



THE PARISH
OF ATHY

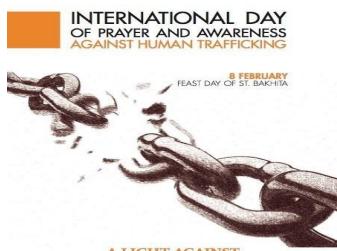
Comprising the Faith Communities
of:
ST MICHAEL'S, ATHY
&
ST MARY'S, BARROWHOUSE



MASS OF THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 8TH FEBRUARY 2026

Prayer

Jesus, we believe that you are the light of the world and that you call us to bear your light to the world. Help us to be authentic disciples of yours, not drawing attention to ourselves, but to you, the source of our light and life. **Amen**



CHURCH NOTICES

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

Weekday Masses: 9.30 am Rosary at 9.10.

Last Weekend Collections

P. Dev.: €715

Common: €1,655 Share €1,240

Thanks to all who contributed

ACCORD DUBLIN/RELATIONSHIP CARE

Annual Collection will be taken up next weekend 14th/15th February during all Masses.

Relationship Care is the new trading name for Accord Dublin the diocesan agency for marriage and Relationships. This will replace Share Collection.

GRÁSTA

Have been facilitating Pre-Marriage Courses and courses for Married couples and Families.

Marriage courses, weekend residential courses available 6th-8th March 2026 and 13th-15th Nov. 2026

Married couples course, weekend residential courses available 7th-8th March 2026 and 14th-15th Nov. 2026

More details at www.grasta.org or at info@grasta.org

Choir

St Michael's Parish Choir is delighted to announce that ten of its members along with members of Castledermot's Assumption Choir and other singers from Carlow Cathedral Choir and Carlow Choral Society will perform -

Aifreann Lorcáin Ua Thuathail -

a special and historic liturgical celebration marking the 800th Anniversary of the Canonisation of Saint Laurence O'Toole here in our parish church on **Today, Sunday 8th February, at 12 noon.**

This commemorative Mass will feature music arranged by Brian Kehoe, organist and composer with the Assumption Choir, Castledermot. The combined choirs will be conducted by Seamus O'Briain, musical director of the Assumption Choir. The Mass will include a very special performance by Celtic Tenor, James Nelson, who will sing a the psalm.

An opportunity to honour the legacy of Saint Laurence O'Toole through sacred music.

St Michael's Parish Choir warmly invite all members of the public and those with a devotion to Saint Laurence to join us.

TRIDIUM TO OUR LADY OF LOURDES 9th-11th Feb
Dominican Church Newbridge Confessions available
045 487200

PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD

Recently Deceased:

Patrick 'Pat' Brennan, Belview

James 'Jim' Reilly, Whitecastle Lawn. Funeral Tuesday at 11am to Mt Jerome Crematorium.

Sat. 6pm Vigil Month's mind: Michael Kelly, Noel Leigh

Birthday remembrance: Esther Maher, John Hoare

Anniversaries & Rem. Catherine K. Kelly (4th A), Robert 'Bobby' Mulhall, Henry Kelly, Martin Rowan, Christy Myles (4th A), Carmel Reddy (3rd A), Noel Reddy (3rd A), Tommy Deering, Anna & Donal McGovern, Micheál Behan, Kate & Charlie Sourke, Bill Cis Tierney, Billy Tierney, Bridie Hunt, Anthony Kirwan, Bridget Hickey, Ethna & Christopher Ludlow, Michael Bride, Kathleen & Sean O'Neill, Mary Marrow, Tommy & Frances Marrow, Delia Manton, Bernie Kelly (10th A), Jimmy Curtis, Paddy Murphy, Paddy Cunnane, Special Intention, Willie Carthy, Rose & Jimmy Doyle, Michael Dooley (4th A), Paddy & Paul Foley, Martin Behan, Nellie & Charlie Sourke, John Sourke, Brigid & Jimmy Behan, Mary & Mairead Byrne, Nora Mary Gallagher, Freida Hoare, May & Joe Kane, Nancy, Sean & Jason Dooley, John Hoare, Maggie & Bill Hoare, Pat Hoare, May, Noel & John Murphy, Ann Murphy, Rita & Ted Ward, Kitty Byrne, Mary Hyland, Betty Cusack, Kathleen Mackey, Kathy Brown, Pat Fitzsimons, Martin Holahan, David Whittle, Maureen Coyle, Frank Honer, Marjorie Austin, Doris Pratt, Joe Carstairs, Dec. mem. Of Kane & Hoare families, Jimmy & Bridie Connell, Michael Kelly, Joe Prendergast (25th A), John Campbell (1st anniv), Frances Lanigan, Richard, Mattie & Mary Moloney, Tom & Lilly Clifford, Paddy Rochford (1st Anniv)

Sunday 9am Barrowhouse:

Sunday 10.30am: Month's mind: Brendan McManus

Anniversaries & Remembrance: Dominic Howe, Robert 'Bobby' Mulhall, Micheál Behan, Anthony Kirwan, Bridget Hickey, Tom Byrne (1st A), Jim Fingleton (1st A), Willie Carty, Rose & Jimmy Doyle, John Campbell, Julia Lynch Tom & Lilly Clifford, Paddy Rochford (1st Anniv)

Sunday 12 noon:

Anniversaries & Remembrance: Robert 'Bobby' Mulhall, Mag & Pat Roche, Jack Donovan, Micheál Behan, Fr. Jim Donleavy, Anthony Kirwan, Bridget Hickey, Willie Carthy, Rose & Jimmy Doyle, Seán Mc Gilly (5th A), Nora Mary Gallagher, Jimmy & Bridie Connell, John Campbell, Sean & Bids Forkin, Tom & Lilly Clifford, Paddy Rochford (1st Anniv)

