Sunday 18th January 2026

Mass Intentions.

Tourlestrane church

Sunday 18th January: 10.30am: Bridie Walsh (1st Ann)

Monday 19th January: No Mass

Tuesday 20th January: 9.30am

Wednesday 21st January 9.30am

Thursday 22nd January: No Mass

Friday 23rd January: 7pm

Saturday 24th January: No Mass

Sunday 25th January 10.30am: Annie & Batty Kane, Gorterslin, their daughter Mary and her husband Joe Leonard

Kilmactigue church

Saturday 17rd January: 7pm

Sunday 18th January: No Mass

Monday 19th January: 9.30am

Tuesday 20th January: No Mass

Wednesday 21st January; No Mass

Thursday 22nd January: 9.30am

Friday 23rd January: No Mass

Saturday 24th January: 7pm

Sunday 25th January: No Mass

Lough Talt church

Sunday 18th January: 9.20am: For the living

Sunday 25th January: 9.20am : Jim & Sarah Goldrick, sons Peter & Sean.

First reading

Isaiah 49:3,5-6

I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel,

in whom I shall be glorified';
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,
my God was my strength.

And now the Lord has spoken,
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant,
to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel;
I will make you the light of the nations
so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 39(40):2,4,7-10

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I.

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart.

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord.

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

May God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation

cf.Lk19:38,2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessings on the King who comes,
in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven
and glory in the highest heavens!
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 1:29-34

'Look: there is the Lamb of God'

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'
The Gospel of the Lord

Offertory Collection

The Offertory Collection for 11thJanuary was €1,397.30

Recent Death

Please pray for Kieran Stenson, Banada, who died this week.

New Parish Website

The new website for the Parish will be https://www.kilmactigueparish.com/ .It is live now .

New Offertory Envelopes

The new Offertory Boxes are available now at the exit of the churches. Please collect.

LOUGH TALT -2026 CALENDAR

The last remaining calendar's are now available at Kennedys shop Aclare. €10. A lovely gift for those at home & abroad!

Readers Missals 2026

The new Missals for 2026 for readers are now available from Fr John

Local Chiropodist

Local chiropodist will be available on Monday 19th January in the Heritage Centre at Joe Dan's, to book an appointment please call Sean on 087 783 5159

Banada Abbey Bingo

Banada Abbey Bingo this Tuesday at 8.00pm. Play in the hall or on-line. New Jackpot GAME for €2,000 now on 43 calls or less. Game 5 Jackpot €1,000 in 40 calls or less. Prize Fund of €10,500 on offer. Lots of additional ways to win in the hall, including an extra Game. Don't miss out!!

St Vincent De Paul Collection

The phone number for the local conference is 087 3549586.

Parish Safeguarding Handbook.

The Parish Safeguarding handbook is available on http://achonrydiocese.org/safeguardinghandbook/

Irish courses: Junior Cycle Exam Revision Course Saturday 31st January 10am-2pm. **Leaving Cert Irish Oral Course:** Saturday 7th March 10am-2.30pm. Venue: Banada. Call or text Siobhán on 0876151581 to enquire or to book a place.

Enrolment at Castlerock N.S.

Enrolment is now open at Castlerock N.S. Enrolment forms are available on request by emailing castlerockns@gmail.com or by contacting the school on 071-9181234 or 086-6096439. Our Admission Policy is available on our website at www.castlerockns.ie where you can also view life at Castlerock NS!

Enrolment Now Open at Banada N.S.!

We are delighted to announce that enrolment is now open at **Banada National School** for the upcoming school year.

Physical Activity Tasters

Physical Activity Tasters: join Tubbercurry FRC for some taster sessions in Jiving, yoga, strength training, line dancing. Tasters suitable for all ages and abilities. For more information contact the centre on 0719186926.

Thriving Ahead

Thriving ahead: this four week personal development course will focus on building strong foundations for wellbeing, self-care, stress management, developing healthy habits and moving forward with purpose. Starting Monday 9th February 10am-12pm in Tubbercurry FRC, cost €15. Bookings to 0719186926.

RADIO MARIA

Thank God and sincere thanks also to our many listeners and supporters as RADIO MARIA IRELAND continues to grow. As an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station we enjoy commercial free broadcasting - Prayer, Catechesis,

Uplifting music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies – do join our growing faith family! Here's how you can listen:

1. Via Digital TV - Saorview Channel 210
2. Download our FREE App "RADIO MARIA IRELAND"
3. Streaming on our WEBSITE - www.radiomaria.ie
4. Via our 'Listen Live Radio' link on our Facebook Page.
5. Via PHONE – get live radio feed by calling +353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply).
6. Via DAB Radio in Leinster area.

