

Cathedral of the Assumption

Sunday, 22nd March 2026

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Parish Facebook... Carlow cathedral parish
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

Niamh Brennan

059 9164087

Diocesan Designated

Liaison Person

Ms Michelle Hughes

Email: dlp@kandle.ie

Tel: 086 171 0643

Parish Centre

Tel: 059 9164087

info@carlowcathedral.ie

Newsletter

info@carlowcathedral.ie

By 4pm Wednesday

Banking Details

Carlow Parish Account

IBAN; IE66 AIBK 9331

0405 634065

BIC AIBKIE2D

Carlow Parish Clergy

IBAN; IE55 AIBK 9331

0405 6346 51

BIC AIBKIE2D



Gospel Link: New life in Christ

This Sunday we hear another passage from the Gospel of John telling us key truths about our baptism and faith. In this gospel story, by raising the brother of Martha and Mary, Jesus reveals something new about himself to his followers. He shows them that he has power over life and death. He tells them that he is the resurrection and the life and that whoever believes in him will never die for they will have eternal life. And, pivotally, he asks them: 'Do you believe this?' As we draw closer to Easter, and the renewal of our baptism, this same question is asked of you. Do you believe this? Do you believe that Jesus calls us from ways of death to a new life, to a faith filled life? What does that life look like? In what way does your baptism give you new life?

(Julie Kavanagh)

(For deeper connection with the Gospel see synod.ie for Baptised and Sent in Lent – a reflection series for Lent)

Digging Deeper – Living Lent: Some suggestions for the week

+ Reflect on next Sunday's Gospel using the material from 'Baptised and Sent in Lent' Look out for local group sessions or set up your own group. Resources on www.synond.ie

+ Persevere in your chosen resolutions for Lent and remember their purpose is to bring you closer to God.

+ Pray for adults preparing for baptism at Easter.

+ Plant new life in a container or garden bed! Pollinator friendly herbs include chives, lavender, rosemary, oregano and thyme.

+ Remember to 'Share with the hungry' and set aside some of your weekly shop for a food bank or donate the cost .

+ Take some quiet time to do an examination of conscience ahead of going to confession. See kandle.ie for examples of examinations





LENT

PRAYER.... FASTING... ALMSGIVING

LET US REACH OUT THROUGH OUR ALMSGIVING THIS LENT

The tombs of the dead were generally sealed with a huge stone. We see this in the case of Lazarus and also in the case of Jesus himself. It strikes me that the stone across the entrance of the tomb is a helpful symbol of the burden of poverty which weighs down, day after day, on the four women in Rwanda, who have been introduced to us by Trócaire. For Verediana, it is the burden of having to depend entirely on her daughter. For Ineza and Vanessa, it is the experience of a childhood without a father and without material comforts, and an education which is interrupted by lack of resources. Uwamahoro, like any mother, wants nothing more than to provide the best of care and of opportunity for her family. For her, the rock symbolises the daily burden of knowing that everything depends on her and that if, for any reason, she cannot work, the whole family will suffer. We know the compassion of Jesus. We are the people of Jesus. Who, in the name of Jesus, will take away the stone that cuts this family off from the life that they should have?

(From Homily Notes by Bishop Kevin Doran Bishop of Elphin and of Achonry)

MASSES AT THE CATHEDRAL

Weekend: Vigil Saturday 6.15pm, Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am, 12.30pm, and 7pm.

Weekdays: Monday to Friday 7.30am and 10am. Saturday 10am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday following the 10am Mass

We remember in our prayer

John O'Brien

Carlow Town, Carlow/Portlaois, Laois

May John rest in peace

May his loved ones and all who mourn be comforted

Lent 2026

Lenten Practices in the Cathedral Parish

- ◆ **Stations of the Cross** every Monday after 10am Mass
- ◆ **Learn to meditate** on a Monday 7pm Parish Centre. Led by Noel Keating. All are welcome - no experience needed.
- ◆ **Lenten Scripture Group** every Friday 10.30am Parish Centre with *Dr Amelia Fleming, Lecturer in Biblical Studies, Carlow College*
- ◆ **Holy Hour** every Friday evening in the Cathedral at 7pm.

