

Sunday 15th March 2026

Mass Intentions.

Tourlestrane church

Sunday 15st March: 10.30am: Paddy Price, Amy, Tommy, infant son Derek, deceased of Price & Durkin families.

Monday 16th March: No Mass

Tuesday 17th March: 10.30am Pauric Gilmartin (2nd Ann) and Helen Devaney, his sister in law.

Wednesday 18th March 9.30am;

Thursday 19th March: No Mass

Friday 20th March: 7pm

Saturday 21st March: 12noon Kathleen Marren (Months Mind)

Sunday 22nd March 10.30am: Batty & Annie Kane, and Mary & Joe Leonard

Kilmactigue church

Saturday 14th March: 7pm: Bernard O'Hara

Sunday 15th March: No Mass

Monday 16th March: 7pm Tommie Meer & deceased of family

Tuesday 17th March: No Mass

Wednesday 18th March; 7pm

Thursday 19th March: 9.30am

Friday 20th March: No Mass

Saturday 21th March: 11am Martina O'Hara (Months Mind)

Saturday 21th March: 7pm Seamus Ginty

Sunday 22nd March: No Mass

Lough Talt church

Sunday 15th March: 9.20am:

Tuesday 17th March: 9.20am

Sunday 22nd March: 9.20am : John & Michael O'Dowd, Mount Taaffe

First reading

1 Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13

David is anointed by Samuel

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him: God does not see as man sees: man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 22(23)

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

Second reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

Anything exposed by the light will turn into light

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.
The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Jn8:12

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Gospel

John 9:1-41

The blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' 'Neither he nor his parents sinned,' Jesus answered 'he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him.

'As long as the day lasts
I must carry out the work of the one who sent me;
the night will soon be here when no one can work.
As long as I am in the world

I am the light of the world.'

Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man, and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how do your eyes come to be open?' 'The man called Jesus' he answered 'made a paste, daubed my eyes with it and said to me, "Go and wash at Siloam"; so I went, and when I washed I could see.' They asked, 'Where is he?' 'I don't know' he answered.

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. However, the Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight, without first sending for his parents and asking them, 'Is this man really your son who you say was born blind? If so, how is it that he is now able to see?' His parents answered, 'We know he is our son and we know he was born blind, but we do not know how it is that he can see now, or who opened his eyes. He is old enough: let him speak for himself.' His parents spoke like this out of fear of the Jews, who had already agreed to expel from the synagogue anyone who should acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. This was why his parents said, 'He is old enough; ask him.'

So the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, 'Give glory to God! For our part, we know that this man is a sinner.' The man answered, 'I don't know if he is a sinner; I only know that I was blind and now I can see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He replied, 'I have told you once and you wouldn't listen. Why do you want to hear it all again? Do you want to become his disciples too?' At this they hurled abuse at him: 'You can be his disciple,' they said 'we are disciples of Moses: we know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man replied, 'Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes, and you don't know where he comes from! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but God does listen to men who are devout and do his will. Ever since the world began it is unheard of for anyone to open the eyes of a man who was born blind; if this man were not from God, he couldn't do a thing.' 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Jesus said:

'It is for judgement
that I have come into this world,
so that those without sight may see
and those with sight turn blind.'

Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied:

'Blind? If you were,
you would not be guilty,
but since you say, "We see,"
your guilt remains.'

The Gospel of the lord

Offertory Collection

The Offertory Collection of weekend 8th March was €869.30

Parish Cluster Penance Service

There will be a gathering for all parishoners from Tubbercurry, Curry, Achonry and Tourlestrane Parishes for a joint Penance Service on Palm Sunday 29th March at 7pm in Tubbercurry church

Parish Pastoral Council

See attached a report on the activities of our Pastoral Council over the last three years.

Altar Societies

Please note that during Lent, no flowers in the churches!

Chiropodist

Local chiropodist will be available on Monday 16th March in the Heritage Centre at Joe Dan's, to book an appointment please call Sean on 087 783 5159

Down Syndrome

There will be a church gate collection next weekend, the 21st & 22nd March in aid of Down Syndrome Ireland.

Chrism Mass

Chrism Mass takes place on Monday March 30th in Ballaghaderreen Cathedral at 7pm this year.

