

Cathedral of the Assumption

Sunday, 12th April 2026.

Feast of Divine Mercy

2nd Sunday of Easter

Parish Facebook... Carlow cathedral parish

Parish Twitter @carlowcathedral



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

The Power of Forgiveness (John 20:19-31)

Today's Gospel gives us two encounters of the Risen Lord with his disciples. The setting for the first encounter doesn't look too promising. The disciples were locked in behind closed doors, confused and afraid. Would there be more arrests? There is an old Irish saying that God's help is nearer than the closed door, and sure enough, Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. Like a document of identity, he showed them his wounded hands and side. This is a very significant identification because, as the prophet Isaiah wrote many years previously, "Ours were the sufferings he bore, ours the sorrows he carried. Through his wounds we are healed." He is the wounded sacrificial Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Then he told them that they were to continue his ministry of mercy to the sinner. "As the Father sent me, so am I sending you." But how might they perform this divine work? It would be through the power of the Holy Spirit. One of the psalms described the moment of death: "You sent forth your spirit and they are created. You take back your spirit when they die, returning to the dust from which they came." John's Gospel describing the death of Jesus recounts that he bowed his head and gave up his Spirit. The inspiration of the mission of Jesus would now be passed on to the disciples. The Risen Lord breathed on the disciples saying "Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained." Retaining means telling people that the mercy which God wishes to bestow on them is being blocked until they humbly repent of their wrongdoing. The message for Christians down the ages is to recognise the presence of the Risen Lord in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



Touching the wounds of life

The Apostle Thomas was missing that day. He absolutely refused to believe what the others told him about the Lord's appearance. He was so loyal to Jesus that he once declared that he was willing to go to Jerusalem with Jesus and die with him. But he was loyal to a fault. Loyalists, as we know, whether political or religious, find it very hard to accept change and often become embittered. Doubting Thomas was so loyal to the former days of knowing Jesus physically that he was not ready for the change to know him by faith instead of physical recognition. In his despondence, he absolutely refused to believe what the others told him about the Lord's appearance. "Unless I can see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe." Now, there's bitter stubbornness for you!

When the Lord appeared the following Sunday, he invited Thomas not only to see the wounds, but to touch them. Touching the wounds is very significant because it suggests getting in touch with the wounded parts of our inner self!

The steps on a rehabilitation programme begin with getting in touch with the inner wounds of life. The humble admission of an inner hurt or uncontrolled addiction involves touching the wounded area. Then it is handed over to the Higher Power. And there is no power higher than the Saviour who knows suffering from the inside because he experienced it personally. He achieved the ultimate victory when he conquered death itself by rising from the dead. I have met many people in recovery who hand their lives over to God every day and they have developed a powerful experience of the closeness of God. The Risen Lord can come through any closed door!

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 followed by the Sacrament of Penance

Divine Mercy Sunday

The Feast of Divine Mercy will be celebrated at all Masses at the Cathedral on this weekend .

All are welcome to join the Divine Mercy devotions on Sunday afternoon.

Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 2pm

Mass will be celebrated at 3 p.m.

Easter collection

Bishop Denis, Fr's Tom, Yanbo, and Theo sincerely thank you for your Generous support and kindness.

Thank you

Thank you for your support of Trocaire.

Trocaire contributions can be left to the Sacristy or the Cathedral Parish Centre

Kilkenny Bereavement Support

Invite you to a talk "Suicide Bereavement, From Heartbreak to Hope" Thursday 30th April, 7.00pm in Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny. Admission free, booking on www.eventbrite.ie recommended.

Speakers Christy Kenneally is a novelist, poet & broadcaster and Dr. Linda Finnegan a clinical psychologist & psychotherapist will address how a death by Suicide can devastate the lives of those left behind. From 'Heartbreak to Hope' will address the Shock, Pain, Anger and Sadness that are part of the life of those bereft.

Theology Open Day, is this for you?

The Priory Institute provides online Theology courses to degree level. Attend Saturday lectures in Tallaght or from the comfort of your own home.

Visit our website prioryinstitute.com to find out more about our Open Day on Saturday 18 April.

Apostolate Eucharistic Adoration Annual Pilgrimage

Knock Sunday 19th April.

Bus travelling from Athy through Stradbally, Portlaoise -Cost €25.

Contact Barbara Kinsella to book a seat. 0861637311

Bob's Your Uncle Lotto

Jackpot

Sunday 12th April

€12,000

Numbers drawn on 5th April

5-15-22-28

3 Match 3 winners share €500

Catholic Couples — Date Night

Join us for an unforgettable evening with Mark & Anne O'Leary
♦ inspiring talks, laughter, faith, and a gorgeous 4 course meal!

Sat 18 April • 7pm • Armagh City Hotel • Fun prizes

• Great atmosphere • A perfect night out together!

For more information of to book contact: info@catholicmothers.ie

Féile na Beatha Commemorative

Walk to the Famine Graveyard on Green Rd

The Annual Famine walk from SETU to the Famine Graveyard on Green Rd will take place at 12noon on Thursday 16th April as part of the annual Féile na Beatha gathering. We will walk

together to the graveyard where over 3,000 people are buried for a shared commemoration of all who needlessly died of starvation or disease or were displaced during An Gorta Mór. This reflective

moment is rooted in local memory, while also drawing connections to our world today, where displacement, hunger, and unequal power still shape who is protected and who is made vulnerable. The commemoration will include a presentation on the historical context of the graveyard and workhouse from John Kelly of the Carlow

Historical and Archaeological Society, and singing with Rachel Dempsey and reflection from Fr Martin Smith, Chaplain at SETU. Delta Centre students will honour the girls of Carlow who were sent to Australia under the Earl Grey Scheme, ensuring their names and

stories are spoken aloud and remembered with care. In doing so, we are also invited to reflect on what it means to stand against injustice

in our own time, and to choose solidarity,

dignity, and active citizenship now.

Apostolate Eucharistic Adoration

Annual Pilgrimage to Knock

Sunday 19th April. Bus travelling from Athy through Stradbally, Portlaoise -Cost €25. Contact Barbara Kinsella to book a seat.

0861637311

Carlow Day Centre

Carlow Day Care Centre is hosting a Road Run on Sunday, April 19th, in association with the Irish Vintage Society. All vehicles are

welcome with €20 per entry. Registration will take place from 12:15pm at Carlow Day Care Centre (R93 HK53) until departure at 1 pm. Live music and refreshments served from 2pm

and a generous raffle later in the afternoon.

All are welcome to this fun family day.

Thank you in advance for your support for this fundraiser.

Pentecost Retreat @ Slí an Chroí,

St Patricks 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