Join us in person or on the Webcam

Chrism Mass

You are invited to join Bishop Denis and the clergy of the diocese for the Chrism Mass in the Cathedral, Carlow, on 30th March at 7:30pm. This is one of the most important diocesan Masses in the year when the Holy Oils will be blessed and consecrated for use in parishes in the coming year and when the priests of the diocese will renew their priestly promises. Music will be led by Fr Liam Lawton and the Diocesan Choir while tea/coffee will be served in Carlow College, St Patrick's afterwards. Come early to get a seat!

Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland

Hold a church gate collection on the weekend of the 28th and 29th March 2026 at the Cathedral of the Assumption. All proceeds will be used to the benefit of local people with M.S. Please support generously.

Thank you..

Carlow Flower Club

Carlow Flower Club are holding a garden talk by Paul Smyth on Tuesday, 31st March, at 8.00pm in the Woodford Dolmen Hotel. Paul is the head gardener in Bellefield Garden in Shinrone in Offaly, headquarters of the RHSI. Competition on the night for all categories is "Easter Parade". €10 entry fee for non members

Bob's Your Uncle Lotto

Jackpot

Sunday 22nd March

€10,500

Numbers drawn on 15th March

5-12-13-22

5 Match 3 winners share €500

Cathedral Collections

Last Weekend

Offertory €1,235.14

Development € 1,982.25

Your kind generosity is deeply appreciated

Priest Visit

If you or a family member would like a visit from a Priest, please contact the Parish Centre with the name, contact details and address (incl. Eircode).

Fish on Fridays

A new short video series from the Diocese exploring baptism. Videos will be released each Friday of Lent. See Kandle Facebook and X accounts to view this exciting new resource and look out for other Lenten posts on Mondays and Wednesdays on Facebook and X.

Vincent de Paul

The next Vincent de Paul collection will be held after Mass on the weekend of Saturday, March 28th, and Sunday, March 29th.

Epilepsy Awareness Day

In Ireland today, over 45,000 people live with epilepsy. For further information, please visit www.epilepsy.ie.

Purple Day (or Epilepsy Awareness Day) will take place on Thursday, 26th March

Coffee Morning in The Parish Centre

A Fund Raising Coffee Morning will be held on Thursday, 26th March in the Parish Centre.

Proceeds will go to Focus to help people who are homeless.

Pentecost Retreat @ Slí an Chroí,

St Patrick's Missionary Society, Kiltegan

We invite you to relive that first Pentecost – invoking the Holy Spirit as the Church's life giving breath. In quiet prayer, shared reflection, and communal worship we open ourselves to transformation and to a renewed missionary courage for our time.

Friday, 22nd May, to Sunday, 24th May, €315.00 per person.

Enquiries to Michele Sinnott slianchroi@spms.ie or 089 4690 508

HAVE YOU BEEN IMPACTED BY ANOTHER'S DRUG OR ALCOHOL USE?

You don't have to face it alone.

The Carlow Peer Family Support Group 'You Are Not Alone' is here for you. We offer a safe, non-judgemental space of understanding and compassion where you can: Share your experiences Meet with family members in similar situations and who 'get it' Receive support that will support you to look at practical solutions and effective responses

Learning how caring for yourself can support the whole family.

Contract 085-7872730 or 086-6045805 for details

SUPPORT FOR YOURSELF CAN HELP THE WHOLE FAMILY

A Musical Pilgrimage for Liturgical Music Ministers in Rome with "The Priests"

Monday, 29 June, to Saturday, 4 July 2026

Workshops, Liturgies, Cultural Site Visits, Accommodation, Meals and Final Night Concert

For more information visit www.rishcollege.org/musical-pilgrimage-2026 . Celebrating 100 years of the Pontifical Irish College on the Coelian Hill in Rome.