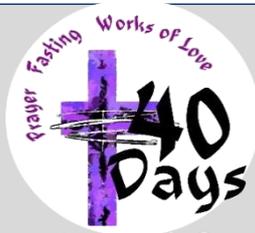


## WEEKEND MASSES

WALTERSTOWN: 6:00PM (SAT VIGIL)  
 JOHNSTOWN: 7:30PM (SAT VIGIL)  
 WALTERSTOWN: 9.30AM (SUNDAY)  
 JOHNSNTOWN: 11:00AM (SUNDAY)  
 PARISH PRIEST: FR. KEVIN HEERY PP  
 PASTORAL AREA: JOHNSTOWN, BOHERMEEN, NAVAN, & ORISTOWN PARISHES GROUPING



## PARISH OFFICE

TUES, WEDS & THURS: 10.00AM -1.00PM  
 TELEPHONE: (046) 9021731  
 EMAIL: JOHNSTOWNPARISH1@GMAIL.COM  
 WEB: JWPARISH.COM  
 SOCIAL: JOHNSTOWNPARISH  



# PARISH NEWSLETTER

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

### 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2026



### 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-MALABAR MASSES: JOHNSTOWN 1<sup>ST</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> 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

#### First Sunday of Lent Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> February

**6:00pm:** Bernie McCarthy (3<sup>rd</sup>)  
**7:30pm:** Pro Populo

#### Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February

**9:30am:** Stephen Clinch; Colin McElvaney  
**11:00am:** Geraldine Doyle (5<sup>th</sup>);  
 Desmond & Helen Kelly;  
 Derek Lenihan (Birthday Remembrance)

#### Second Sunday of Lent Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> February

**6:00pm:** Kieran Browne (25<sup>th</sup>) Patrick & Annie  
 Browne & Bridget McLoughlin & DFM, Richard &  
 Annie Kennedy & DFM

**7:30pm:** Paddy Wall (4<sup>th</sup>)

#### Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> March

**9:30am:** Pro Populo  
**11:00am:** Maciej Gromek (MM)

### Weekday Mass Intentions

Mon. 9:30am Intention	Tue. 9:30am MC Intention	Wed. 9:30am	Thurs. 9:30am MC Intention	Fri. 9:30am
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- **Rest in Peace:** Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Joan Oakes**, Johnstown, who was laid to rest on Thursday in Old Kilcarne..
- **Baptism:** God's Holy Church welcomed with great joy, **Ben Michael O'Leary, Mary Kate Moran, Bella Deirdre Staff-Geraghty, & Caoilte Kathleen Levis-Spencer**, through the sacrament of Baptism last week. We pray God's blessings on them, their parents and families
- **Holy Matrimony:** Congratulations to **Luke Gallagher and Kate Entwisle** who married on Thursday in Walterstown Church. We pray that the Lord will bless them with a lifetime of love, health and happiness as they enter the sacred covenant of Holy Matrimony
- **Trocaire Lenten Campaign:** Trocaire Boxes are available in both churches and can be returned during Holy Week. This year, Trócaire's Lenten campaign focuses on families in Rwanda
- **Sycamore Programme in Lent:** Bohermeen Parish Centre (C15 NHC3), beginning Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 7:30pm. For people who wish to renew their faith in the Season of Lent. The focus of these 5 sessions is on knowing God and the salvation he offers in Jesus Christ, and on our response to this offer of salvation in faith, freedom and love.

# LENT 2026

This first Sunday of Lent always invites us to reflect on the 40day desert journey of Christ, where he faced down the temptations of the devil, overturning the fall, that is the temptations of our first parents in the Garden of Paradise (Genesis 3), while also inviting us to follow Him into a spiritual desert ourselves, that we may overcome the traps of Satan in our lives. This gospel at the beginning of Lent highlights the dynamic to which we are called to follow, which is, as some of saints called it, spiritual combat, relying on the weapons of Fasting, Prayer and Almsgiving/Works of Charity. Through these practices we acknowledge our need of God's grace and mercy as we seek to turn back to Him with all our hearts.

## 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

### ● Pastoral Area Weekday Lenten Mass Schedule:

Mon-Fri: 7:30am St Marys, **9:30am Johnstown** & Bohermeen, 10:00am St Marys, 7:30pm St Olivers  
Tues & Thurs 9:30am Kilberry, Weds & Fri 9:30am Oristown. Friday 7:30pm in St Mary's for Novena  
Saturday 10:00am St Mary's

### Hymn: Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

Lord! Who throughout these forty days, For us did fast and pray, Teach us with You to mourn our sins, And close by You to stay.	As You with Satan did contend, And did the victory win, Oh, give us strength in You to fight, In You to conquer sin.	As You did hunger bear, and thirst, So teach us, gracious Lord, To die to self, and chiefly live By Your most holy Word.	And through these days of penitence, And through Your Passion-tide, Yea, evermore, in life and death, Jesus with us abide.
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● **Baptised and Sent in Lent:** St. Oliver's Church, Blackcastle (C15 NC83), beginning Tues 24<sup>th</sup> February, after 7:30pm Mass, over 5 weeks offering a simple structure for prayer, Gospel reflection and conversation. Themes for each week: belonging, healing, renewal, and mission, flows from the Irish Synodal Pathway's focus on Baptism as the "entry point to a life of faith, a gateway to mission, and the root and foundation on which to build a Christian life".

● **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 in this way



Scan me!!

### Parish Sunday Collection

Offertory: €1,019.00 Envelopes: €461.10

Online: €41.00

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

February Bulletin

kindly sponsored by Deirdre & Michael Cantwell  
(in memory of baby Croia)

Thank you to all our generous Sponsors!