanities in Chile and returned to Argentina in 1963 to graduate with a degree in philosophy from the Colegio de San José in San Miguel. From 1964 to 1965 he taught literature and psychology at Immaculate Conception College in Santa Fé and in 1966 he taught the same subject at the Colegio del Salvatore in Buenos Aires. From 1967-70 he studied theology and obtained a degree from the Colegio of San José.

As Archbishop of Buenos Aires — a diocese with more than three million inhabitants — he conceived of a missionary project based on communion and evangelization. He had four main goals: open and brotherly communities, an informed laity playing a lead role, evangelization efforts addressed to every inhabitant of the city, and assistance to the poor and the sick. He aimed to reevangelize Buenos Aires, "taking into account those who live there, its structure and its history". He asked priests and lay people to work together.

In September 2009 he launched the solidarity campaign for the bicentenary of the Independence of the country. Two hundred charitable agencies were set up by 2016. And on a continental scale, he expected much from the impact of the message of the Aparecida Conference in 2007, to the point of describing it as the "Evangelii Nuntiandi of Latin America".

Until the beginning of the recent sede vacante, he was a member of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, the Congregation for the Clergy, the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, the Pontifical Council for the Family and the Pontifical Commission for Latin America. He was elected Supreme Pontiff on 13 March 2013.

A copy of his book can be ordered in the Parish Centre

Feast of the Presentation

Sunday is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, February 2nd.

The Feast takes precedence over the Sunday.

Candles for use in the Cathedral and use in homes will be blessed at all our weekend Masses.

Feast of St. Blaise.

Monday, February 3rd is the Feast of St. Blaise. Throats will be blessed at our 10am Mass.

Monday is a Bank Holiday, no 7.30am Mass.

Masses in the Cathedral

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

Monday 3rd, Bank Holiday 10am

Tuesday to Friday: 7.30am & 10am

Saturday: 10am Mass and 6.15pm Vigil

We remember in our prayer

Michael (Mickey) BEGLEY, Carlow Town

May Michael rest in peace

May his loved ones and all who mourn be comforted

St Brigid and Europe

Kildare man and Naas parishioner, Liam Kenny, has researched a presentation “St Brigid and Europe – the diocesan Patron at the heart of the Europe Dream”.

The result is an illustrated presentation and informative commentary which is scheduled for the Cathedral Parish Centre, Carlow R93 XV10, on Thursday, 13th February, at 7.30pm. Everyone is invited and welcome.

Important Synod Update – two strands of current work:

The Final Document of the Universal Synod can be viewed on www.kandle.ie/synod. This document is now part of the ordinary Magisterium (teaching) of the Church and Pope Francis has asked members of the Church across the world to accept and implement its findings. The Diocesan Pastoral Council and Council of Priests will study and reflect on this document and they invite parishioners, especially members of parish pastoral councils, to take up and begin to reflect and act upon this document also.

Diocesan Pilgrimage for the Canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis

Coinciding with the Jubilee for Teenagers, during the Jubilee Year of Hope, the Diocese is travelling for the Canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis, 25th - 29th April.

This pilgrimage includes a day trip to Assisi, trips to the pilgrims’ sites of Rome and of course the Mass on Sunday in St. Peter’s Square when Blessed Carlo will be declared the first 'Millennial Saint.' Bishop Denis will join us for the pilgrimage as well as Fr. David Vard. Places are limited and can be booked through Marian Pilgrimages or forms and itinerary can be collected in Portlaoise Parish Centre.

St. Brigid’s Camino Walk – Monasterevin Parish

To commemorate St. Brigid, Monasterevin Parish have organised a Camino Walk in her honour. Starting at St. Brigid’s Shrine at Mountrice (W34 X529) at 11am on Monday, 3rd February 2025 (walk is approximately 6km/car parking provided at Mountrice Cross).

The walk will be led by the Bishop and will journey via Umeras, then along the Canal Blueway, finishing in Saints Peter & Paul Church, Monasterevin, with a Service of Light at 12.30 pm.

A bus will leave the Parish Church, Monasterevin at 10.30am to Mountrice and return at 2pm. For those who wish to avail of this service, pay on the bus.

All those who participate will be issued with a special St. Brigid Camina Passport.

St. Brigid’s Crosses and refreshments will be provided on the day. For more information, please contact Monasterevin Parish Office – 045 525346

Cathedral Collections

Last Weekend

Offertory € 1,137.28

Development € 1,678.59

Thank you for your generosity

Carlow Active Retirement Members' Meeting

Held on February 12th @ 2.30 in the Cathedral Parish Centre . New members are always welcome

Medjugorje Pilgrimage 2025 (Carlow)

25th June-2nd July

Spiritual Director Fr Tommy Dillon ,Fr. Yanbo Chen, €805, 10th -17th Sept, €815 Fr. Theodore.

To avail of Discount €200 deposit before Jan 31st.

Enquires to Noeleen 0862415986.

Listening to the voices of Women in Scripture

This Conference will be offered in two places:

Ballyvaloo Retreat & Conference Centre, Blackwater, Co Wexford on Feb. 14. Cost: €30 (includes lunch)

Pembrook Hotel, Kilkenny on Feb. 15.

Cost €20 (includes tea/ coffee)

The speaker: Dr. Grainne Doherty.

Times: 10.00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Booking essential: Contact Sara or Catherina @ 056

7722870 9.00 am – 5.00 pm Monday to Friday

or e-mail regionaloffice@ssjg.ie before Feb 11.

Prayer to St. Brigid

Brigid you were a woman of peace.

You brought harmony where there was conflict.

You brought light to the darkness.

You brought hope to the downcast.

May the mantle of your peace cover those who are troubled and anxious, and may peace be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our world.

Inspire us to act justly and to reverence all that God has made.

Brigid you were a voice for the wounded and the weary.

Strengthen what is weak within us.

Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens.

May we grow each day into greater wholeness in mind, body and spirit. Amen

Bob’s Your Uncle Lotto

Next Jackpot

Sunday 2nd February 2025

€20,000

No Jackpot winner

5-15-19-21

1 Match 3 Winners share €500