



THE PARISH
OF ATHY

Comprising the Faith Communities
of:
ST MICHAEL'S, ATHY
&
ST MARY'S, BARROWHOUSE



MASS OF THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 22ND FEBRUARY 2026

PRAYER

Loving and ever faithful God, no words of ours can express the depth of your gifts of grace and life in Christ, so loving, so free, so abundant. May our gratitude be expressed in our lives. Amen.



PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD

Recently Deceased:

Noel Kavanagh, Branswood
Mary Chambers, Castle Park,
Nicholas Walsh, Chanterlands.
Elizabeth Lyne, Gorey

Sat. 6pm Vigil

Month's mind: Timmy Kelly, James 'Jimmy' Connell
Birthday rem: David Prendergast, Michael Mulqueen
Anniversaries & Rem. Nora Mary Gallagher (1st A), Alice, Jim & Michael Fitzpatrick, Johanna Smyth, Mary Hayden, Seán Fanning, Mary Bolger, Quentin Doran O'Reilly, Damian Doran O'Reilly, John Foley, Angela Kelly (7th A), Tom McEvoy, Dec. mem. of McEvoy family, Declan & Danny Ayres, Dec. mem. of Ayres family, Stephen & John Leonard, Dec. mem. of Leonard family, Walter Clancy, James & Maureen Clancy, Vera Connolly, Kay & Geraldine Ryan Friel, Mary Philips (1st A), Angela Hyland (2nd Anniv)

Sunday 9am Barrowhouse: John Murphy

Sunday 10.30am: Birthday Rem: Winifred Cunningham, Colette Harrington, Michael Keating,
Anniversaries & Remembrance: Dec. mem. of Keating family, Angela Kelly (7th A), Nora Mary Gallagher (1st A), Tim Scully, Kathleen Byrne, Mary Phillips (1st A), Sr. Margaret Kelly (1st A), Dec. mem. of Cunningham & Mulhall families, Elizabeth Lawlor, Dec. mem. of Lawlor & Murphy families, Mick Leahy, Donors Int.

Sunday 12 noon: Birthday rem. David Prendergast
Anniversaries & Rem. Michael Wall (7th A) Angela Kelly (7th A), Nora Mary Gallagher (1st A), Nell & Michael McCormack, Tim Scully, Kathleen Byrne, Gabriel Okafor, May Okafor, Francesca Obi, Mary Phillips (1st A), Vivienne Anderson, Annie Powell, Bridget Prendergast, John Robinson, Peter & Lizzie Delahunt, Donors Intention

Monday 9.30 am: Mary Owens, John Cummins, Nora & Frank Flahive, Monica & Austin Breen,
Birthday Rem: Geraldine Kelly

Tuesday 9.30 am: Birthday rem. Winifred Cunningham
Anniv: Mary Jo Gray nee Mulhall, Dec. members of Mulhall & Brohoon families

Wednes. 9.30 am: Birthday rem: Elizabeth Lawlor Carmel Byrne (1st A)

Thursday: 9.30 am: John Foley, Dec. mem. of Foley family, Patrick & Daniel O'Brien, James Fleming (14th A) Immanuel Edward,

Friday 9.30am: Mary Berry (4th A), Joseph, Margaret & Kevin Murphy, J.J. Leonard, Christy Brogan, Triona Connell, Marie Brady (6th A), Accamma Mathappan

CHURCH NOTICES

Weekend Mass times: 6pm, 10.30am & 12 noon & Barrowhouse Sunday at 9 am .

Weekday Masses: 9.30 am Rosary at 9.10.

We are in the Season of Lent, a good time to reflect on our Mass attendance and Prayer time.

Last Weekend Collections:

P. Dev.: €855

Common: €1,445 **Accord/Relationship:** €1,360

Thanks to all who contributed

LENTEN PRAYER EVENING

overall theme

Baptised and sent by The Holy Spirit

Church of the Assumption, Castledermot

Thursday 26th February @ 7pm

St. Michael's Church, Athy

Thursday 5th March @ 7pm

Church of The Most Blessed Trinity Moone

Thursday 12th March @ 7pm

St. Ita's Church Kilmead,

Thursday 19th March @ 7pm

Church of Ss Mary & Laurence, Crookstown

Thursday 26th March @ 7pm

All are very welcome.

www.synod.ie

Irish Synodal Pathway

Belonging, Healing,

Shared responsibility,

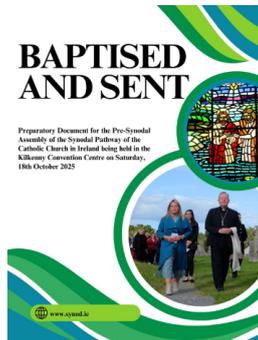
Family, Faith Formation,

Role of women,

Young people

**BAPTISED
AND SENT**

Preparatory Document for the Pre-Synodal
Assembly of the Synodal Pathway of the
Catholic Church in Ireland being held in the
Bilberry Convention Centre on Saturday,
18th October 2025



HOLY HOUR

in St Michael's Church on Tuesdays in Parish Church
from **2.30pm -3.30pm**

LENTEN TROCAIRE BOXES

Available at door of the church

Trocaire Lenten Appeal 2026

Envelopes also available

Trocaire, FREEPOST NS244

Maynooth, Co. Kildare



READINGS

1st Reading: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Psalms: Ps 2:7-9;3:1-7

2nd Reading: Romans 5:12-19 (or 5:12.17-19)

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

PARISH TEAM

Fr. Liam Rigney P.P. Parochial Hs.,
1 Stanhope Pl. Athy, Co. Kildare. R14 CH 90.
Ph: 087 2607377 liam.rigney@dublindiocese.ie



Fr. Tim Hannon C.C. Ph: 059 8630704,

Fr. Francis McCarthy C.C. Ph: 087 6978143.

