



Cathedral of the Assumption

Sunday, 16th August 2026.

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Faith That Keeps Knocking

This week's Gospel is an uncomfortable one, and maybe that's exactly why it's worth sitting with. A Canaanite woman — an outsider, by every measure the Gospel writers had — comes to Jesus begging for her daughter's healing. And Jesus, at first, says nothing. Silence. Then he seems to refuse her outright: "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel." Then a line that sounds, on the surface, almost harsh: comparing her to a house-dog waiting for scraps. And yet she doesn't walk away. She kneels. She argues back. She turns his own words around: "even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table." And Jesus, astonished, grants her request: "Woman, you have great faith."

There's something here for all of us about faith that doesn't give up — even when the answer feels slow, even when circumstances change, even when someone we've relied on moves on and something unfamiliar begins. Faith isn't the absence of change or difficulty. It's what carries us through it, kneeling and persistent, trusting that God is still listening even in the silence.

This woman had no status, no claim, nothing to secure her a place at the table. She had faith — the kind that keeps knocking. May we carry a little of her courage this week, whatever change or uncertainty we're facing.

A Personal Note

This Sunday will be my last Mass with you here in Carlow Cathedral. As a member of the Society of the Divine Word, I have been missioned to a new appointment as Parish Priest in the Archdiocese of Dublin, and I will shortly be moving on to take up that role.

It has been a real privilege to walk with you — in the sacraments, in prayer, in the ordinary and extraordinary moments of parish life. I carry this parish with me, and I ask you to keep me in your prayers, as I will keep you in mine.

I'd also ask you to hold in prayer the wider need across our dioceses at this time. Many parishes, including this one, are feeling the real shortage of priests. If you know a young man who has ever wondered, even quietly, about a vocation to the priesthood or religious life, please encourage that conversation — it may be the nudge someone needs. And whatever the challenges ahead, let's keep praying with the faith of the woman in this week's Gospel — faith that doesn't give up, even when the answer seems slow in coming.

God bless you all.

Fr Yanbo Chen SVD



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

Parish Pilgrimage to Our Lady's Island

Tuesday, 25th August. Bus departing from St. Leo's at 11:00am.

Cost €25. Booking in Parish Centre

Table Quiz at An Gairdín Beo

.Looking for a fun way to get together, test your knowledge, and enjoy a morning of friendly competition?

Join Shane Casey, Biodiversity Officer with Carlow County Council for a Nature and Folklore All Ages Table Quiz at An Gairdín Beo.

Suitable for all ages, this free event is a great opportunity to learn something new, meet others, and have plenty of laughs along the way.

No team? No worries! Come along and we'll find you a spot. All are welcome.

Venue: An Gairdin Beo, Old Dublin Road, Carlow Town, Co. Carlow (next to St Leo's Convent and College) R93 E1HF

Date: Thursday, August 20th

Time:10.30am- 12pm

Booking is essential via scasey@carlowcoco.ie.

Kilkenny Adult Learning Service

Are hosting an open day on Thursday, 20th August, from 10am – 1pm in 43 Upper Patrick Street, Kilkenny.

All are welcome.

Visitation to the Housebound

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

Rainbows Peer Support Programme

Places available for September offering a nine week programme of weekly one hour sessions of peer support to children aged seven and older experiencing loss through bereavement or parental separation. Please contact the coordinator on 0871256199

or email rainbows.carlowtown@gmail.com

This service is completely free of charge.

Based in Askea, Carlow.

Bob's Your Uncle Lotto

Jackpot Sunday 16th August

€20,000

Numbers drawn on 9th August

1-27-28-30

No Match 3 winners

On August 26th 2026 match 3 will share

€1000

Cathedral Collections

Last Weekend

Offertory €1,099.27

Development €1,861.72

Your kind generosity is deeply appreciated.

Carboot Sale

Saturday, 22nd of August, 10am-4pm, Dolmen Celtic FC, Carlow Town, R93 NN29,

Interested in selling? Contact Sis: 085-7107336

Pilgrimage to Our Lady Island. Legion of Mary

8th of September (Tuesday), Cost €30.

More details next week

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

A Catholic movement, it is now formally recognised by the Holy See — its Statutes were approved by the Vatican on 11 March 2026 in the presence of Cardinal Kevin Farrell.

For over fifty years, Marriage Encounter Weekends have helped thousands of couples across Ireland and the world to deepen their relationship with each other and with God, through the gift of communication, renewed commitment, and shared faith. This is truly a weekend like no other.

Weekend Details:

Venue: Focolare Centre, Curryhills, Prosperous, Co. Kildare

Dates: Friday, 2nd – Sunday, 4th October 2026

Arrival: Friday from 7:00 p.m., programme concludes

Sunday approx. 4:30 p.m.

Register at: www.marriageencounter.ie

South East Technological University (SETU) is promoting

SETUStudentPad.ie to homeowners in the Carlow, Waterford, and Wexford areas.

SETUStudentPad.ie is a website that helps homeowners rent out spare rooms in their homes to students attending SETU. Homeowners who rent out a room can earn up to €14K per year tax free. Just log in to <https://setustudentpad.ie/>

Accommodation

There is a minimal charge of €10.00 annually to register your property on this website and you will be helping our students to live in the local area close to their campus.

K&L Eucharistic Adoration Prayer Day

"Peace I leave you; My peace I give you" John 14:27.

Find peace in a day of Prayer and Adoration.

K&L Eucharistic Adoration Committee invites you to join us with Most Rev. Bishop Denis Nulty, Fr Ruairi O Domhnaill, Ms Margaret Brennan & Guest Speakers Ms Una Allen and Ms Mary Connolly.

Location: Mount St. Anne's, Portarlinton. (R32 WN59)

Date: Sat.29th Aug. 9.30am - 4.00pm.

Concludes with Holy Mass 3pm

Refreshments on arrival - Lunch 12.30-1.15. Cost €25.00

Booking Essential. Call or Text with name and number of companions

Barbara Kinsella 0861637311