Why not drop a line to our Spiritual Director, Fr Des Farren by text on 089-4672000, by phone on 01-4123456, or come and pay us a visit at Radio Maria Ireland, St. Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22. D22 R7W2

Walking with Families

"Walking with Families" online program designed to provide high-quality theological and pastoral formation on marriage and family life. The program runs from mid-February to the end of May 2026. Classes will be held live on Zoom every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Rome time, for a total of 48 class hours. Classes will not be held during Holy Week and Easter Week. For more information see www.istitutogp2.it or email: pathways@istitutogp2.it. "Families are the cradle of the future of humanity" Pope Leo XIV.

Spiritual Exercises:

5 Day Silent Ignatian Retreat for Men. Led by Benedictine monks from St. Joseph Abbey, in France. Starts Thursday 30th April (3pm). Benburb Priory, Co. Tyrone (1.5 hrs from Dublin). €450 (all meals & single room included). Daily Mass - Ordinary Form (Latin & ad orientem). Discover the strength that only comes when you stop running and let God speak. **Book at**: https://soutenir.clairval.com/retreat-benburb-priory

Anam Cara

Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on Tuesday 27th January 2026 at 7.30pm in the TF Royal Hotel, Castlebar, Co. Mayo.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 their death was. 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

Poor Clares

Poor Clares Galway, Half-Day Retreat for women 18-35 with Beth Davis of Blessed is She Ministries. An opportunity to encounter God's love and deepen your life of prayer and communion with God. The event will take place from **2pm to 6pm on Sunday the 1st of February.** For more information and to register: https://cherisheddaughters.eventbrite.ie

Camino

Have you ever dreamed of walking the Camino de Santiago? Breakthrough Cancer Research are taking on the final 100KM of the 'French Way', Sarria to Santiago from the 13th - 20th of April 2026 and would love for you to join them. Many people choose to walk the Camino with Breakthrough Cancer Research for deeply personal reasons. Some take part to honour a loved one, others to fulfil a bucket-list dream, and many simply wish to share a meaningful experience with a friend or partner - all while helping to raise vital, life-saving funds for cancer research. Starting in the charming town of Sarria, experience camaraderie and reflection as you walk toward Santiago de Compostela, creating lasting memories on this historic pilgrimage. For more information, please contact Edel, edel@breakcancer.ie or phone 021 422 66 55 for more details.

Family Carers Ireland

National Charity supporting 500,000+ Family Carers Nationwide - recruiting **Community Homecare Workers** to provide support to clients. Flexible work hours based on availability. Essential Requirements: Qualifications – QQI Care of The Older Person and Care Skills Modules completed, must have own car and Full Driving Licence. Please send CV to jobs@familycarers.ie or contact Carol on 049 8511031 or 086 4183949 for more information.

Confessions

Confessions is available on Friday evenings in Tourlestrane church at 6pm to 6.30pm in the adoration room.

Baptised and Sent

Over the past four years the Irish Church and the Universal Church have been on a journey of renewal. Numerous gatherings have been held across every Irish diocese and various other groupings. These gatherings have been carried out in a prayerful way in an attempt to listen deeply to where the Holy Spirit is calling us, the people of God, as we try to respond to the call .The fruit of what emerged from this extended period of reflection and prayer can be found in the Irish Synodal Pathway's document, Baptised and Sent.

Baptised and Sent identifies recurring themes in our conversations. These include the wound of abuse and the demand for real healing and accountability; the call of women and men for leadership roles and a recognition of women's gifts in the life of the Church; the alienation of young people, many of whom find our liturgies wearisome and our witness unconvincing; the discomfort, and sometimes exclusion, felt by LGBTQ+ people; the fatigue of priests carrying too much on ageing shoulders; and the gnawing sense of a Church that has struggled to speak credibly into the public square and secular culture.

Date of First Communions

First Communion will be celebrated in Tourlestrane church for the children in second class from Banada NS and Drimina NS on Saturday 16th May at 11am

First Communion will be celebrated in Lough Talt church for the children in second class in Castlerock NS on Sunday 24th May at 11am.

Date of Confirmation.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated with Bishop Kevin Doran in Tourlestrane church on Friday 8th May at 4pm.

Altar Servers.

Thanks to the boys and girls who have volunteered to be altar servers this year.

Children's Choir.

It was good to see the children's choir beginning rehearsals for the new year. Encourage your children to take an active part in the work of our parish community.

Achonry Pioneers

Achonry Pioneer Total Abstinence Association If anyone in the parish would like to receive their Silver, Gold or Diamond Pioneer pin or become a member, please email achonrypioneers@gmail.com or contact Thomas at 087-2344338

Dementia Support Worker

Join Our Caring Team! Dementia Support Worker (Care in the Community) Looking for meaningful, flexible work? We're seeking compassionate, honest, reliable people to support individuals living with dementia in their own homes in Co. Mayo

Locations: All throughout Co. Mayo

What You'll Do: Offer companionship and social connection. Assist with daily living activities. Support meaningful activities. Give primary carers a well-deserved break.

Flexible hours – work around ***your*** schedule! Make a real difference, one visit at a time.

