

Cathedral of the Assumption

Sunday, 9th March 2025.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Parish Facebook... Carlow cathedral parish
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Newsletter

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By 4pm Wednesday

Pope Francis has declared 2025 a year of jubilee to become pilgrims of hope. This is marked by the opening of the Holy Door in Rome. Most of us will not be able to go to Rome on pilgrimage. However, Pope Francis has asked each Bishop to nominate a site of pilgrimage in each Diocese. Bishop Denis has nominated Saint Bridgit's Church Kildare A way to embrace the Pope's request is to make a formal pilgrimage to

St Bridgit's. This journey should be distinct and should be noteworthy for several characteristics: They are slow; they show movement; they contain purpose; they are defined by prayer. The themes of this Sunday's readings show many of the same characteristics. Thinking of Lent as a pilgrimage has the potential to be a helpful way to begin reflections on the Sunday's readings.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil" (Lk 4:1-2).

To help on your local pilgrimage or reflection you might consider the following questions. Who models the well-trained disciple today?

What areas need attention in your own spiritual pilgrimage?

Where is the place in your life that needs to slow down during Lent to make room for Christ?

What could I take up that would reflect my new journey of renewal?

Remember, a pilgrimage is slow, changes in our habits and lives also come slowly. A pilgrimage shows purpose. This Sunday's is quoted in the Gospel passage, the shadowy figure who tempted Jesus in the wilderness. Luke's presentation of the temptation of Jesus is unique. Each Gospel presents a purpose for Jesus' life mission. Luke makes a substantial effort to show that Jesus held the credentials for his messianic role. Luke's infancy narrative has already set the tone. The temptation in the desert, as Luke described it, showed a well-prepared Jesus who was ready to embrace the role of Messiah and Saviour. As he entered this desert scene, it was never a real possibility that the devil would get the upper hand. Instead, the scene revealed how capable Jesus was in facing the obstacles that stood in the way of his purpose. The devil cannot stop God's momentum. On our pilgrimage, we join with Jesus in trying to bring about change, and to witness to the glory, goodness and Love of God in the world.

A pilgrimage is defined by prayer. It remains the key to a Lenten pilgrimage marked by slowness, movement and purpose. We pray that you have a happy and prayerful Lenten Pilgrimage.

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

Stations of the Cross—Monday after the 10am Mass

Holy Hour—Friday Evening 7pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday following the 10am Mass



ST. BRIGID'S CATHEDRAL

We remember in our prayer

- ♦ **James NOLAN, 30 Oakley Park, Tullow Road**
 - ♦ **Indie Mai BYRNE, 10 Ashfield, Blackbog Road**
- May James and Indie Mai rest in peace*
May their loved ones and all who mourn be comforted
- *****

Living LENT in our Parish!

- ⇒ Visit the **TREE OF HOPE** in the Cathedral!
 - ⇒ Take a Trócaire Pack from the Cathedral!
 - ⇒ Join our Holy Hour on Friday Evening 7pm in the Cathedral!
 - ⇒ Pray the Stations of the Cross with us each Monday Morning following the 10am Mass!
 - ⇒ Join the Lenten Biblical Studies Group at the Parish Centre on Friday morning after the 10am Mass!
 - ⇒ **Pilgrims of Hope in Lent** follow the Kildare and Leighlin Diocese Facebook and X accounts for daily posts on hope!
 - ⇒ Join us for one of our daily Masses, 7.30am and 10am!
 - ⇒ Spend reflective time in the quietness of the Cathedral!
- *****

Lenten Biblical Studies Group

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. afleming@carlowcollege.ie.

The Group will gather every Friday morning during Lent after 10 am Mass in the Parish Centre.

Each informal session will last approximately 90 minutes.

Everyone is welcome

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.

SINGING, CONNECTION, FUN!

"Sing for Memory" a new initiative as part of Carlow Kilkenny's Creative Health and Wellbeing Programme.

Designed as a music-based intervention specifically for individuals experiencing or living with conditions affecting memory, and/or their family members or care support. The programme is a blend of informal, recreational group singing, music-making, creativity and wellness all fused together in an environment of safety, connection and fun, offering potential positive health benefits for both the mind and the body. Participation is **FREE**. Wednesday mornings: 11.00 a.m.

An Gairdin Beo. For information: 087 668 9943.

Cathedral Collections

Last Weekend

Offertory € 1,330.39

Development € 1,945.27

Thank you for your generosity

Voices for Palestine

A Concert of Love and Support, St. Mary's Church, R93YW77 Friday, 14th March 8:00pm, Featuring: Maksym Iozovyi, Indie Celtic, member of encore, John Gleeson, Nuala Foley, Louise Keegan. Musical Director—Ollie Hennessy Tickets €25 available on www.gr8events.ie/palestineconcert, Celine 0862268141, Noelline 0857274378, Revd. Paul 0864113989

The Carlow Stroke Support Group

Meet next Friday, March 14th, 2.30-4pm, at St Dymphna's Hospital, Carlow. Meetings are open to stroke survivors and carers, are informative and social. For further information call/text Lynda 085733152.

24 Hours for the Lord

A Jubilee 24 Hours for the Lord 28th - 29th March Hosted by Cathedral, Newbridge and Portlaoise Parishes More information to follow.

St. Laserian's Raffle

St Laserian's Special School is raising funds for an accessible walkway around the school. The Parish staff have put together an Easter hamper for raffle. Lines are two euro each and the draw will take place on Easter Saturday. Your support would be appreciated.



Anam Cara

Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on Wednesday, 12th March, at 7.30pm, in the Mullingar Park Hotel.

This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or how recent was their death.

You do not need to register in advance.

We also offer an online support group meeting. To find out more, call 01 4045378 or email info@anamcara.ie

The Relics of St. Therese of Lisieux & her parents St. Louis & St. Zelig Martin

St. Peter's & Paul's Church, Monasterevin, Co. Kildare.

Saturday, 22nd March 2025 @ 6.30pm Mass with Veneration afterwards.

Sunday, 23rd March 2025 @ 9.00am and 11.30am Mass with Veneration afterwards.

Bob's Your Uncle Lotto

Next Jackpot Sunday 9th March 2025

€20,000

No Jackpot winner

5-7-12-13

10 Match 3 Winners share €500