Easter Activity Camp

Easter Activity Camp (Baking & Art & Crafts) for 4-6 year olds taking place in Castlerock National School on Monday 30th & Tuesday 31st March from 10am

to 1pm each day. €30 per child - discount for siblings. To book call 086-6096439 or email castlerockns@gmail.com

Castlerock NS

Castlerock NS are holding their Open Day on Friday 20th March next at 1pm. Everyone welcome to come along, meet the Pupils and Staff and view our facilities'

'Castlerock N.S. Student Council, Pupils & Staff would like to thank everyone most sincerely for coming along and supporting their Bring & Buy Sale in the school on Friday 13th. February. Thankyou also to anyone who made donations or helped in any way to make the day so enjoyable.'

First Confessions

The children in 2nd Class in Castlerock NS will make their First Confession in Castlerock NS on Wednesday 25th March at 3pm.

The children in 2nd Class in Banada NS and Drimina NS will make their First Confessions in Tourlestrane church on Thursday 19th March at 7pm.

Stations of the Cross;

The Stations of the Cross harmonise with the Lenten season. They will be prayed this year in the Lake church on all Thursdays during Lent, except this Thursday 19th March .

Ox Mountain Development Company

The Ox Mountain Development Company are seeking volunteers to operate the Ox Mountain Cafe at the weekends. 10.30 to 2.30 Saturday and Sunday. May suit retired persons. Enquiries to 0876304219.

Banada Abbey Bingo

Extra special St Pat's Night Bingo at Banada Abbey this Tuesday at 8.00pm. Play in the hall or on-line. New Jackpot GAME for €2,000 now on 51 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!!

Trocaire

As a single mother, with the weight of three generations of her family on her shoulders, Uwamahoro remains strong despite the many challenges she faces. "That is love", she says, "when things come, there is nothing else you can do." For someone who has had a very difficult life, and continues to face very significant daily challenges, Verediana is quite positive and says that what she requires is very little.

Youth 2000

A Youth 2000 day retreat takes place on April 25 at Knock Shrine, Co. Mayo. Youth 2000 provides an opportunity for young people (16-35) to develop their relationship with God, learn more about the Catholic faith & meet other young people. Talks, testimonies & donation only. Check out Youth2000.ie to register or contact connaught@youth2000.ie for more information.

Suicide Alertness

FREE Suicide Alertness for everyone (safeTALK) training - Tuesday 24th March 2026, 10am – 1.30pm – TF Royal Hotel & Theatre, Castlebar, Co. Mayo F23 R288. This training is for over 18's only and not suitable for anyone bereaved by suicide within 12 months. For more information, email: darlene@breakingthrough.org

'Daughter from Over the Water'

A whirlwind of comedy, suspense, romance and greed, plus a few fibs. Cloonacool Players are ready to entertain you in the hilarious 'Daughter from Over the Water' - Thurs 19, Sat 21 & Sun 22 March @ 8pm in Cloonacool Community Centre. The strong cast includes: John McIntyre, MaryKathleen Johnston, Pat Feeley, Darragh McGarry and Dennis Ross. With backstage expertise from Sean Calvey, Agnes Durcan, Sinead Davitt, Declan Hannon and crew. All look forward to entertaining you. Not to be missed.

Tubbercurry FRC

Decider Skills Programme – Managing Stress and More
Tubbercurry FRC will run this fun interactive 6 week programme starting Wednesday 22nd April 9.30am-11.30am. This course teaches participants skills to cope with and manage stress, anxiety or low mood. The classes are taught in a creative, fun and interactive way. Classes are suitable for all as we all experience feelings of anxiousness, feeling low or feeling overwhelmed or stressed. Further information available on 0719186926.

The FRC Café is open on Thursday 19th March from 10am-12pm. This Café is free and open to all in the area to pop in for a cuppa and a chat, why not arrange to meet a friend and see what it is all about.

Free Guided Walks will take place with Tubbercurry FRC and Martina Kilian of Nature Inspires this April & May. Walks include a dark sky walk at Lough Talt April 22nd 8.00pm-10/10.30pm, meeting at Lough Talt Church car park at 7.50pm (moderate 5k). Knocknashee Hill walk will take place on May 6th, meeting Knocknashee base at 10.20am (5k Moderate-Difficult). For more detailed information and booking contact the FRC on 0719186926

Trocaire

As a single mother, with the weight of three generations of her family on her shoulders, Uwamahoro remains strong despite the many challenges she faces. “That is love”, she says, “when things come, there is nothing else you can do.” For someone who has had a very difficult life, and continues to face very significant daily challenges, Verediana is quite positive and says that what she requires is very little.

Weekday Mass.

