

WEEKEND MASSES

ARDCATH: 6:30PM (SAT VIGIL)
 CLONALVY: 10.00AM (SUNDAY)
 CURRAHA: 11:30AM (SUNDAY)
 CURATE: FR. STEVE CIUBOTARU 0873379031
 FRSTEVECC@GMAIL.COM @stefan6gvk



PARISH OFFICE

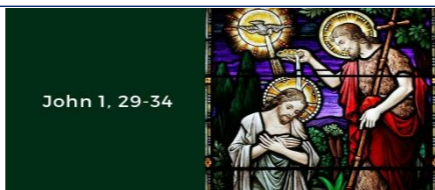
TUES & FRI: 1.00PM – 4.00PM
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 WEB: ARDCATH-CLONALVYPARISH.IE

PARISHES OF ST MARY'S ARDCATH, ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CLONALVY, ST ANDREW'S CURRAHA
 PASTORAL AREA OF ASHBOURNE, ARDCATH/CLONALVY, CURRAGHA, DUNSHAUGHLIN, RATOATH AND SKRYNE

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

18TH JANUARY 2026



Sunday 25th Jan	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST	MINISTERS OF THE WORD
Ardcath 6.30pm	Imelda Andrews	Trisha Fox
Clonalvy 10.00am	Frances Whyte	Cathal Caffrey
Curraha 11.30am	Margaret Nugent	Paul O'Connor

Sunday 18th January Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil Ardcath	6.30pm	M.M. Rita Collins
Sunday Clonalvy	10.00am	Sick of the Parish
Sunday Curraha	11.30am	A.V. James Nugent
		A.V. Mona Sherry & DM of Sherry & Whearity Families
		A.V. Nuala Keogh
		A.V. Christopher & Mary Devaney & DFM
		A.V. Winifred Martin
		DM Ryan Family



Online Donation and Parish Support.
 Please scan code and follow instructions

Mon 19 th Jan	Curraha 7.30pm	Sean Sweeney
Tues. 20 th Jan	Clonalvy 9.30am	Rita Collins
Thur 22 nd Jan	Curraha 9.30am	Intention
Fri 23 rd Jan	Ardcath 9.30am	Intention

Sunday 25th January Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil Ardcath	6.30pm	A.V. Des Caffrey Rem son Colin, Katy Kelly
		A.V. Vincent & Pearl Collins rem Daughter Rita
		A.V. Una & Dermot Dowling & DFM
Sunday Clonalvy	10.00am	M.M. Annie Collins
		A.V. Michael Fanning
		A.V. Edward Madden
		A.V. Nicholas Murray
Sunday Curraha	11.30am	M.M. Con Egan

	Parish Collections			THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE WORK AND UPKEEP OF OUR PARISH
	Ardcath	Clonalvy	Curraha	
Offertory	€ 477.50	€657.16	€1335.20	
Envelopes	€ 310.00	€160.00	€ 110.00	
Offerings	€ 790.00	€350.00	€ 545.00	

Bulletin: relevant news items of parish and local interest are always welcome for inclusion in the bulletin!
PLEASE TAKE A BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU FOR A NEIGHBOUR, RELATIVE or FRIEND.

2026 SACRAMENTAL DATES: We joyfully announce the 2026 sacramental dates

- CONFIRMATION on Friday 13th February (Curragha);
- FIRST CONFESSION, after mass on Saturday 28th February (Ardcath) and Sunday 1st March (Curragha);
- FIRST COMMUNION mass at 11am on Saturday 16th May (Ardcath) and at 11am on Saturday 23rd May (Curragha). A sacred journey awaits our young parishioners.



ONE MONTH (CONFIRMATION): With just one month until Confirmation, now is the time for candidates to deepen their preparation. Focus on understanding who the Holy Spirit is, the seven gifts He brings, and the profound meaning of Confirmation. Reflect on Pentecost, the celebration of the Holy Spirit's descent, and the sacred ritual that seals you with His grace. Let this final stretch be one of prayer and learning.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2026 (18–24 January) celebrates the theme “Normal Lives, Called to Holiness!” Inspired by Pope Francis and Blessed Carlo Acutis, it reminds us that holiness is for everyone: not just the extraordinary. Catholic schools form students to live with purpose, love, and faith in daily life. Education becomes a path to sainthood, where ordinary acts, done with love, reflect the extraordinary call to live in friendship with Christ.



