



# Cathedral of the Assumption

Sunday, 24th May 2026.

## PENTECOST SUNDAY

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

### From Locked Doors to Forgiven Lives

On the evening of the Resurrection, the disciples are behind closed doors. The doors are locked because of fear, but perhaps the deeper prison is not outside them. It is inside them. They have abandoned Jesus. Peter has denied him. They have seen what violence can do. They have also seen what their own weakness can do. Into that place Jesus comes and says, "Peace be with you." This peace is not a simple greeting. It is not Jesus saying, "Do not worry, everything is fine." Everything is not fine. The wounds are still in his hands and side. The past has not been removed.

But here is the mystery: Jesus does not return with accusation. He returns with peace. The one who was betrayed stands among the betrayers and does not begin by reopening their shame. He begins by giving them peace. This is already the work of the Holy Spirit: not to erase truth, but to make mercy stronger than failure.

Then Jesus breathes on them. This is creation language. In Genesis, God breathes life into the first human being. Here, the risen Christ breathes new life into a broken community. Pentecost is not only fire and mission; it is new creation. The Spirit recreates human beings from within. Fearful disciples become witnesses, not because they are suddenly strong, but because they have first been forgiven.

That is why forgiveness is at the heart of this Gospel. "Those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven." The Church is born from the wounded side of Christ, and therefore the Church's deepest mission is reconciliation. Not power. Not control. Not self-protection. Forgiveness.

Pentecost tells us that the Holy Spirit is not an escape from wounds.

The Spirit is the breath of the crucified and risen Christ, entering our closed rooms and making our wounded lives capable of peace.

The Holy Spirit does not erase the wounds; he makes them the place where mercy begins.

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### **Sacrament of Confirmation Congratulations.**

We congratulate all the girls and boys who join us and receive their Sacrament of Confirmation on the 23rd of May. We pray that they may grow in their friendship with Jesus and in their faith in God's love. Congratulations to their parents and families, to their school communities and to all who work on the Parish programme.

We thank Bishop Denis for celebrating the Sacrament with our young people and we assure all who were confirmed that we are here to support your Faith journey in any way we can!

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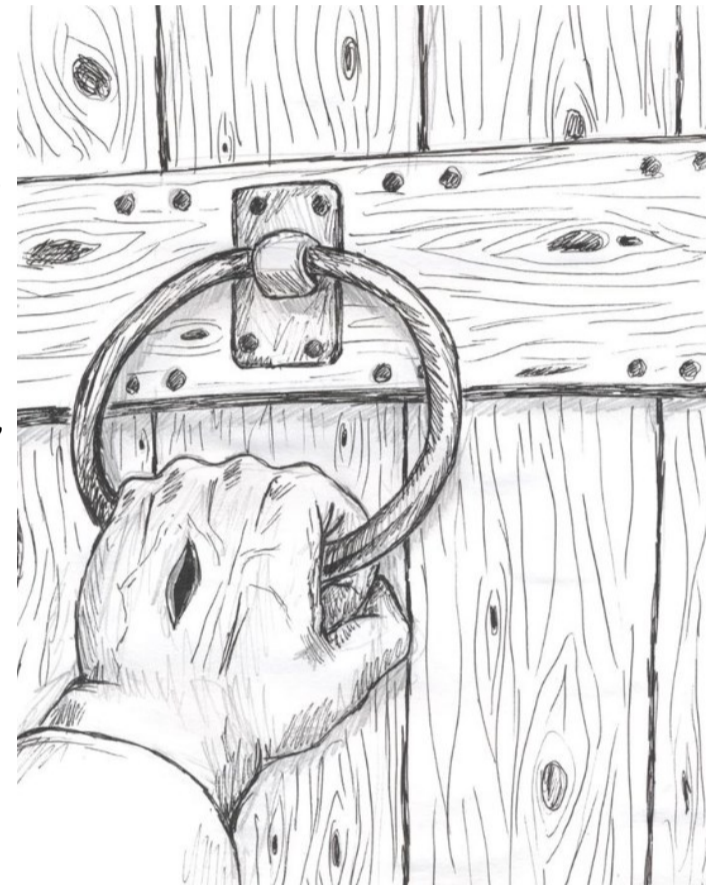
### MASSES AT THE CATHEDRAL

**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**

**Nuala Fitzgerald (née Howard)**

*Carlow Town*

*May Nuala rest in peace*

*May her loved ones and all who mourn be comforted*

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**Pilgrimage to Knock**

**Kildare & Leighlin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine**

Bishop Denis Nulty invites you to join with him and parishioners from across the Diocese at the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

Ceremonies begin at 2.30pm in the Basilica

Bus leaving from St. Leo's at 8:00am, subject to numbers. Booking essential at the Parish Centre.