The faithful should try to attend weekday Masses, and where this is not possible they should be encouraged to read the lessons, either with their family or in

private. We will celebrate an extra Mass in Kilmactigue church on Wednesdays during Lent at 7pm.

Trocaire

Vanessa, age 12, and Ineza, age 7, who appear on the Trócaire box this Lent, attend school about a 30-minute walk from their house, walking up one of the community's many steep hills to start class every morning.

Ward Agricultural Consultants and Forestry Service

Ward Agricultural Consultants and Forestry Service Ltd are taking expressions of interest for the new forestry knowledge transfer discussion groups - Focus area B – forest management plans and forest certification. Earn up to €560 to learning all about managing your forestry, this course will also help you draw up a forestry management plan and apply for the forestry certification grant of €1200. Call, text, or whatsapp your name and forestry number to 0879193371. Any question call the same number. We are also available to help you with your BISS 2026 application.

Tourlestrane GAA

Family Quiz Night on Friday April 3rd at 6.30pm in Banada Abbey Hall. All welcome!.

St Patrick's Day Parade.

Time to start planning your float for our parish parade. Everybody is invited to take part on the day.

In order to help cover expenses of the parade a Boston Tea Party will be held in Kilmactigue community centre on Saturday night March 14th, there are a few tables available. Anybody interested in hosting a table and bring your neighbours and friends please contact any member of ADC clg. This promises to be a very enjoyable night.

Accord Ballaghadereen

Accord Ballaghadereen offer a confidential counselling service where couples can explore family relationships. Accord counsellors can help if relationships are under stress. For online counselling please visit www.accord.ie. Alternatively, to book a face to face counselling session, please call Accord Ballaghadereen on 0879972503.

Self Evaluation Report on our Pastoral Council

After 3 years in existence, it is appropriate to carry out an evaluation of the work of our parish pastoral council. It is fair to say that the council is still in its infancy and is still learning slowly what is involved in being a pastoral council. The Council was commissioned by Bishop Paul Dempsey in February 2022 in a ceremony in the Cathedral.

Our initial sources of information were two books: “Becoming a Pastoral Council” by Patricia Carroll and “Partnership in Parish” by Fr Enda Lyons. We spent many monthly meetings, especially in the first year, trying to get an understanding of what a parish is, and what a parish does and where a parish pastoral council fits in. We also attended training nights along with other parish pastoral councils. This was time well spent.

Monthly meetings took place about ten times each year. An Agenda meeting between the Presider, Chairperson and Secretary was held in preparation for each monthly meeting. All meetings were well attended.

Items that were discussed at the monthly meetings included

(A) Correspondence from the Diocese, feedback to the Diocese,

(B) Discussion regarding the proposed merger of the Diocese and the Diocese of Elphin and attendance at meetings regarding the merger.

(C) Choosing which parishes we should cluster with was also discussed and the result reported to the Diocese.

(D) The National Synod was reported on and meetings attended in connection with this.

(E) Correspondence regarding retreats for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers was also funnelled through the Pastoral council.

Much discussion took place about encouraging Young People in their faith. Contact was made with the local GAA club in the hope of setting time aside for them. In the end nothing transpired from this. There was also an opportunity for a youth leader to be trained that didn't get any candidates from our parish. Various opportunities were offered for young people to do activities together from the Diocese but again they were not taken up. However 4 young people from the parish did take part in the John Paul 11 awards in the Community School. They also attended the “Inspire” night in Tubbercurry. The “Light House”, programme for Confirmation candidates is being introduced this year, where TY students in St Attracta's Community School will befriend and mentor the candidates. They are being trained in St Attracta's.

The Pastoral Council are also heartened by the Children's choir and Adult's choir in Tourlestrane church, by the number of servers in the parish, and the children and adults in Lough Talt church choir.

A support programme for parents of children making their first Communion is being run by two parishioners. A few nights for scripture reflection or Lectio Divina was offered to anyone who wanted to attend in Fr John 's house. Numbers were small.

There was a special blessing ceremony for parents of children baptised over the last three years. Bambinelli Sunday was celebrated during Advent.

It should be noted that the Pastoral Council encouraged the formation of the parish baptismal team, the church committee in Kilmactigue, formed for the painting of the church, the choir in Kilmactigue, the introduction of emergency sacristans in the event of a visiting priest.

There was feedback regarding liturgies eg, Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Season of Creation (blessing of animals) . The Pastoral Council was involved in the Masses celebrated by Bishop Paul Dempsey in the parish. It also took a hands-on approach to the Mass with Stephan Giblin as guest speaker, Youth Diocesan Director.

