

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

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7TH SEPTEMBER 2025



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, 6th September

6:00pm: Pro Populo
7.30pm: Tom D'arcy (recently deceased)

Sunday, 7th September

9:30am:
11:00am: Mary Carroll (MM);
John Dowdall, wife Helena & DFM

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Saturday, 13th September

6:00pm:
7:30pm: Marie Valentine (1st Ann);
Catherine Crerar

Sunday, 14th September

9:30am: Pro Populo
11:00am: John McCormack (1st Ann);
Frank Donnellan (3rd Ann)

Weekday Mass Intention

Mon. 9.30am	Tue. 9:30am	Thurs. 9.:30am	Fri. 9:30am
Special Intention	Rose & Denis Dunphy	Children of the Eucharist	Máirín Lydon-O'Hora (2 nd)

● **Blessing of Graves** - People gathered in great numbers last Sunday at the cemeteries of Mounttown, Templekieran and Old Kilcarne for the Annual Blessing of Graves. Many thanks to all involved in any way in the ongoing care and maintenance of the cemeteries and the work involved on the day itself. It is a great time for families to come together and is one of those things which the Church and parish do best in providing familiar and effective rituals which, in word and action, bring some meaning to life and consolation to the bereaved. Special note of gratitude to our choirs, readers, sound technician, collectors, and for the cup of tea in Mounttown too!

With thanks for supporting the maintenance and upkeep of the cemeteries collection last Sunday:

Mounttown: € 2524.70 **TempleKiernan** €810.50

Old Kilcarne €2,808.89, (including €400 donated online)

Anyone wishing to contribute can drop an envelope into collection baskets or Parish Office. Donations can be made online through Bank Transfer to Parish Account with "Name of Cemetery" or scanning the QRCode overleaf.



● **Welcome back** to the members of the parish choirs after their summer break and we pray God's blessing on them as they continue to help us to praise God in song and music. New members always welcome.

● **The Church's Two Newest Saints:** Two young people will be recognised as saints and canonised for the faithful's veneration this Sunday in Rome by Pope Leo.

Saint Pier Giogio Frassti: Born in Turin, Italy in 1901, Pier Giorgio Frassati was raised in a wealthy and influential family, yet he chose a life of humility and service. A university student studying engineering, he was deeply committed to his Catholic faith and social justice. He joined organizations like Catholic Action and the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, dedicating himself to helping the poor, the sick, and the marginalised. Despite his privileged background, Frassati lived simply and gave generously. He was known for his joyful spirit, love of the outdoors—especially mountain climbing—and deep devotion to the Eucharist and the Blessed Virgin Mary. He died at the young age of 24 from polio, contracted while serving the sick.

✦ **Virtues and Legacy:** Pier Giorgio embodied the Beatitudes, earning him the title "*Man of the Eight Beatitudes*" from Pope John Paul II. His virtues included: **Charity:** He gave away his possessions and time to care for the poor. **Humility:** Despite his status, he lived modestly and avoided recognition. **Joy:** His cheerful nature inspired countless young people. **Courage:** He stood up for truth and justice, even when unpopular.



Faith: Daily Mass, prayer, and spiritual reading were central to his life. Pier Giorgio Frassati reminds us that sainthood isn't reserved for the cloistered – it's possible in the heart of everyday life. His motto, "**Verso l'alto**" ("**To the heights**"), captures his relentless pursuit of holiness.

Saint Carlo Acutis

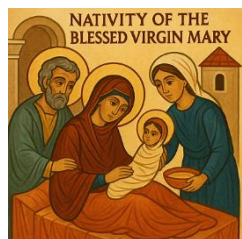
Born in London in 1991 and raised in Milan, Italy, Carlo Acutis was a tech-savvy teenager with a heart on fire for God. From a young age, he showed a deep devotion to the Eucharist, attending daily Mass and spending hours in Eucharistic Adoration. He combined his love for computers with his faith by creating a website that catalogued Eucharistic miracles from around the

world – a project that continues to inspire Catholics globally. Diagnosed with leukaemia at age 15, Carlo offered his suffering for the Pope and the Church. He died in 2006, and his body was later found incorrupt.

✧ **Virtues and Legacy:** Carlo's life radiated the cardinal virtues: **Prudence:** He made wise choices, prioritizing faith over fleeting pleasures. **Justice:** He treated everyone with dignity and helped the poor. **Fortitude:** He faced illness with courage and grace. **Temperance:** He lived simply, avoiding excess despite his family's wealth. His motto, "**The Eucharist is my highway to heaven,**" captures his spiritual focus. Carlo is now affectionately known as "God's influencer", showing that holiness is possible – even in sneakers and with a laptop.

● **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes** on **Tuesday, September 9th**, Bishop Deenihan will lead our annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. As our diocesan family travels there once again, we remember them warmly in our prayers, and we ask them in turn to carry our intentions to the Grotto of Our Lady.

● **8TH SEPTEMBER: FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - OUR LADY'S**



BIRTHDAY. 🎂 🌿 🙏 🕊️ This feast is especially dear to our parish as it is our Patron's Day. The Church in Johnstown has the great honour of being dedicated to this beautiful devotion of Our Lady's birth or nativity. This is one of the most ancient Marian feasts. It is thought that this feast originated in connection with the Feast of the dedication of a church dedicated to Mary, now the Church of St Ann, in Jerusalem in the 6th century. Tradition holds that this is where the house of Mary's parents, Joachim and Ann, stood and where she would have been born. The Feast began to be celebrated in Rome in the 8th century with Pope Sergius I (+8 September 701). It is the third such feast of a "nativity" on the Roman Calendar: the Nativity of Jesus, the Son of God (Christmas); the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist (24 June); and the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (8 September). The primary event in Mary's life always remains the Annunciation. The Church looks on her as the Mother of God, but even more so as the disciple who can best offer us an example and model of the Christian life. In her faith, in her obedience to her Son, in the way she made herself a neighbour toward her cousin Elizabeth and to the couple in Cana on their wedding day, Mary is the woman to imitate especially in the trust shown during the darkest moments in the life of Jesus, her Son. Here, and in many other moments, she explains why the people of God know they can find their refuge and comfort, help and protection in her. Happy Feast Day – It's a birthday and so a great cause to celebrate!

● **Mass Cards:** A selection of Mass Cards are available in the Parish Office or in Sacristies.

● **Mobile Donation:** Scan QR code 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 this way.



Parish Sunday Collection

Offertory €809.37 Envelopes: €586.50

Online: €365.00

Bank details for direct debits etc. BOI Navan.
A/C name: Johnstown Church Current Account
IBAN IE97 BOFI 9035 0989 9651 74

September Bulletin

kindly sponsored by a parishioner
Thank you to all our generous Sponsors!

Please take this bulletin home for others to enjoy.

GAA Lotto: 31/08 - Numbers - -6,7,8,17. No jkp winner 1 match 3 – Connie McDonnell -Jackpot now €14,600

Navan and District Historical Society – Talk by Christopher Lynch, in Columbanus Hall, Canon Row, Navan on Thurs, Sept 18th . be based on a heritage compiled by Katty O'Brien and Annie Delany & colleagues of the Johnstown Guild of the I.C.A. 1985. Admission €5 – Students and Members free .join online www.navanhistory.ie. Further info to navanhistory@gmail.com