



Cathedral of the Assumption

Sunday, 2nd March 2025.

8th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Parish Facebook.... Website: <https://carlowcathedral.ie/>

Parish Twitter @carlowcathedral

The Parish Team

Fr. Thomas O'Byrne Adm.

Fr Yanbo Chen CC

Fr Theodore Tomasik CC

The Presbytery,

Old Dublin Road,

Carlow.

Tel: 059 913 1227

Priest on Duty

(089)2432663

Deacon David O'Flaherty

*

Child Safeguarding Reps

Richard Hoolan

Maria MacDermott

059 9164087

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person

Ms Ailish Higgins

Email: dlp@kandle.ie

Tel: 085 8021633

Parish Centre

Tel: 059 9164087

info@carlowcathedral.ie

Newsletter

info@carlowcathedral.ie

By 4pm Wednesday

Rethinking Lent 2025

As children we were taught that Lent was a time to give up things. We understood Lent as time to deprive ourselves of earthly pleasures for the good of our souls. As scriptures tells us, when I was young I thought and acted as a child, now that I am an adult, I must think and act as an adult. The challenge is, that as we grow in age we should also grow in Faith. We can only grow in Faith if we give time and space to growth. This is not always easy as it demands we think deeper about our calling as followers of the Risen Christ. We are a pilgrim people on the move, striving to reach our destination, to be at home with God. If we just continue to do what we always did, then it's possible that there will be no growth, no greater understanding of our mission as Christians. Pope Francis has asked us this year to be people of Hope. Not just hope for those around us but for the world. How can we be people of hope, if hope is not reflected in our actions and lives. To-day we are aware that Pope Francis is unwell and is battling with illness. We need to take up his challenge, and the calling of Christ to be a pilgrim people of hope and a sign to the world. What could this look like? Instead of just giving up something this Lent, why not take up something as well, and be a sign of hope to the World!

Perhaps you could say a prayer with your family or a friend, in person or on the phone?

Maybe you could write a letter a week to a person you used to be friendly with and with whom you have lost contact? How about collecting smiles, purposely go out of your way to smile and say hello for a set number of times in the day to strangers you meet? Smiles are infectious, imagine if Carlow got infected with people smiling and being kind to each other? What a sign of hope! A final suggestion, why not take this newsletter home and have a discussion about "Rethinking Lent 2025". You will probably come up with better suggestions, let us know what they are and we will put them in next weeks newsletter. Blessed Lent !

Lent in the Cathedral 2025

Ash Wednesday; Ashes will be available this Wednesday at the 7.30, 10am and the 7pm Masses. Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence.

The Disciplines of Lent; During Lent we are called to "Repent and believe in the Gospel", through prayer, fasting and Alms giving we turn to the Lord.

We also can mark Lent by a "Reverse Challenge", rather than giving something up, why not take something on!

A Tree of Hope will be placed in the Cathedral for Lent. You are invited to tie a purple ribbon on the tree symbolising what you need to let go of, or bring to life, this Lent

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed after the 10am Mass on the Mondays of Lent.

Trócaire Campaign: Trócaire Boxes available at the back of the Cathedral to be returned during Holy Week.

Alliance of Two Hearts Novena continues on the First Friday of March (7th) at 8 pm

All are welcome to join Fr Yanbo for Mass, Blessing Of the Sick,

Adoration, Confession, Rosary, and Silent Prayer

Prayer and Mass in the Cathedral

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

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 7.30am and 10am

Ash Wednesday; 7.30am, 10am and 7pm

Saturday: 10am and 6.15pm Vigil

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday following the 10am Mass



We remember in our prayer

Ken Broderick, Carlow Town

Thomas Costello, 7 Mill Race, Burrin Rd,

May Ken and Thomas rest in peace

May their loved ones and all who mourn be comforted

Lenten Biblical Studies Group

As we approach the sacred season of Lent, we invite you to join our Parish Biblical Studies Group to explore the historical, cultural, and linguistic nuances of the Sunday readings of Lent. This Group is led by Dr Amelia Fleming, Lecturer in Biblical Studies at Carlow College, St Patrick's. We welcome parishioners of all levels of familiarity with scripture—whether you're a newcomer to biblical studies, or someone seeking a deeper dive into the Word of God. Commencing on Friday 7th March, we will gather every Friday morning during Lent after 10 am Mass in the Parish Centre. Each informal session will last approximately 90 minutes, offering ample time for reflection and discussion. Amelia also welcomes any queries at afleming@carlowcollege.ie.

Carlow Active Retirement

Members' Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 12th March @ 2.30 in the Cathedral Parish Centre.

New members welcome

24 Hours for the Lord in the Diocese

The Cathedral, Newbridge and Portlaoise parishes are kindly hosting 24 Hours for the Lord on Friday, March 28 – Saturday 29 March. More details to follow.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Luxembourg honouring Carlow Trained St Willibrord

Join Fr Thomas O'Byrne and our ecumenical friends from the Diocese of Leighlin as the Diocese and the Cathedral Parish travel to Luxembourg to partake in the Annual Hopping Procession in honour of Carlow trained St Willibrord, Patron Saint of the Netherlands and the First Apostle of the Netherlands, from Sunday June 8th to Wednesday June 11th, 2025. St Willibrord spent twelve years in Co Carlow at Rath Melsigi, in the Parish of Tinryland, before leaving for the continent in 690AD. He is highly regarded in Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. Every year the town of Echternach, where he is buried, holds a centuries old UNESCO World Heritage Status Hopping Procession in his honour. The procession is known as the People Who Pray With Their Feet. In 2017 the people of Echternach presented Carlow Cathedral with his Relic. Bookings for this unique pilgrimage through Tully's Travel, Tullow Street, Carlow Town, Tel: 059 9136100, €685.00 per person sharing.

Pioneer Lenten Challenge & Invitation

Pope Francis has invited us this Lent to "journey in hope together". A short-term pledge is available via www.pioneerassociation.org for parishioners who wish to become a "pilgrim of hope" for people who are living under the shadow of addiction.

Cathedral Collections

Last Weekend

Offertory € 1,107.71

Development € 1,613.89

Thank you for your generous support

National Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Abuse

Bishop Denis will lead a Holy Hour marking the National Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Abuse on Friday next 7th March at 6.30pm in the Cathedral.

All are invited to come and pray.

A Prayer for Healing Victims of Abuse

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,

Heal your people's wounds,

and transform brokenness into wholeness.

Grant us the courage and wisdom,

humility and grace,

to act with justice.

Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labours.

Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pilgrims of Hope in Lent...

Follow and like the Kildare and Leighlin Diocese Facebook and X accounts for daily posts on hope in Lent.

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.

Tractor Run

Presentation College, Carlow are holding a Tractor Run on Sunday 9th March. Registration is in the school from 11am with the Tractor Run leaving at 1:00pm sharp. Entry fee is €20. Proceeds are going to Éist Cancer Support Centre.

Refreshments and raffle on the day.

Kids Tractor run is on at 12:15pm- entry is free but donations are appreciated (Bring your own toy tractor)

Super Bingo Youth Centre

Today at 3pm

€6,000 in Prizes

Bob's Your Uncle Lotto

Next Jackpot

Sunday 2nd March 2025

€20,000

No Jackpot winner

1-3-13-15

3 Match 3 Winners share €500