Prayer During meetings: How and when we pray during the meetings has evolved over the years. We now open with an opening prayer and close with a blessing. Our main prayer time is at the centre of the meeting. It now consists of focus, scripture, reflection (with music) , prayers of petition, Closing prayer. At the moment Fr John is the person in charge.

Hospitality: We have the cup of tea as we arrive for the meeting, before we start .We also have a meal together at Christmas.

A mission statement for the pastoral council.

After many monthly meetings in our first year we agreed on what is the mission statement of our pastoral council.

Kilmactigue Parish Pastoral Council endeavours to build and support a vibrant parish, inclusive of all ages. We hope to facilitate a structure of shared responsibility for the future, with active participation and which fosters a caring, welcoming and faithful community. It will assist in active listening, prayerful consideration, co-ordinating, planning and evaluation of parish needs, that centres around strengthening our relationship with Jesus Christ.

How we operate: We, the Parish Pastoral Council of Kilmactigue Parish, take responsibility to see that the aim and mission of the parish is being achieved. It will do by listening to the people of the parish, by considering prayerfully on what they say, by deciding what to focus on in light of the gospel and what the people of the parish are saying, by formulating a plan for the people of the parish to carry out, and by evaluating on what is happening periodically . In doing so, we hope that the proclamation of the message of Christ by the people of God in our area will reach all people in a clearer and more tangible way, that is relevant to their lives and the present age. (Draft).

A Mission Statement for the Parish.

Our first step was to listen to the people of the parish. We circulated a letter to all households asking them what they would like to see happening over the next five years. We received some replies back. We arranged meetings in the three church areas where people could discuss what they thought the parish needed to do..

Second step. We considered prayerfully at our meetings what we had heard.

Third step: We decided on what to focus on, in the light of the gospel and what the people had said. Our focus was to be on three items: To be a community united around the Lord, attractive to younger people who wish to become involved, and able through modern means of communication, as well as old fashioned talking, to reach out to bring the good news to all willing to listen.

Fourth Step: This is where we are in difficulty! We are to formulate a plan to bring about these goals with objectives along the way.

Fifth step: To evaluate what we have done (in written form)

Parish Vision Statement.

Kilmactigue/Tourlestrane Parish sees its overall purpose as evangelisation, that is, to make the invisible Christ more visible, and to help bring about the kingdom of God.

We see ourselves as a prayerful community with Christ at its centre, which welcomes, appreciates and reaches out to all people.

We hope to be a parish marked by the joy, energy, strength, resilience and compassion which comes from our relationship with Christ.

We hope to be united around the Lord, attractive to younger people who wish to become involved, and able through modern means of communication, as well as old-fashioned talking, to reach out to bring the Good News to all willing to listen.

The parish priest, and parish pastoral council according to their appropriate roles share responsibility for visioning, planning, empowering, and evaluating.

This “descriptor” should be the main focus of a pastoral council. There is still work to be done.

'ACRES West Connacht

'ACRES West Connacht invites farmers in the **ACRES Co-operation Zone** to an information evening on Landscape Actions in Cloonacool Community Centre F91 KX31 at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, 10th March. Come along to learn about Landscape Actions and how they benefit your farm.'

Catholic Men's Retreat on Saturday 14 March 10am-5pm in V94 P7W5 Limerick. To register text 085 213 1616. For more information email Fr. Oisín froisinemmanuelcfr@gmail.com.

2. Spring @ Fr Peyton Centre, Attymass, Ballina Co. Mayo F26 X884
- One Day Retreat- Saturday March 21st - Waiting in hope on the journey through Lent. Beginning at 11am, and concluding at 4.30pm, the day includes: spiritual talks, reflection, quiet time, rosary and Mass. The cost is €25, which includes tea, coffee on arrival & light lunch. Booking is essential. For enquiries and booking contact Fina 096 45374 / 087 681 6821
 - Guided Prayer Afternoon - Join the Fr Peyton Centre for Guided Prayer Afternoon on Thursday, March 12th from 2pm to 4.30pm. The afternoon will include: rosary, meditation, silent time and Mass. For information contact: Fina 096 45374 / 087 681 6821

Family Mass

The next Family Mass will be Sunday 29th March (Palm Sunday) at 10.30pm in Tourlestrane church.

