

**WEEKEND MASSES**

ARDCATH: 6:30PM (SAT VIGIL)  
 CLONALVY: 10.00AM (SUNDAY)  
 CURRAHA: 11:30AM (SUNDAY)  
 CURATE: FR. STEVE CIUBOTARU 0873379031  
 FRSTEVECC@GMAIL.COM @stefan6gwk



**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**

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026**



Pray for the soul of Peter Galligan father of Paula Moran Curragha who was laid to rest last weekend. May he rest in peace.

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST	MINISTERS OF THE WORD
Ardcath	6.30pm	Mary Moore	Jill Tuite
Clonalvy	10.00am	Margaret Andrews	Catherine Campbell
Curraha	11.30am	Clare O'Connor	Annette O'Hanrahan

**SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Vigil	Ardcath	6.30pm	A.V. Des Caffrey Rem son Colin, A.V. Katty 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 A.V. Margaret Belton A.V. Jim Creagh	
Mon	26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Curraha	7.30pm	Mick Foley, Francis McGee
Tues.	27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Clonalvy	9.30am	Nanny Collins
Thur	29 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Curraha	9.30am	Pat Duffy, Clive Rowan
Fri	30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Ardcath	9.30am	Intention

**SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Vigil	Ardcath	6.30pm	
Sunday	Clonalvy	10.00am	A.V. Nicholas & Carol Walsh & Finnoula Tuite & DFM
Sunday	Curraha	11.30am	

**PARISH COLLECTIONS**  
**20/21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

	Ardcath	Clonalvy	Curraha	THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE WORK AND UPKEEP OF OUR PARISH
Offertory	€ 222.76	€169.46	€ 608.79	
Envelopes	€ 270.00	€ 30.00	€ 905.00	
Offerings	€ 200.00	€450.00	€1245.00	

**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.

**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**

**ST BRIGID'S DAY:** Happy St Brigid's Day to all our parishioners (especially every Brigid, Bríd, Bridget, Breege, Bidy, and Brigitte!) As patron of poets, blacksmiths, and farmers, St Brigid inspires creativity, craftsmanship, and care for creation. On this first day of spring in Irish tradition, we honour her legacy by praying for fertile fields, gentle weather, and hearts open to renewal. May her light guide us into a season of hope, growth, and spiritual abundance.



**BISHOP DEENIHAN** has established 14 pastoral areas and six deaneries in the Diocese of Meath, following consultation with clergy and councils. These structures respond to demographic changes and aim to enhance collaboration, pastoral care, and evangelisation. Each area will have a coordinator to support clergy, lay ministries, and diocesan priorities. More details: [www.dioceseofmeath.ie/pastoral-areas-deanery-structures](http://www.dioceseofmeath.ie/pastoral-areas-deanery-structures)

**RECEIVING CONFIRMATION** is like getting your spiritual driver's license: but imagine hitting the road without knowing the signs or rules. Without understanding who the Holy Spirit is, what Confirmation truly means, and the gifts it brings, we risk navigating faith blindly. Preparation isn't optional; it's essential. Let's ensure every Confirmed soul is equipped not just with a license, but with the wisdom to journey faithfully and fearlessly.



**MAKING YOUR FIRST CONFESSION** is like learning to wash your soul for the first time: but imagine trying to clean with soap and no water. Without knowing what a sin is, when we commit one, and how forgiveness works, the sacrament loses its power. Soap alone doesn't clean: water activates it. In the same way, understanding sin and mercy activates grace. Confession isn't magic; it's a meeting of sincerity, sorrow, and God's commitment.

**DOES GOD EXIST?** On January 28th, we honour St. Thomas Aquinas, a towering light of faith and reason. In his Summa Theologiae, he offered five profound proofs for God's existence: motion, causality, contingency, perfection, and design. These arguments invite us to see God not as myth, but as the necessary foundation of all being. Aquinas reminds us: faith and reason are not enemies, but partners in the soul's journey toward eternal truth.



**CANDLES PRAY?** Lighting a candle for the departed is a sacred gesture: but remember, candles don't pray. You must. The flame is a symbol, not a substitute. It reminds us to ask God: "Let perpetual light shine upon them." In spiritual life, symbols awaken the soul but only love and intercession reach heaven. Don't just light: lift! Speak their names. Offer your heart. That's how light becomes eternal. That's how souls are remembered.

**INVITATION TO THE BLESSING OF CANDLES:** Join us next Sunday, 1st February, for the **Blessing of the Candles** in honour of the Solemnity of the Presentation of the Lord at the Temple. During this celebration, we will bless the candles used on the altar throughout the year. Your generous **donations for these candles** are greatly appreciated. Let us come together in prayer and light as we honour this beautiful tradition.



**INVITATION TO THE BLESSING OF THROATS:** Join us next Sunday, 1st February, for the **Blessing of Throats** in honour of **Saint Blasius**, a bishop and martyr remembered for his deep faith and compassion. His life inspires us to live with courage and charity. Through his intercession, we pray for protection and healing. Come and take part in this beautiful tradition as we celebrate his example of holiness and care for others.

**INVITATION TO THE BLESSING OF CROSSES:** Join us next Sunday, 1st February, for the **Blessing of Crosses** in honour of **Saint Brigid**, beloved patron of Ireland. Her life of faith, generosity, and care for the poor inspires us to live with compassion and trust in God. During this celebration, we bless the crosses that remind us of her holy example. Come and share in this beautiful tradition of prayer and devotion.



**JESUS' STORY:** Jesus walked along the Sea of Galilee, proclaiming the **Word of God**, source of life and truth. At His call, **Andrew and Peter** left their nets, trusting His promise. Soon after, **James and John** followed, leaving everything behind. Their response shows the Word is living and powerful, inviting us to follow Christ with courage and faith, allowing His truth to transform our hearts and lives completely.

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**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](http://www.standrewscurragha.com). For assistance or queries, email [office@standrewscurragha.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.ardcathns.ie). If you require further information, please email [info@ardcathns.ie](mailto:info@ardcathns.ie).

**Irish Blood Transfusion Service** will be in Ashbourne House Hotel from Mon 26<sup>th</sup> – Wed 28<sup>th</sup> of January 4pm-8pm. Please Call 1800-222111 to make appointment.