Sunday 16th August 2026
Mass Intentions. Tourlestrane church

Sunday 16th August: 10.30am: James & Bridie Walsh
Monday 17th August: No Mass
Tuesday 18th August: 9.30am
Wednesday 19th August: 9.30am Janet Daniel
Thursday 20th August: No Mass
Friday 21th August: 8pm
Saturday 22nd August: No Mass
Sunday 23rd August: 10.30am : Joan, John, John James and Margaret Brennan

Kilmactigue church

Saturday 15th August: 8pm :
Sunday 16th August: No Mass
Monday 17th August : 9.30am
Tuesday 18th August No Mass
Wednesday 19th August : No Mass
Thursday 20th August: 9.30am:
Friday 21st August : No Mass
Saturday 22nd August: 8pm : Mary & Bernie McNulty
Sunday 23rd August: No Mass

Lough Talt church

Sunday 16th August: 9.20am: Michael Rochford
Sunday 23rd August: 9.20am:

First reading

Isaiah 56:1,6-7

I will bring foreigners to my holy mountain

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 66(67):2-3,5-6,8

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Second reading

Romans 11:13-15,29-32

With Israel, God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Jn10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice,
says the Lord,
I know them and they follow me.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 15:21-28

The Canaanite woman debates with Jesus and saves her daughter

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.
The Gospel of the Lord

Offertory Collection

The Offertory Collection for weekend 9th August was €1,260.40

Recent Deaths

Pray for Tom Kirrane, brother of the late Johnnie Kirrane, who died last week. Pray for Pauline Walters (nee Nulty) sister of Bernie O'Connor, who died last week. Pray for Tom Tigue. who died this week. Pray for Tony Quinn, brother of Christy Quinn, formerly of Letterbrone, who died in England at the weekend.

Recent Baptisms.

Congrats to James Matthew Hegarty, son of Kevin and Louise, and also to Tomas Patrick Marren , son of Declan and Lisa, who were both baptised recently.

St Attracta's Well,

The Pilgrimage Mass at St Attracta's Well, in Glenavoo will be on this Sunday 16th August at 3pm.

ADVERT FOR HOUSE TO RENT AT CORPUS CHRISTI VILLAGE, TOURLESTRANE.

TO RENT - 2 bedroom house in Corpus Christi Village (Social Housing Complex) Tourlestrane, Co. Sligo. Would suit retired couple or individual. Fully serviced, oil fired central heating. All mod cons. Consists of 2 bedrooms, kitchen / dining room, hallway and bathroom. **NO PETS ALLOWED.** Apply by ringing 071 9181562 (Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm) or email banadadevelopment@gmail.com. Phone number 071 9181562 between 9.30am—1.30pm

St Vincent De Paul

The phone number for the local conference is 087 3549586.

Parish Safeguarding Handbook.

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

Senior Citizens Party

A total of €1005 was collected for the Senior Citizens Christmas Party fund at the recent Church gate collections. Thank you to everyone for your generosity. It is very much appreciated. Senior Citizens Committee,

Achonry and Elphin Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine

The Pilgrimage is on this Sunday 16th August. 2pm Outdoor Rosary. 2;30pm Anointing of the Sick in Knock Basilica. 3pm Eucharistic Procession in Basilica followed by Rosary procession.

Banada Abbey Bingo

Banada Abbey Bingo this Tuesday at 8.00pm. Books can now be purchased online up to 6.00pm on Tuesday. Jackpot Game for €2,000 now on 51 calls or less. Prize-fund of €10,500 on offer.

Local Chiropodist

Local chiropodist will be available on Monday 17th August in the Heritage Centre at Joe Dan's, to book an appointment please call Sean on 087 783 5159

Our Community-Our Story

An invitation to join us for an evening to celebrate our Parish History. Included on the programme will be a presentation on the History of Banada Abbey, The Parish Millennium Video, Display of Photos / Artifacts as well as stories from the past. Come and share your story/memory over a cuppa. All welcome. As part of National Heritage Week 2026, in Banada Abbey Hall, on Thursday 20th August, 8.00pm.

safeTALK (suicide alertness for everyone) Date: Tuesday, 8 Sept. Venue: The Family Centre, Castlebar F23 PH39. Time: 10am-1.30pm. To book, email darlene@breakingthrough.org.