Essentials: QQI Level 5 modules in **Care Skills** & **Care of the Older Person**

Desirable: Previous experience in caring / QQI Level 5 in Health Care

Interested? Get in touch today! 094 93 64900 or email careers@westernalzheimers.ie

Tusla, Meitheal.

Meitheal is a Tusla led process for children and families who may need support. Meitheal enables families to identify what is working well and not so well in their child or young person's life and work towards changes they would like to see happen for their child or young person. For more information on Meitheal please contact 0876562844 or email

Rite & Reason: True growth can be found in a Church faithful to the mission given to it by Jesus Christ

As someone who is serving as a bishop in today's Ireland, I am painfully aware that many people no longer look to the Church as being significant in their lives in the way they once did. From my experience of pastoral ministry for over 28 years, I am also mindful of the existential questions deep within many hearts at this time of volatility in the world and our society.

In response to these realities, the Irish Catholic Bishops in 2021 invited people to reflect upon the question: "What is God asking of the Church in Ireland at this time?" It was envisaged that the Irish Church would explore this question and it would lead to an assembly or assemblies where the fruits of the reflection could be teased out together and guide us along the road of renewal.

Coincidentally, shortly after the Irish Bishops' announcement, the late Pope Francis called on the Universal Church to set out on the Synodal Pathway under the headings, "Communion, Participation and Mission".

The word "synodal" has been somewhat difficult to grapple with as it is unfamiliar language to many. In essence, it means "walking together". By calling on the Universal Church to "walk together" on this journey, Pope Francis invited us, as brothers and sisters in Christ, to open our hearts to the Holy Spirit and discern how we can enter into deeper communion with one another and to encourage more participation in the life of the Church.

All of this was to be carried out in the context of the mission given to each one of us in Baptism. Even though many saw this as something new, in essence Pope Francis's dream of a synodal Church was not something novel, as it is firmly rooted in the vision of the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965). One of the major themes emerging out of the Council was the model of Church as the "people of God". "Synodality" is a living out of this model in the day-to-day reality of the Church's life and mission.

With this as a backdrop, over the past four years the Irish Church and the Universal Church have been on a journey of renewal. Numerous gatherings have been held across every Irish diocese and various other groupings. These gatherings have been carried out in a prayerful way in an attempt to listen deeply to where the Holy Spirit is calling us, the people of God, as we try to respond to the call of the Gospel today.

The fruit of what emerged from this extended period of reflection and prayer can be found in the Irish Synodal Pathway's document, Baptised and Sent. This was discussed by a gathering of 240 lay, religious and clerical delegates from the four corners of the country last weekend at a pre-Synodal assembly in Kilkenny. It affirms the many challenges we face but also the great possibilities.

Baptised and Sent identifies recurring themes in our conversations. These include the wound of abuse and the demand for real healing and accountability; the call of women and men for leadership roles and a recognition of women's gifts in the life of the Church; the alienation of young people, many of whom find our liturgies wearisome and our witness unconvincing; the discomfort, and sometimes exclusion, felt by LGBTQ+ people; the fatigue of priests carrying too much on ageing shoulders; and the gnawing sense of a Church that has struggled to speak credibly into the public square and secular culture.

In response, some within the Church are calling for radical reform, while others prioritise caution and fidelity to more traditional ways. Between invitation and expectation, between renewal and continuity, the tension is real.

However, Baptised and Sent offers us hope. It proposes Baptism as the great unifying paradigm; the truth that every Christian, lay or ordained, is equally valued, called and sent on mission. Flowing from this, seven Spirit-led priorities have emerged from our four years of listening to and reflecting with people in our parishes. Namely, they are: belonging, co-responsibility and lay ministry, family, formation and catechesis, healing, women, and youth.

These priorities point to a Church that is faithful to the mission given to it by Jesus Christ. They point to a Church that welcomes, that listens, that challenges, that shares leadership, that accompanies families, that forms disciples, that heals wounds, that cherishes and empowers women and men and engages with young people.

Our recent gathering in Kilkenny was another step on this journey together, challenging us to respond to these priorities with courage. It was a prelude to the first National Synodal Assembly which will take place in October, 2026.

Karl Rahner, the late German theologian, reminds us: “Any attempt to look into the future is difficult and inevitably comes up against what is obscure and vague; but such a look into the distance is necessary if we are not to be cowards, remaining comfortably stuck in the present and only passively awaiting the future. But this glance into the future can be one of faith and hope.”

As the Irish Catholic Church glances into the future, may it do so with courage, “without remaining comfortably stuck in the present”. We are called as a community of disciples to set out without fear, to rediscover the joy and the challenge of the Gospel.

May this continuing journey of renewal, despite its struggles, questions and sometimes frustrations, enable us to witness Christ’s message of love, hope and joy in the new reality of today. As we take this road together, may it open up new possibilities for mission and engagement with faith in a world where many are asking soul-searching questions in a fragmented age.

Bishop Paul Dempsey is Auxiliary Bishop of Dublin