Canon Frank McEvoy, 4 Stanhope Pl

Pastoral Workers: Conor McCann, Ph: 086 7905654

conor.mccann@dublindiocese.ie

Natasha Geoghegan Ph: 087 6730300

natasha.curran@dublindiocese.ie

Live Lent 2026 is the Lenten Programme of the Parishes of Athy, Narraghmore & Moone. You are invited to join your parish community online where, each day during Lent you will receive a message by either WhatsApp or email with words of inspiration and encouragement as we journey through Lent together.

To join, all you have to do is scan the QR code on the posters or in the Newsletter or send an email to:

livelent2026@gmail.com



Catechetical Corner –Fast and Abstinence

Lent began on Wednesday, Ash Wednesday, a day of 'Fast and Abstinence' but what does the Church require us to do and what do we mean by Fast and Abstinence?

Fasting is listed as one of the Precepts (*the fifth*) of the Church - (see the *Catechism of the Catholic Church CCC #2043*). The precepts of the Church are duties that the Church requires of all the faithful. Also called the commandments of the Church, they are binding under pain of mortal sin, but the point is not to punish. As the Catechism explains, the binding nature "is meant to guarantee to the faithful the indispensable minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort, in the growth of love of God and neighbour." (CCC #2041 - 2043) If we follow these commands, we'll know that we're headed in the right direction spiritually.

The Church defines fasting as: "... having one normal meal during the day..., it is allowed to take a very light breakfast and a very light dinner if the principal meal is lunchtime; or a very light lunch if the principal heavy meal is done at night. During the rest of the day, one must not eat, taking into account that water and medication do not break the fast."

Abstinence on the other hand entails the avoidance of meat and poultry on certain days throughout the year. There are certain days that are Fasting Days and other days that are Fasting and Abstinence. These days are called '*Penitential Days*' "penitential days are prescribed on which the Christian faithful devote themselves in a special way to prayer, perform works of piety and charity, and deny themselves by fulfilling their own obligations more faithfully and especially by observing fast and abstinence..." (Code of Canon Law, CIC, # 1249). "Abstinence and fasting are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday." (CIC # 1251)

"The law of fasting binds those who have attained their majority, until the beginning of their sixtieth year." (CIC 1252). On the other hand; "The law of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year..." (CIC 1252). Fasting in this manner is not required of those who for health or medical reasons should not fast. Perhaps we could fast from something else like television, our phone or our favourite snacks.

Why do we fast? We fast in the example of Jesus who spent 40 days in the desert (see Mark 1:12). We fast because all the saints tell us it is a vital spiritual tool: St. Augustine: "Fasting purifies the soul. It lifts up the mind, and it brings the body into subjection to the spirit. It makes the heart contrite and humble, scatters the clouds of desire, puts out the flames of lust and enkindles the true light of chastity."

Eir is **submitting** a planning application to Kildare County Council to install **3 mobile phone antennas and mobile phone infrastructure** in the bell tower of St Michael's Church, Athy in order to improve poor network cover in the immediate and surrounding area. The Athy Parish Finance Committee has agreed to this request from eir, having received the guidance and approval from the Finance Secretariat of the Dublin Diocese.

Eir will pay an annual license fee of eight thousand euros a year to the Parish of Athy, a very welcome addition to our income. All associated and supporting equipment will be located within the tower and will not be visible.

PARISHES OF ATHY, MOONE & NARRAGHMORE PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2026

7 nights 4 Star Hotel Padoue 22nd June – 29th June 2026

Spiritual Director Fr. Francis McCarthy

All seats are filled.

Deposits are now due please

contact - Christopher Rowan 087 2707 182



TheWay.ie is a new digital platform set up by the Irish Bishops Conference dedicated to sharing the 'Good News' and the witness of the Catholic Church in Ireland. It is intended to help people discover the faith, live the faith and pass on the faith. It is for both seekers and followers. Use QR code to access the site

Bingo Knockbeg College

Thursday 19th of March starts at 7.30pm

(doors open at 6.30pm).

Entry Booklets cost €10 and are available from the Knockbeg office (05991 42127) or on the night. Prizes €20 for a line, €30 for two lines and €50 for a full house. In aid of Knockbeg Parent's Association and New Pitch Development. All support is greatly appreciated.

Eucharistic Healing Retreat in Knock Shrine,

led by gifted Croatian Priest, Fr Rozo Palic Saturday March 7th & Sunday March 8th.

Venue: St. John's Welcome Centre; Saturday 10:00 am - 6:30 pm & Sunday 10:00 am - 4:30 pm.

He will be supported by his Croatian Music Ministry team; no prior booking required; everyone is most welcome and please bring a packed lunch.

For further enquires please contact, Patricia on 089 9466193 or Fiona on fionatjennings@yahoo.com.

Children Liturgy Sheets available at doors of church



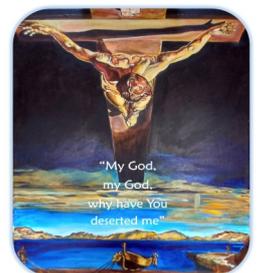
Athy Parish website

www.parishofathy.ie

Parish Radio 107.9 fm

**Stations
Of
The Cross
For Lent
after 9.30am Mass
Fridays
of Lent**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH - ATHY
FRIDAY'S DURING LENT AFTER 9.30AM MASS
EVERYONE WELCOME