Understanding Self Harm Date: Wednesday, 16 Sept. Venue: The Family Centre, Castlebar F23 PH39. Time: 10am-5pm. To book, email darlene@breakingthrough.org.

Dioceses Of Achonry And Elphin Pilgrimage To Lourdes – Assisted Pilgrim Section

The Dioceses of Achonry and Elphin Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 28th August, 2026 to the 2nd September, 2026 inclusive, under the leadership of Bishop Kevin Doran. Pilgrimage Highlights includes Mass at the Grotto, Torchlight and Blessed Sacrament Processions, Anointing of the Sick, Water Ceremony. Flights ex Knock Airport. **All booking in relation to the Pilgrimage can be directed to Joe Walsh Tours (JWT) at 016852244 or email info@joewalshtours.ie**

Moylough Heritage Centre

Support Our Fundraiser. Win a Center Parcs Voucher or €1,500 Cash ! Tickets €10 Each. Draw: Sunday, 4th October. Moylough Heritage Centre. Get your tickets today: 087 990 5220 | 087 146 8479 or any committee member. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Jubilee of Marriages

Couples celebrating their Silver, Ruby, Golden, Diamond, Platinum or other wedding anniversaries are invited to attend one of two Jubilee Masses, along with their families and friends, on either Sunday 4th October at 2.30pm in Ballaghaderreen Cathedral or Sunday 11th October at 2.30pm in Kiltoom Church. Bishop Kevin will celebrate both Masses. Light refreshments will be served afterwards for all in attendance. As each couple celebrating an Anniversary will receive a certificate from Bishop Kevin, they are asked to register their details at https://achonryelphin.ie/jubilee-of-marriages/

Words of Hymns

The lyrics of many of the hymns sung by the choirs in our churches are available on our website. Look under the "prayers" banner headline and do join in the singing. We are all meant to participate in the Mass. We should not be spectators..

'Embrace the Grace'

'Embrace the Grace' Young Adult Catholic Conference on 29 August 2026 is a Legion of Mary conference on faith and culture for young adults (18-40) with

talks, prayer, Mass, confession, workshops, food and social in the historic Legion of Mary headquarters at De Montfort House, North Brunswick Street, Dublin 7. It will be a chance to build faith in friendship with young adults from across the country. This event takes place on Saturday 29 August from 9.30am to 6.00pm with a social afterward. Tickets cost €20 and can be booked on the eventbrite website by looking up 'Embrace the Grace'. Any queries can be directed towards deusetpatria@gmail.com.

Burren Outdoor Retreat,

Burren Outdoor Retreat, Friday 4th September to Sunday 6th September. Would you like to come with us on a journey through the Burren with its limestone pavements, rare flora and ancient sacred sites? Let the beauty of this place renew you in body and soul. Residential (people within easy reach may commute). Contact Mary at 087 970 1130 for information or Des at 085 161 4951 for bookings.

New Diocesan Website

The new Diocesan website of Achonry and Elphin is now alive at www.achonryelphin.ie

Parish Website

The website for the Parish is https://www.kilmactigueparish.com/ .

Keeping Children Safe

The Diocese of Achonry is fully committed to keeping children safe. Information is available about diocesan child safeguarding on the website . Anyone with issues or concerns around the safety of children should telephone the confidential diocesan helpline . Concerns and complaints may also be passed on directly to TUSLA (Child and Family Agency) and/or An Garda Siochana

Social Dancing

Social Dancing Class. Join me in Buninadden Community Centre each Friday night at 9pm over the Summer months. Learn and enjoy new Social and Line Dances in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. Enjoy a Fun night of Exercise. Chat over a cuppa. Check out my Face Book Page..... Christopher Beirne Dancing

The Sacrament of Marriage Course - online programme from Maryvale Institute offering theological formation, open to anyone, no prior study required, from September 2026 to April 2027. For more information see https://www.maryvale.ac.uk/marriage.html.

