

Parish Office: The Parish Secretary, AnneMarie McGrane, is available at the Parochial House on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 10am to 1pm for Mass bookings, the issuing of certificates, appointments, and other parish business Sacristans: Johnstown: Mary Macneil: Tel: 085 7443129; Walterstown: Ann Farrelly Tel: 087 9901277 Society of St Vincent de Paul: Johnstown, contact Freefone 1800 677 777 Ext. 2 Safeguarding Children: The Parish of Johnstown/Walterstown has adopted and implemented the Meath Diocesan Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures, available at www.meathsafeguarding.ie Designated Contact Person-Marie O'Sullivan 083 3175742 dlp@dioceseofmeath.ie Marie Willoughby dlp@dioceseofmeath.ie Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Carol Coogan 085-1916347 & Emer O'Connor 087-6778682

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Saturday 3 rd February	Saturday 10 th February
6.00pm - John & Teresa Sheils	6.00pm - Jim Cummins & Alex Warde;
7.30pm - Kathleen McNelis – I st Anniversary;	Thomas Gibbons & deceased members of
Oliver Oakes – 5 th Anniversary	Gibbons & Kearns families
	7.30pm - Jack Murray & decd. mbrs. Murray & Byrne families
Sunday 4th February	Sunday II th February
9.30am - Eileen & Richard Hennelly	9.30am - Jack Darby, wife Margaret & son Seán
II.00am - Anne Gaffney – 8th Anniversary	II.00am - Pro populo – for the People of the Parish

Rest in Peace: we commend to God the soul of **Carole Barry (née Lynch)** Kells and formerly Oldtown & Fairlands, laid to rest on Wednesday; and the soul of **Tony Mc Kenna**, (St Margaret's) brother of Bernie Fox, Johnstown.

Baptism was celebrated last weekend with the families of Trayvon Adelowokan, Amelia Butkeraítyte, Oliver Reynolds-Towell, Osaremen Christopher Eklorenen, Liam Lotenna George Dickson-Obimah & Eoin Ifeanyi Michael Dickson-Obimah.

Wedding: Congratulations to Ryan Keating & Sarah O'Brien who exchanged their vows in Johnstown on Friday.

Daily Mass - there will be no 9.30am Mass on Monday, owing to the new Public Holiday in honour of St Brigid.

The Parish Pastoral Assembly will be present at 11am Mass next Sunday for a Blessing. The names of the members, following an earlier process of open nomination, will be published in the bulletin and we will present the proposed *Parish Mission Statement* for comment and amendment. A fruitful and lengthy meeting was held last Monday evening and the following were elected – **Chairperson: Fionnuala Keane** and **Secretary: Margot Geoghegan**.

The parish week at a glance: after our four Masses and six christenings last weekend the parish was represented by the PP, Martina Deane & Eileen Murphy, part of the Diocesan Choir, at the Evening Prayer for Religious at the Cathedral also honouring Bishop Michael Smith's 40th Anniversary. In the course of the week we had funerals on Monday & Wednesday, a meeting of the Pastoral Assembly with election of Officers on Monday, a wedding rehearsal, Pre-Nuptial meetings with couples, a meeting of a sub-group of the Navan Deanery to plan a gathering of the eight PPAs of the Deanery in March, a meeting on Wednesday in Kells for Principals and chairpersons of our School Boards of Management organised by the Catholic Primary School Managers' Association, First Friday Communion calls to the sick and housebound, and a wedding on Friday, in addition to the usual weekly schedule! All of which strongly indicates that there is great life and vitality in our parish and a need for the many services we provide to the faithful and to the wider community.

Annual contribution or *Cess* from all parishes to the running of the Diocese. The amount of the Cess for this year remains the same as last year and 2022. The *Cess* supports Safeguarding in the Diocese, the Regional Marriage Tribunal, catechetical support at Primary and post-Primary level, a contribution towards the Episcopal Conference, Pastoral Development, and the general running costs of the Diocesan Office. Every effort is being made to reduce operating costs and the Diocesan Accounts for the past year will be available when completed. The amount due from our parish for 2024 is $\notin 4,362.00$.