Cloonacool Players

Who'd have thought greed and romance go hand in hand, or a miracle and mayhem. But it's all in 'Daughter from Over the Water ' Cloonacool Players staging of this hilarious comedy: Thurs 19, Sat 21 & Sun 22 March @ 8pm in Cloonacool Community Centre. Laugh the night away watching Pat Feehily, Eileen Davey and your many favourites including Michael Henry, Dennis Ross and Eimir Murphy. Definitely not to be missed.

Trocaire

Last year, Trócaire worked with over 40,000 people in at-risk communities across Rwanda,

helping vulnerable families build resilience against climate change by:

- Supporting over 2,500 women to receive training in sustainable resource management
- Providing over 20,000 families with fuel-efficient cookstoves to reduce firewood use
- Planting over 320,000 trees across the country

Women's Indoor Fitness Classes

Women's indoor fitness classes with rowing as part of the exercise class starting Monday night at 7pm in Banada Abbey hall for 5 weeks. Mens indoor fitness classes with rowing as part of the exercise class starting on Monday night at 8pm in Banada Abbey hall for 5 weeks..Cost of each class €30. Ring or text Mairead at 087 9615023 or email banadaabbeyhall1@gmail.com for more details.

A walk down Memory Lane with the Phoenix Players

A spectacular exhibition of memorabilia will be on display April 25th in St Brigids Hall, offering a unique look at the groups history.

For now if you have any old memorabilia — photographs, props, programmes, clippings or any other items — we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch so these treasured pieces (which will be returned post exhibition) can once again become part of our shared history. Please contact Caitriona on 087-6783819. Thank you.

Penance

The role of the Church in penitential practices is not to be neglected. Encouragement is to be given to pray for sinners. The faithful are to be reminded that both according to law and tradition, they should approach the sacrament of penance during this season, so that with purified heart they may participate in the paschal mysteries. It is appropriate that during lent the sacrament of penance be celebrated according to the rite for the reconciliation of several penitents with individual confession and absolution, as given in the Roman Ritual.

FRC

Baby Bonding: a six week course will take place in the FRC starting April 14th for 6 weeks. Each session lasts one hour. Enjoy simple, gently, playful activities to help build a strong relationship with your little one. Suitable for expectant mums 28+weeks and babies up to 8 months. Cost for 6 week block is €15. Booking essential to 0719186926.

Trocaire

Trócaire is the overseas development agency of the Irish Catholic Church. We work in partnership with local development and humanitarian actors, to support people and communities to tackle the root causes of poverty, injustice and violence and to use their own power to create positive and lasting change. Trócaire is rooted in the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, the social teaching of the Church, which inspires us to live out the Gospel message of inclusion, love, justice and dignity for all. It is inspired by Scripture, the wisdom of Church leaders, and the lived experience of grassroots movements. In the words of Trócaire's founding document, in which the bishops of Ireland gave the organisation a strong and clear mandate, 'We know that we cannot claim to love God if we do not love our fellow men and women.' Trócaire has worked through local partner organisations since its foundation. Partnership is at the heart of how Trócaire works. We work with local faith and non-faith-based organisations who share our values and who are working on any or all of our core programme areas

of women's empowerment, resource rights and humanitarian preparedness and response. These organisations understand the needs of their communities and are best placed to work with communities to deliver sustainable long-term change. The theme of the 2026 Trócaire Lenten campaign centres on the story of a multi-generational, female-led household in rural Rwanda. At just 28 years old, Uwamahoro is carrying the weight of three generations on her shoulders. She supports her mother, Verediana, 68, who lives with a disability, her daughter Ineza, 7 and her niece Vanessa, 12. Earning just 60 cent per day working on the land, Uwamahoro is doing the best she can to feed her family and keep the children in school, but it's never enough. The next storm could destroy everything Uwamahoro has built. Their house is crumbling, the roof is leaking, they live in darkness with no electricity, and with each storm, they fear for their safety. This is not unusual for women across Rwanda, where severe storms are striking faster and more often, before families can recover from the last. We are asking the people of Ireland to help Uwamahoro rebuild her family's lives and restore their hopes for the future. We wish to thank Bishop Kevin Doran and Pariah Pastoral Worker Mary Kirk for their help in writing this resource.

Trocaire/ Social Justice.

Mother and Baby

The Mother and Baby Institutions Payment Scheme launched in March 2024 following the Government agreed actions arising from the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby homes and certain related matters. The Payment scheme provides financial payments, and health supports to eligible people who spent time in Mother and Baby and County Home Institutions in Ireland. Eligibility criteria can be found online, and applications can be made via an online portal (website below) or by post

Visit: www.gov.ie/en/department-of-children-disability-and-equality/campaigns/mother-and-baby-institutions-payment-scheme/

Contact Helpline: 01 522 9922 (call to request application pack)

All applications are handled with care, dignity and full confidentiality.