Professional Certificate in Pastoral Supervision, a new 1 Year Blended Learning (in-person & online) Programme starting September 2026. Closing date

for applications is June 30th, 2026. Visit sppu.ie/courses/professional-cert-in-pastoral-supervision to find out more.

Man and Woman, He Created Them

The Priory Institute one week on-line Summer School is reflective, informative and interactive and will run from 10 August. The course includes four recorded presentations and one online zoom discussion and is very flexible as it is delivered entirely online. Find out more and register click here
prioryinstitute.com

Maryvale Institute 6-month online course dedicated entirely to the Sacrament of Marriage, the biblical and sacramental foundations of Christian marriage, and the witness that marriage brings to the heart of the Church's mission. Pre-recorded lectures and monthly live Q&A sessions begin 15 Sept 2026. Open to married couples, pastoral workers, catechists, and marriage preparation teams, and to clergy and those in formation. All who wish to engage seriously with the theology of marriage are welcome. For more info visit: https://www.maryvale.ac.uk/marriage.html

2. **Fr. Peyton Memorial Centre, Attymass, County Mayo** Summer Opening Hours (May–September): Monday to Friday: 9:30 AM – 5:30 PM and Saturday: 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM. For more information, contact info@fatherpeytoncentre.ie or call 096 45374.

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

Synod

What does God want from the Church in Ireland at this time? Since 2021, people across Ireland have listened, prayed, and shared their hopes for the Church. From these voices seven priorities emerged: Belonging. Healing, Shared Responsibility, Family, Faith Formation, the role of Women, and Young People. These priorities come from YOU, the people of God in Ireland. Discover more in "Baptised and Sent". Discover more at www.synod.ie
Irish Synodal Pathway.

The Catholic Steps

Introducing **The Catholic Steps (www.catholicsteps.com)** — a free online fellowship for Catholics who are working through a twelve-step program rooted

in the sacraments. The site offers a structured workspace where members work through all twelve steps with reflection questions drawn from Scripture and Catholic tradition. Each member is paired with a sponsor — a fellow Catholic who has completed the steps — who guides them privately through the process. Members can also connect with a daily prayer wall and access resources. It is open to any Catholic who recognises an attachment — whether to a substance, a behaviour, or a pattern of thought — that is keeping them from God. It offers a structured, sacramentally grounded path for parishioners who need more than a weekly meeting but are not yet ready for formal counselling.

Dioceses Of Achonry And Elphin Pilgrimage To Lourdes – Assisted Pilgrim Section

The Dioceses of Achonry and Elphin Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 28th August, 2026 to the 2nd September, 2026 inclusive, under the leadership of Bishop Kevin Doran. Pilgrimage Highlights includes Mass at the Grotto, Torchlight and Blessed Sacrament Processions, Anointing of the Sick, Water Ceremony. Flights ex Knock Airport. **All booking in relation to the Pilgrimage can be directed to Joe Walsh Tours (JWT) at 016852244 or email info@joewalshtours.ie**

The Pilgrimage includes the **Assisted Pilgrim Section**. Those who travel as part of the Assisted Pilgrim Section will stay in Accueil Notre Dame, which is situated near the Grotto and Sanctuary area. They will be cared for by the Diocesan Pilgrimage Care Team whilst in Lourdes. Application forms for the Assisted Pilgrim Section and full details are available from Very Rev. Ray Milton, P.P., Pilgrimage Director, St. John's, Lecarrow, Co. Roscommon. (Telephone – 090 6661115). Closing date for receipt of completed Application Forms is 11th June 2026.

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.

Mountbellew Ag. Show, Co. Galway will be held on Sat 22 Aug 2026 in the Mountbellew Ag. College (H53 WE00).
Entries on-line. Closing Date for entries is Sat 15 Aug 2026. Dog and Cat Entries plus Junior Class Entries only taken on Show Day.
Great Family Day Out. Free children's entertainment including magic, scarecrow competition & pony rides. Fashion Show. Well worth a visit.
For more information & details on classes etc, please see our website www.mountbellewagrishow.ie

Confessions

Confessions is available on Friday evenings in Tourlestrane church at 7pm to 7.30pm in the adoration room.

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.

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

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.

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