The Diocese of Meath is recruiting for the role of Director of Faith Development. Full details of vacancy on www.dioceseofmeath.ie

Legion of Mary, Navan. Legion meetings Mon & Tues 7pm in Community Centre (via red door beside Meals-on-Wheels). Tel: 087 0515402 New members welcome. Junior Legion meets 7pm on Thursdays. Tel 086 367 1171

Tax Rebate for Charitable Donations for 2019 amounts to \notin 9,359.11. Many thanks to those on the Finance Committee who are devoting a lot of time and skill to this worthwhile task. They are currently working on rebates for 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Annual Navan Parish Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help continues at St Mary's with 7.30pm Mass each Friday until Good Friday concluding with Prayer Around the Cross. **Candles** to be lit at Our Lady's Icon can be left in the basket placed near the petition box at the altar rails. Petitions can be left in the **Petition Box** on the altar rails. A selection of petitions will be read at Friday evening Mass. Friday evening Mass in St Oliver's is suspended for the course of the Novena.

The **general intentions** for this year's Novena are as follows: For peace in our war-torn world; For the children preparing for the Sacraments and their Families; For the intentions of all parishioners.

Eucharistic Adoration: St Marys 8am – 9pm (Mon-Sun); St Oliver's 11am – 6pm (Sat). New Adorers needed for following hours – Mon 9am & 10am; Tues 9am; Thurs 3pm & 4pm; Fri 8am & 11am; Sat 9am & 5pm Tel 087 798 9890 or 087 988 2706. **Church Gate Collection** for the spread and promotion of Eucharistic Adoration in the diocese will take place at all Masses in Navan and Johnstown/Walterstown on the weekend of 3^{rd} & 4th February.

Mass for Temperance Sunday and World Day of Prayer for the Sick will be broadcast live at 11.00am on RTÉ TV & Radio next Sunday 11th February. Those who wish to take the pledge for Lent are invited to make contact with local Pioneers or with Fr Robert.

Corpus Christi Charismatic Prayer Group meet Sundays at 8pm in Navan Parish Room for praise and worship. All are welcome.

Teams of Our Lady: Online event in advance of St Valentine's Day for sacramentally married couples (and those engaged to be sacramentally married). Tuesday, 6th &13th February 8-9pm. Themes: 1) Love – what's it all about; 2) Prayer and living your faith as spouses; 3) Knowing each other. Couple time only (no group sharing). Email office@navanparish.ie for Zoom link.

* Young Adult Retreat for Lent - Sat 17th Feb (10am -5pm) in Dalgan Park. '*Cast you cares on the Lord, and He will support you*' 1P5:7. Join other young people in prayer, friendship, Holy Mass, peaceful walks and talks. Opportunity for confession/ personal talk. Cost: €20 (lunch and tea breaks provided) Contact: Sr Úna 090 6481666or email: youthretreats@gmail.com

St. Brigid' Day – Family Day Monday 5th Feb, 11am - 5pm at Cornmarket, Stalls & Entertainment. Parade at 4pm. Meet at Fairgreen at 3.30pm. See *feilenabpaisti* on Facebook & Instagram. Tel 086 313 0049

Irish Blood Transfusion Service seeks 15,000 new blood donors for 2024, to ensure the stability of the national blood supply. The demand for blood is constant and on any given day 200 patients receive transfusions in Irish hospitals. The Service now urgently need to replenish stocks, which are low following the Christmas & New Year period. Please give a priceless gift this year, the gift of blood! All clinic locations, dates, times on <u>www.giveblood.ie</u>. For further information contact Mirenda O'Donovan on 087 2078127

Meath Alzheimer Café Pastoral Centre, Dunshaughlin, this Wednesday, 7pm to 9pm. Guest speaker is Mary Carey, Healthy Age Friendly Homes Coordinator for Meath on "*The Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme*". All welcome. Tea, coffee, and scones served. There is no charge for this service. Contact: 087 188 8178.

Navan and District Historical Society is hosting a talk by Christopher O'Brien-Lynch on 'Saint Stephen's Church, Old Kilcarn' on Thursday 22nd February at 8pm, at Columbanus House, Cannon Row, Navan. Of particular interest to our parish!

St Ultan's Special School requires a bus escort for 20 hours per week to support pupils on the journey to and from school each day. The hours are split between the morning and the afternoon. Tel 046 902 1831.

St Oliver Plunkett Primary School is looking for a Bus Escort for children in Special Class for Autism. Contact 046 902 3347.

Community Employment Vacancies: health-care work placement vacancies for 19.5 hours per week available through CE Scheme. Training provided. Tel 046 9071938.

LMETB jewellery-making, 6-week course at Claremont Stadium 6th February 10am - 12noon. Tel 046-9029693

Bingo in Community Centre Mon at 8:30pm. Drive-in Bingo, Mon at 3pm Bective GFC. Navan O'Mahony's Bingo Tues 8:30pm.

Lotto Results: 28th Jan -Numbers drawn 5,10,21,22- No winner. 1 with 3 correct numbers - JJ Mc Manus Next week's jackpot €10,000