Come, Follow Me.

Do you wish to see children between the ages of seven and eleven (First Holy Communion and Confirmation) come to an abiding, loving, personal relationship with God? Do Jesus' words 'Let the children come to me' resonate with you? Are you open to helping your child or other peoples' children appreciate being part of the Church, and its mission? Achonry & Elphin Dioceses Information and training at Summerhill College, circular Rd, Sligo F91D5YF 6.30pm to 9.30pm on Friday 27th February and 9.30am to 5pm on Saturday 28th February. All welcome. Pre-booking essential as places (50) are limited

www.achonrydiocese.org/cfm,

Bowls at Banada Abbey

Why not try out this new game at Banada Abbey hall each Thursday at 8.00pm?
New players always welcome !!

Rite of Reception

There is a long-standing tradition of welcoming the body of a deceased parishioner into the Parish Church on the evening before the Funeral Mass. This begins with a short selection of prayers and readings called the "Rite of Reception", following which those present have the opportunity to offer their condolences to the family of the deceased. This is different in many ways from bringing the body of the deceased to a funeral home.

When the coffin comes to the Church, from the family home or from the funeral home, it remains closed throughout the time in the Church. The focus is on bringing the deceased into the presence of God, in the place where he or she prayed and celebrated the Sacraments, as a member of the parish community. The tradition is that the deceased remains overnight, not alone (as people sometimes say), but in the presence of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Funeral Directors and Priests work very closely together in the service of the bereaved, but their roles are different. The policy of the Dioceses is that the appropriate distinction between the Funeral Home and the Parish Church would be recognised. We are aware that, on occasion, that distinction has been unintentionally overlooked.

New Parish Website

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

Pioneer Dinner Dance

The annual Achonry Pioneer dinner dance will be held on Friday 20th March at 8pm sharp at The Yeats County Inn, Curry. Three course meal with tea/coffee and raffle on the night. Music by The Duets. Tickets are €40 per person. Please contact Thomas at 087-2344338 for more information and to book your tickets.

Introduction to Journalling- 4 Week Programme

Journaling is a simple, private, and free tool for mental and emotional wellbeing. By writing down your thoughts and feelings, you can clear your mind, reduce stress, and better understand yourself. Benefits include reduced stress and anxiety, boosts mood and positivity, increased self-awareness, increased creativity, and problem solving. Want to give it a go? Then join Tubbercurry FRC for this programme starting Monday 9th March and gain simple tips and techniques to get you started. No experience needed, Cost €15. Inquiries/Bookings to 0719186926.

Peace and Justice.

Would anyone like to take part in the Trocaire Lenten Campaign? The boxes have arrived. As a parish, we should really make more of the Trocaire Campaign to

raise our awareness of the various injustices and disasters around the world that are happening and how we can help. The Trocaire Campaign runs all during Lent.

theway.ie

The Irish Bishop's Conference has launched a new on-line platform called theway.ie to help people to discover, live and pass on the Catholic faith. Please "like and subscribe" to their content on Facebook, Instagram, Spotify and YouTube and pass the word on.

New Offertory Envelopes

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

Celebrating 50 years of Boards of Management of National Schools

This year we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of Boards of management for National Schools. We owe a debt of gratitude to all those who were members of boards down through the years.

Thank-You

A sincere thank you to Gerry Curley of Office Pro for his sponsorship of both Volume 1 & 2 of the Lough Talt calendars. His continued support is very much appreciated. All funds raised from the sale of the calendars go towards the upkeep of Lough Talt church.

Physical Activity Tasters

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

Baby Bonding

Baby Bonding: a six week course will take place in the FRC starting April 14th for 6 weeks. Each session lasts one hour. Enjoy simple, gently, playful activities to help build a strong relationship with your little one. Suitable for expectant mums 28+weeks and babies up to 8 months. Cost €15pp. Booking essential to 0719186926.

Readers Missals 2026

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

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.

[You don't have to be addicted to suffer from addiction!](#)

M-PACT , a FREE eight-week family programme
Supporting all family members affected by parental substance misuse
Helping to improve relationships, communication and recovery for all
If interested or would like further information
Please contact 071 9150578 / 085 875 9313 or email
sligoleitrim@alcoholforum.com

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>

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.

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.

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