

### 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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JOHNSTOWN PARISH BELONGING TO THE ARDBRACCAN PASTORAL AREA ALONG WITH NAVAN, BOHERMEEN AND ORISTOWN PARISHES



## PARISH NEWSLETTER

### SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

### 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 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-MALABRAR 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

#### Ascension of the Lord Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> May

6:00pm:  
 7:30pm: Michael Halligan (11<sup>th</sup>)

#### Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> May

9:30am: ProPopulo  
 11:00am: Claire O'Reilly (10<sup>th</sup>)

#### Pentecost Sunday Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May

6:00pm: ProPopulo  
 7:30pm: Terry & Esther Larkin & Michael Neary

#### Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> May

9:30am: Ethna Mulliogan (12<sup>th</sup>);  
 Seamie Duffy (3<sup>rd</sup>)  
 11:00am:

#### Weekday Mass Intention

Mon. 9:30am

Tue. 9:30am

Thurs. 9:30am  
 Wayne Gilroy (6<sup>th</sup>)

Fri. 9:30am

● **Baptism** God's Holy Church welcomed with great joy: **Theodore Goodman**, through the sacrament of Baptism, praying God's blessings on him and his family as he begins his Christian life.

● **Rest in Peace** Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Mai Ryan (neeMcEntee)**, laid to rest on Tuesday, for **Redvers Skelton**, Carne Hill, laid to rest on Wednesday & for **Jim Kennedy**, Corballis, laid to rest on Friday.

● **First Holy Communion**: Congratulations to our young parishioners from St Stephen's school, who received the Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Eucharist as they made their First Holy Communion this weekend. As they take their place among God's Holy People at Mass each Sunday may they grow in the love and likeness of Christ our Saviour. We are very grateful for the support of the teachers and staff of St. Stephen's Parish School for helping to prepare the children for this special moment in their lives, especially the children's teachers, SNA's and all the teachers and staff of the School. Next Friday the children from **St Mary's Special School** and next Saturday, the children from **Holy Trinity N.S. Lismullen** will receive their First Holy Communion.



● **Altar Servers** One of the great ministries that help children grow in understanding of Mass and the life of parish is that of Serving at the Altar. We hope the children would consider becoming Altar Servers, and they can only do so with the support and encouragement of their parents. Server Forms available from Sacristy and Parish Office



## Hymn:

**The Solemnity of the Ascension:** "The Ascension of Christ means our own salvation as well, where the glorious Head (Jesus) has gone before, the body (us) is called to follow in hope. Let us therefore exult, beloved, as is fitting, and let us rejoice in devout thanksgiving. For on this day not only have we been confirmed in our possession of paradise, but we have even entered heaven in the person of Christ, through his grace we have regained far more than we had lost through the devil's hatred." – *Pope St Leo the Great*

Some European Customs to celebrate the Ascension include:

**Eating Fowl:** It was a widespread custom in many parts of Europe during the Middle Ages to eat a bird on Ascension Day, because Christ "flew" to Heaven. Pigeons, pheasants, partridges, and even crows, graced the dinner tables. (Perhaps where the 'four and twenty blackbirds baked in a pie in the poem came from????)

**Hiking a Mountain:** commemorating the journey to the mountain for the Ascension.

Maybe a good hike and reading the scriptural account of the Ascension is another way of celebrating today!



● **A Public Rosary** will be prayed each evening (Mon-Fri) at 7pm at the Grotto in Walterstown Church for the month of May, for the intention of peace in our world. All welcome.

● **Meath Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Sept 2026** The Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by Bishop Deenihan, goes from 8th September 2026. Pilgrims have the option of selecting a 4-night or 5-night stay, starting at €849 for full board. Booking forms can be obtained through Joe Walsh Tours. For further inquiries, 01-2410800 [www.joewalshstours.ie](http://www.joewalshstours.ie).

● **Finding God in Nature and Culture:** This is a day of pilgrimage, music, storytelling, and conversation exploring how we encounter God through nature, culture, story, and place. Solas Bhríde Centre, Kildare Town, 27<sup>th</sup> June. 2pm-11:30pm. Tickets through Eventbrite.

● **Pray for Life Novena:** is an invitation to join thousands of people across Ireland to pray for the protection of human life, from Sat. 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Sun. 31<sup>st</sup> May. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life in Ireland. Visit [www.prayforlife.ie](http://www.prayforlife.ie) for the daily novena prayers and to sign up for daily reminders. The prayers will also be posted on [facebook.com/PrayforLifeNovena](https://www.facebook.com/PrayforLifeNovena) and [@prayforlifenovena](https://www.instagram.com/prayforlifenovena) on Instagram

Offertory: € 1039.38 Envelopes: €402.17

Online: €55

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

May Bulletin

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

Parishioners and Parish Businesses are welcome to  
sponsor the bulletin each week.  
Please contact Parish Office if interested



**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.

● **Walterstown Lotto-** 10<sup>th</sup> May- Numbers drawn -No jackpot Winner. Next weeks' jackpot €1,400