ONE MONTH (FIRST CONFESSION): With just one month until First Confession, it's time to prepare hearts and minds. Candidates should focus on understanding the Sacrament of Confession, the nature of sin, and what is a mortal sin. Reflect on the beauty of God's mercy, the steps of the confession ritual, and the sincere Act of Sorrow. This sacred journey is a step toward healing and grace: embrace it with openness and a prayerful heart.

WPCU: From 18–25 January 2026, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity invites all Christians to unite in prayer under the theme “One Body, One Spirit, and One Hope.” Rooted in Ephesians 4:1–13, this year's reflections, crafted by Armenian Christian communities, draw on ancient traditions of worship. Across Britain, Ireland, and beyond, churches will gather in diverse ways to celebrate our shared faith and deepen the call to unity in Christ. Resources available online.



WORD OF GOD SUNDAY: an invitation to rediscover the power of Scripture in our daily lives. The Bible is not just a book; it is God speaking now, shaping hearts, guiding choices, and igniting faith. Sunday 25th January reminds us that the Word is living and active, calling each of us to listen, reflect, and respond. Let it be the foundation of your spiritual journey every day.

JESUS' STORY: One day, Jesus saw John by the river. John pointed and said, “Look! God's Lamb who takes away all sin!” People wondered, “How?” John smiled, “God sent Him!” Then the sky opened, and a dove flew down, resting on Jesus. A voice whispered in John's heart, “He is My Son.” From that day, everyone knew Jesus came to bring light and love to the world. Moral: When you see something good, share it! Just like John told everyone about Jesus, we can tell others about kindness and love.



BLUE MONDAY, often dubbed the year's saddest day, reflects a deeper spiritual hunger: disconnection, fatigue, and loss of meaning. For Christians, Sunday is the antidote: a sacred rhythm of rest, worship, and renewal. It reorients the soul toward hope, reminding us we are not alone. Sunday anchors identity in Christ, breaking the cycle of despair with communion, joy, and purpose. It's not just a day off: it's a lifeline.

THE LONELINESS EPIDEMIC, a silent crisis of modernity, corrodes not only mental health but spiritual vitality. Disconnected from community and meaning, individuals drift into existential isolation. These void fosters despair, erodes purpose, and weakens resilience. Spiritually, loneliness severs the sacred thread of belonging: to others, to self, to something greater. Without reconnection, the soul withers in quiet desperation, craving communion in an age of digital noise and emotional drought.



THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT: In 2025, 190 souls were lost on our roads (sixteen each month). Each life, sacred and irreplaceable, echoes the fifth commandment: “You shall not kill.” This divine law is not passive: it calls us to active guardianship. Every decision behind the wheel is a moral act. To drive responsibly is to honour life, to protect both our breath and that of others. Safety is not caution: it is compassion in motion.

Community Notices

St Andrew's Church in Curraha are looking for new Ministers of the word. If you would like to become a Minister of the word please contact Lorna in the office on 018350136.

Enrolment 2026/2027: St. Andrew's Primary School, Curraha is now enrolling for 2026/2027 school year. Enrolment forms are available at www.standrewscurragha.com. For assistance or queries, email office@standrewscurragha.com. Join a warm, vibrant learning community where every child is encouraged to thrive. Early applications are strongly encouraged.

St. Patrick's N.S. Ardcath will commence enrolling pupils for the school year 2026-27 from 12th January 2026. Enrolment Forms can be downloaded from the downloads page on www.ardcathns.ie

Closing date for Application is 06 February 2026. Admission Policy and Annual Admission Notice are available on our website www.ardcathns.ie. If you require further information, please email info@ardcathns.ie.