

## CALLAN PARISH NEWSLETTER

**Readers:** 6.30 p.m. Patti McGuire; 8.30 a.m. Diane Tobin; 11.00 a.m. Mairead Carey.

**Ministers of the Eucharist:** 6.30 p.m. Molly Foley & Sadie Bacon; 11.00 a.m. Frank & Stanilasus Kania & Paul Clarke.

**Masses during Lent:** Mon.- Frid. 8 a.m. & 10.00 a.m. each morning. In the event of a funeral occurring, the funeral Mass (usually at 11.00 a.m.) replaces the 10.00 a.m. that particular day & the 8 a.m. goes ahead as normal.

**Westcourt News:** The monthly Mass imploring the blessings of Bl. Edmund Rice and his future canonisation takes place in Westcourt Chapel on this Monday night at 7.30 p.m.. It is being organised by the bereavement group. All are welcome.

**Stations of the Cross:** each Sat. night during Lent immediately after the 6.30 p.m. Mass. The exercise takes 10-15 minutes in all.

### **How the devotion of the Stations of the Cross came about:**

This is devotion that we associate very much with Lent. It is classified as a popular devotion in much the same way as the Rosary or blessing of the throats. It is not part of the official liturgy of the Church. The devotion itself originated out of the desire of the early Christians to go on pilgrimage to Jerusalem for Holy Week in order to walk the Way of the Cross (Via Crucis) – the way that Jesus walked to Calvary carrying his cross. But this was clearly not feasible for the vast majority; only the privileged few could afford to make the journey to Jerusalem. It was then a matter of bringing the Via Crucis to the people – constructing a special Way of the Cross Chapel or external prayer area. Soon every church would devise a way of creating a Way of the Cross within its precincts. This would

take the form of artistic representation of the main scenes of Jesus' passion and death. Initially there were only 8 stations. In 1731 the pope fixed the number at 14 and this has remained so ever since.

**Callan ICA recruiting new members:** "Callan ICA has had a big involvement in its local community. We've been called on to cater for community & social events over the years. Currently the guild has 20 members & getting new members revives a guild, giving it a focus. The age profile ranges from women in their 30s to their 80s. We meet monthly (sometimes weekly) in the Bl Edmund Rice Centre, Westcourt to learn new skills and share them with one another. We have day trips & weekends away. We dine out & have so much fun. As a member you receive a membership card which entitles you discounts in major stores across Ireland. New members are very welcome at Callan ICA Guild, which meets at 8pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month. If you'd like to know more about being a member contact our Guild president on 0872465957 or join us at a meeting to see if it's for you. Looking forward to meeting you in Westcourt".

**Sun. 5<sup>th</sup> March Feast of St. Kieran, Patron of Diocese of Ossory: Two March Saints whose Paths Crossed:** In the months of March each year we celebrate the feast days of two saints who interfaced as they were preparing for their respective missions to Ireland. St Kieran, the patron of our diocese, Ossory, whose feast day is March 5<sup>th</sup>, is often referred to as 'the first of the Irish saints' or 'pre-Patrician'. He was born in Cape Clear Island off Cork about the year 400. His parents came from the Kingdom of Ossory. His search for God took him to the Continent. There he met the future St. Patrick who told him to go on ahead of him back to Ireland to preach the gospel. He told Kieran to go to the 'middle of the country' and found a monastery and church there near a well. But there

were many wells in Ireland at the time. Patrick gave Kieran a little bell and told him to build his church wherever the bell would ring. It rang at a place called Seir not far from the Slieve Bloom Mountains in County Offaly. There Kieran built his little church and lived as a hermit. Disciples soon joined him and Seir Kieran became a thriving monastery. Today the parish of Seir Kieran is a small island parish affiliated to the Diocese of Ossory but located within the confines of the Diocese of Killaloe. It has an inhabitant for every day of the year. Canon Seamus McEvoy, retired parish priest of the Rower-Inistioge, is the current parish priest of Seir Kieran.

**Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes 22-27 May, 2017.** Cost including bus to and from airport €775 pps. All bookings (for both regular and assisted pilgrims) through Glenmore Parish Office 051-880414, Mon – Frid. 9.30-1.30 p.m., except Wednesdays or email [glenmore@ossory.ie](mailto:glenmore@ossory.ie)

**Mount Carmel Draw Results: February 2017: €200** Ethay & Amy Hehir, c/o Bridie Bergin; **€100 each:** Bobby Aylward, T. D.; Martha Madigan, Tullamaine; **€30 each:** Jim Mullins Ballymack; Maura & Tom Townsend, Attatinoe; Dermot McCabe, Super Valu; Claire Somers, Greenview; Joanie Byrne, Clonmel Rd.; Fr. W. Dalton, P.P., Callan; Noel Power, Kilkenny; Maureen Croke Modeshill; Annemarie & Aileen Lynch, Mallardstown; David Fitzgerald, M.C.C.; **€15 each:** Lena Saunders; Tommy Maher, Maisie Condon.

**Diocesan / Cathedral Draw Results, Feb. 2017: €2000:** Tommy Sharkey, Johnstown; **€1000** Liam Mahony, St. Mary's; **€500** Kathleen Collier, Borris-in-Ossory; **€300** Christ Hayes, St. Mary's; **€300** P.J. Lupton, Borris-in-Ossory; **€200** Marie McKeey, St. Mary's; **€200** Caroline Phelan, Johnstown; **€100** Sr. M. Helen Hicks, St. Patrick's; **€100** Tullaherin Choir, Tullanherin; **€100** Kitty & Liam Hanrahan, St. Mary's. In its two years of operation the draw

has raised **€275,000** profit towards the Cathedral Renovations. The new year of the draw begins this month (March 2017). A significant number of Callan participants have won good prizes in this draw in the past two years. The number of prizes and the limited number of participants means that it represents a attractive punt. **Tickets for the new year are available in the sacristy €120 for full year.**

#### **Quotations:**

**“Perfection is attained by slow progress; it requires the hand of time”<sup>0</sup>**

**“Trifles make perfection but perfection is no trifle”**

**“The pessimist is someone who can look at the land of milk and honey and see only calories and cholesterol”.**

**“Politeness is to kindness what words are to thought. It acts not only on our manners but on our mind and heart; it moderates and softens all our sentiments, opinions and speech”.**

**“Peace won by compromise is a short lived achievement”.**

**“When reason rules the mind, peace rules the day”.**

**“The most unfair peace is better than the most righteous war”.**

**Please help yourself to a copy of ‘Reflections on the Sunday Readings during Lent, prepared by Ossory Adult Faith Development.** The First Sunday of Lent always speak of the Temptations of Jesus in the wilderness and the Second Sunday of the Transfiguration of Jesus on Mount Tabor.

**Confirmation Preparation Programme continues this Monday night 8.00 – 9.00 p.m.**