Price €35 payable by card or cash in the Parish Centre

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**Pray for Life Novena**

The *Pray for Life Novena* is an invitation to join thousands of people across Ireland to pray for the protection of human life, from Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May to Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life in Ireland. Visit [www.prayforlife.ie](http://www.prayforlife.ie) for the daily novena prayers and to sign up for daily reminders. The prayers will also be posted on [facebook.com/PrayforLifeNovena](https://www.facebook.com/PrayforLifeNovena) and @prayforlifenovena on Instagram. This is an initiative of the Council for Life of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference.

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**Carlow Flower Club**

Carlow Flower Club will welcome Margaret O'Keeffe from Kilkenny for our May meeting. She will be talking on "Flower growing and propagating." Margaret has a wealth of gardening knowledge and is full of information on successful growing. The competition on the night for all classes is "Mayflowers, an Arrangement without foam" Visitors welcome, €10 visitor entry fee. The Club AGM will be held after the gardening talk.

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**Leighlin Dementia Friendly Community**

We would like to welcome people living with Dementia and their carers to join us on Friday, May 29th, in Leighlin Parish Centre (R93 KR83) for a cuppa and a chat 11.00a.m.-12.30p.m.

Looking forward to meeting you.

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**Can you help St Vincent de Paul Carlow?**

Saint Vincent de Paul, Carlow, is looking for new volunteers to help with its work in Carlow. If you have a few hours free per week please text your name to 087 3365886.

Vincent de Paul will phone you back with further information. Thank you all.

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**Bob's Your Uncle Lotto**

**Jackpot Sunday 24th May**

**€15,000**

**Numbers drawn on 17th May**

**22-23-26-30**

**1 Match 3 winners share €500**

**Parishes Alive - Becoming Synodal**

Bishop Denis and the Diocesan Pastoral Council invites you to the third annual Parishes Alive Day on Saturday, June 20th from 10am to 4pm in Carlow College, St. Patrick's. The day will be facilitated by Dr Oonagh O'Brien, CEO of Mount St Anne's Retreat & Conference Centre and Janet Forbes, the Youth Director in the Archdiocese of Armagh and a Member of the National Synodal Team.

The day will explore how we can become more synodal in practice in our parishes and pastoral areas, taking baptism as a starting point and leading to practical explorations of key aspects of being synodal, including local decision making. Attendees will be given resources to take away for future use in their Parishes. This promises to be a very engaging and interesting day and will appeal to anyone who is interested in how Parishes and Pastoral Areas develop into the future. Much of it will be interactive and workshop based. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. There is no charge to attend or for the hospitality. Because these are "roundtable" sessions, numbers are limited so early booking is advised. To book or for further information email Pat Roche, Diocesan Director of Parish Development, on [parishdevelopment@kandle.ie](mailto:parishdevelopment@kandle.ie) or phone (office hours) 083-8305681.

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**Pilgrimage to Lodi, Italy**

**27th International Columban Meeting**

Bishop Denis will lead a Pilgrimage from the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin to Lodi in Italy this July to participate in the 27th International Columban Meeting.

Taking place from Friday, July 3rd to Monday, July 6th 2026, the international gathering forms part of a long-standing annual European tradition honouring Columbanus, the 6th century Irish missionary monk born in the shadow of Mount Leinster near Myshall, County Carlow, whose influence extended across Ireland and mainland Europe. For further information or to book, contact Tully's Travel, Carlow at 059-9136100 or visit [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie) or [www.carlowtourism.com/thecolumbanway](http://www.carlowtourism.com/thecolumbanway)

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**Fundraiser for Carlow Alzheimers Bethany House Day Care**

Anne McDarby (Carlow) is Walking Cork City 10Km on 31st May 2026 for Carlow Alzheimers Bethany House Day Care, Carlow. Please go to [idonate.ie/fundraiser/annemcdarby](https://www.idonate.ie/fundraiser/annemcdarby) to support.

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**Finding God in Nature and Culture – Saturday 27th June 2026,**

**Kildare Town**

A day of talks, music, storytelling, prayer, and pilgrimage exploring the relationship between Christian faith, Irish culture, imagination, and the natural world. Featuring Paul Vander Klay, Fr. Conor McDonough OP, and Heather Pollington. Hosted at Solas Bhríde Centre with pilgrimage visits to St Brigid's Well and Kildare Cathedral.

Tickets and information:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/finding-god-in-nature-and-culture-tickets-1988447493982?aff=oddtcreator>

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**Cathedral Collections**

Last Weekend

Offertory €1,104.38

Development € 2,029.32

*Your kind generosity is deeply appreciated.*