Monday 9.30 am: Birthday remembrance: Betty Watchorn

Catherine K Kelly (4th A), Patrick & Sarah McGann

Tuesday 9.30 am: Tom Byrne (1st A) Donors Intention

Frances Lanigan

Wednes. 9.30 am: Birthday remembrance: Ben Whelan, Pat Rochford (1st A), Vareed Kachappilly

Thursday: 9.30 am: Birthday remembrance: Ber McStay, James Doyle, Dec. members of Doyle family, Gretta Dunne (4th A), Dominic Howe

Friday 9.30am: Joseph McConville, Patrick, Elizabeth & Billy Farrelly, Mary & Patrick Howard, Micheál Kelly

READINGS Year C

First Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10 **Psalms:** Ps 111:4-9

Second Reading: Corinthians 2:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 5: 13-16

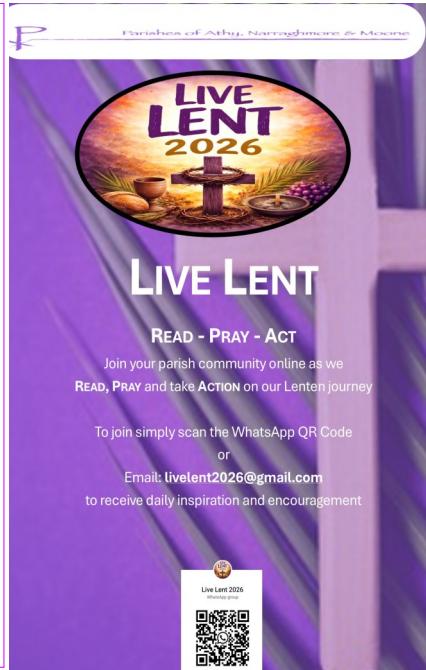
PARISH TEAM

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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 -- 'JUST A DROP IS ENOUGH'

Just a drop is enough. Too much and it ceases to be what it is and becomes something else, not enough and nothing changes at all. This is true whether we are having a cup of tea/coffee or a drop of something stronger.

It is especially true in the Mass. Have you ever noticed how the priest, when preparing the gifts of bread and wine, puts a small drop of water into the Chalice with the wine? He may even use a small spoon called a 'Scruple Spoon', in order to ensure that only a small amount is added. Well, this drop of water has a great 'depth' of meaning.

The practice of putting water into wine to soften the wine began a long time ago. But for the purpose of the Mass, it was only a small amount. If the amount was too much it was determined that it was no longer wine and therefore was not suitable for celebrating the Eucharist.

Over time this reason, softening the wine, was lost to memory and the drop of water took on a much deeper significance. Firstly, it represents the Incarnation. The drop of water represents our humanity being subsumed into the Divinity of Christ, represented by the wine. It denotes the unifying of our humanity with Christ's divinity and we are united with HIM: *"We see that the people are signified by the water, but Christ's blood by the wine. Therefore, when water is mixed with the wine in the chalice, the people is made one with Christ."* (Pope Julius III). This fact is borne out by the prayer that the priest says, often quietly, as he puts the water into the wine: *"By the mystery of this water and wine, may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled Himself to share in our humanity".*

Furthermore, this drop of water symbolises the Crucifixion, reflecting the moment that Christ is pierced with the lance as HE hung on the cross and blood and water flowed from the side of Christ (see Jn. 19:34).

This commingling of water and wine, this drop added to the cup of wine, causes us to reflect on the fact that Christ became man so that we may have a share in the divine nature: *"you may come to share in the divine nature"* (2 Peter 1:4) Or, as St Athanasius put it: *"The Son of God became man so that man might become God [by grace]"* (Catechism of the Catholic Church [CCC], 460). So, just a drop is enough to allow us to share in the Divine Nature of GOD.

CHURCHTOWN N.S.

Is accepting enrolments for the academic year 2026-2027. Please see our school website www.churchofnathy.com For a copy of our admission Policy and annual admission notice.

See churchathy@gmail.com or by writing to our school Churchtown N.S. Athy, Co. Kildare 059-8632178

SCHOOL ENROLMENT

Scoil Naomh Treasa, Ballyroe (R14DX61)

are now accepting enrolments for Sept 2026/2027.

Our admissions notice and forms are available at the school or

by emailing office@scoilnaomhtreasa.ie

Please don't hesitate to contact us by email or phone 0598632522

HOLY HOUR

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

Athy Parish website www.parishofathy.ie
Parish Radio 107.9 fm

EPILEPSY AWARENESS DAY

Purple Day

Thursday, 26th March 2026

www.epilepsy.ie

In Ireland today 45,000 people live with epilepsy

Children Liturgy Sheets available at doors of church



Vocations Information

<https://dublindiocese.ie/vocations>

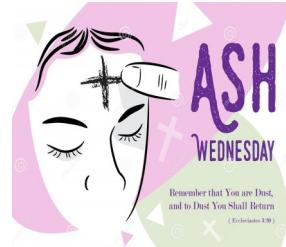
Please pray for more Vocations to the priesthood

ASH Wednesday-18th February

Athy: 9:30 am Mass with blessing and distribution of ashes

Crookstown: 9:30 am Mass with blessing and distribution of ashes

Moone: 7:00 pm Mass with blessing and distribution of Ashes



Ash Wednesday Day of Fast & Abstinence

Abstinence is from meat; fast means one main meal and two small snacks, health permitting.

The ashes reminds us of mortality and the relative shortness of this life.

The Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are ways of spiritual renewal and coming closer to God.