

WEEKEND MASSES

WALTERSTOWN: 6:00PM (SAT VIGIL)
 JOHNSTOWN: 7:30PM (SAT VIGIL)
 WALTERSTOWN: 9.30AM (SUNDAY)
 JOHNSNTOWN: 11:00AM (SUNDAY)
 PARISH PRIEST: FR. KEVIN HEERY PP



PARISH OFFICE

TUES, WEDS & THURS: 10.00AM -1.00PM
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PARISH NEWSLETTER

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2ND MARCH 2025



PARISH LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS:

WEEKDAY MASSES: JOHNSTOWN 9:30 AM MONDAY TO FRIDAY EXCEPT WEDNESDAY
ON OCCASION OF A FUNERAL, 9:30AM MASS IS SUSPENDED
 SYRO-MALABRAR MASSES: JOHNSTOWN 1ST & 3RD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
 TRAD. LATIN MASS: JOHNSTOWN 1PM EVERY SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
 BAPTISMS: SUNDAY FOLLOWING 11:00AM MASS – *ENQUIRIES TO PARISH OFFICE*
 CONFESSION: CELEBRATED IN THE CONFESSIONAL IN JOHNSTOWN, SATURDAY, 7:10PM

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Saturday, 1st March

6:00pm: ProPopulo
 7:30pm: Paddy & Nuala Wall
Sunday, 2nd March
 9:30am:
 11:00am: Martin & Angela Deane & Eugene (1st)

First Sunday of Lent Saturday, 8th March

6:00pm: ProPopulo
 7:30pm: Peter & Ann Gibbons
Sunday, 9th March
 9:30am: Seamie McCabe (1st) & parents
 Mickey & Maggie
 11:00am: William O'Brien-Lynch (6th);
 Liam & Mona Crinion & DFM

Weekday Mass Intention

Mon. 9:30am
 Private Intention

Tues. 9:30am
 Intention

Thurs. 9:30am
 -

Fri. 9:30am
 -



● **Baptism:** God's Holy Church welcomed with great joy **Evie Belle Flynn, Grace Ann Haughey & Keegan Jay Walsh-Carolan**, through the sacrament of Baptism last week, praying God's blessings on them, and their families, as they begin their Christian lives.

● **First Confessions:** Congratulations to the boys and girls of Holy Trinity Primary School, Lismullen and St Stephen's Primary School, Johnstown who celebrated their First Confession last week. A big thank you to the children's teachers and school staff whose work in preparing their little charges for this important moment in their lives was evident as the children approached with faith and trust in God's great love for each one of them.

ASH WEDNESDAY: Holy Mass and the Distribution of Ashes

Johnstown Church: 9:30am and 7:30pm



Remember that
 You are dust, and to
 dust You shall return.
Ecclesiastes 3:20

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence,
 which means on those days:

- We go Meat Free in our diet – Fish, Eggs or Vegetables are acceptable.
- We eat less! Usually given as "One full meal and two smaller meals (*collations*) that together do not equal the size of a full meal" (*ages 18 to 59*).

Ashes are blessed and imparted on the forehead (or crown) of a person's head, as a sign of Repentance, Mortality and Lamenting over one's sins. This ancient biblical action is a serious sign to God of our desire to turn away from sin's hold on us so that we may live the call of the Gospel to follow the Lord Jesus in all that we do, say and are. The ashes remind us that life is short, and this day may be the final chance for us to get right with God and others. It also harkens us to focus on things that last instead of putting greater value on all that turns to dust.

LENT 2025

The holy season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and continues up until the Sacred Easter Triduum. It is a penitential season, marked by the three connected and necessary pillars of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Through these practices we acknowledge our need of God's mercy for our lives as we seek to turn our straying hearts back to Him. Remember it's only 40days!!!!



Pray Fast Give

Some suggested Lenten Practices for Parishioners.

FASTING

No Meat on Wednesdays or Fridays,
½ the amount of some meals.
Abstain from sweets,
Abstain from desserts,
Abstain from alcohol or soft drinks,
No snacking between meals, Log off all Social Media accounts,
Abstain from televised sports,
Abstain from Movies,
Abstain from TV series and Sitcoms,
Use mobile phone and computer only for essential or work purposes,
Abstain from Video Games,
No Unnecessary Purchases to get by with what you have.

PRAYER

Attend daily Mass, or at least an extra Mass during the week,
Pray the Rosary daily,
Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet,
Daily visit to the Church,
Weekly Holy Hour
Pray the Stations of the Cross, Go to Confession,
Read the Gospels - particularly the Passion of our Lord.
Read a Classic Spiritual Book.
Take 20 mins of quiet prayer with the Lord at home daily,
Pray as a family particularly at Meal Times,
Make a pilgrimage, e.g. Knock, Croagh Patrick, Slane,
Visit all the cemeteries in the parish, praying for those interred.
Listen to a Catholic Podcast e.g. *Hallow, Ascension, Word on Fire, Abiding Forever, Bible in a Year etc*

CHARITY

Support a charity,
Spend extra and quality time together with your spouse and/or family.
Set aside spare change for a good cause.
Make an effort to visit a relative,
Surprise someone with good deeds - even better when they don't know who it's from,
Offer your services to the parish,
Make an extra effort to help where there is a lack in the parish: music, reading, welcoming, encouraging others to come back to Mass. God has given you talents, how can they benefit others.
Make a habit of seeing the best in others,
Compliment others instead of taking their characters away through idle chat and gossip.

● **Spiritual Book for Lenten Reading:** *"He Leadeth Me"* by Fr Walter Cizek. A deeply personal true story of one man's spiritual odyssey and the unflagging faith which enabled him to survive the ordeal that wrenched his body and spirit to near collapse. *He Leadeth Me* is a book to inspire all Christians to greater faith and trust in God—even in their darkest hour. As the author asks, *"What can ultimately trouble the soul that accepts every moment of every day as a gift from the hands of God and strives always to do his will?"*

● **Lent in Navan Parish:** 7:30am Mon-Fri in St. Mary's, 10:00am Mon-Sat in St. Mary's. Morning Prayer will begin 10 min before Masses. **Breakfast Club for Secondary School students** attending 7:30am Mass in the Parish Community Centre immediately after Mass

● **Journey together with your child towards First Holy Communion.** Meeting for parents/guardians of 2nd Class children on Mon. 3rd March at 8pm in St Oliver's Church. Share the joy of growing in faith with your child helping them towards First Holy Communion.

● **Mobile Donation:** Scan QR code (left) to donate to the parish for Offertory, Envelopes, Donations, or candle shrines. If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office. Thank you to all who have chosen to donate using new this technology available to us.



Scan me!

Parish Sunday Collection

Offertory: €1,096.90 Envelopes: €840.40

Bank details for direct debits etc. BOI Navan.

A/C name: Johnstown Church Current Account

IBAN IE97 BOFI 9035 0989 9651 74

March Bulletin

kindly sponsored by a parishioner

Thank you to all our generous Sponsors!

GAA Lotto Results: Sun 23rd Feb. Num: 10, 12, 17, 21 -No winner. 4 Match 3 - Siobhan McCarthy, Martin Curran, Rosaleen Collier, Anne O'Neill . next weeks' jpot €11,800