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
TELEPHONE: **(01) 835 0136**
EMAIL: **ACCPARISH@GMAIL.COM**
WEB: **CURRAHAPARISH.IE**
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
First Sunday of Lent
22ND FEBRUARY 2026

		MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST	MINISTERS OF THE WORD
Sunday	**1st March**		
Ardcath	**6.30pm**	**Eithne O'Sullivan**	**Trisha Fox**
Clonalvy	**10.00am**	**Ann Whyte**	**Cathal Caffrey**
Curraha	**11.30am**	**Margaret Nugent**	**Patricia Smith**

SUNDAY 22ND OF FEBRUARY FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Vigil	Ardcath		6.30pm	
Sunday	Clonalvy		10.00am	
Sunday	Curraha		11.30am	1st A.V. Tommy Smith & DFM A.V. Joe & Agnes Gibney & DFM 60th Wedding A.V. Mick & Chris Kelly
Mon	23rd	Feb Curraha	7.30pm	Maura Murphy, Angela Ruane, Ronan Gormley Tom Prendiville, Special Intention
Tues.	24th	Feb Clonalvy	9.30am	Maddie Fern
Thur	26th	Feb Curraha	9.30am	B. Rem James Heran Rem wife Annie & DFM
Fri	27th	Feb Ardcath	9.30am	Altar List of the Dead

SUNDAY 1ST OF MARCH SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Vigil	Ardcath	6.30pm	
Sunday	Clonalvy	10.00am	
Sunday	Curraha	11.30am	A.V. Mike Daughton A.V. Hughie Ward and parents Hugh & Margaret Ward

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

Scan me!!

PARISH COLLECTIONS 17th & 18th January 2026

	Ardcath	Clonalvy	Curraha	THANK YOU
Offertory	**€ 192.11**	**€141.10**	**€ 327.10**	**FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT**
Envelopes	**€ 30.00**	**€ 0.00**	**€ 10.00**	**OF THE WORK AND UPKEEP**
Offerings	**€ 0.00**	**€ 0.00**	**€ 0.00**	**OF OUR PARISH**

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.

Parishioners who wish to take a short-term pledge for Lent are invited to visit www.pioneers.ie or to speak to a Pioneer in the parish.

Meetings: Monday 23/02/2026 PPC Curragha; Tuesday 24/02/2026 PPC Ardcath-Clonalvy; Wednesday 25/02/2026 PA Dunshaughlin.

First Confession: Ardcath – Saturday 28/02/2026 5pm; Curragha – Sunday 01/03/2026 after Sunday mass.

Blessing of the graves 2026: Ardcath – 13/09/2026; Clonalvy – 28/06/2026; Curragha, Crickstown, Kilmoon – 05/07/2026; Kilbrew – 06/07/2026; Piercetown – 27/06/2026.

Confessions: Before&after mass –Monday (Curraha); -Tuesday (Clonalvy); -Friday (Ardcath).

Adoration: Every Friday after mass (Ardcath) – no adoration in Lent&Advent.

Stations of the Cross: Tuesday – Clonalvy; Thursday – Curragha; Friday – Ardcath.

Bulletin: relevant news items of parish and local interest are always welcome for inclusion in the bulletin!

LENT 2026 begins on Ash Wednesday and leads the Church to the Sacred Easter Triduum, marking a season of renewal and return. Through prayer, fasting and almsgiving, believers are invited to slow down, seek God's mercy and re-centre their lives on faith. Lent calls hearts back to God, deepening conversion and opening space for compassion, generosity and hope as Easter draws near for believers, families and communities across the Church.

ASH WEDNESDAY marks the beginning of Lent, as blessed ashes are placed on the forehead or crown as a powerful sign of repentance and human fragility. This ancient biblical gesture expresses sorrow for sin and a desire for renewal. It publicly signals a commitment to turn away from what harms us and to embrace the Gospel call, choosing to follow Jesus Christ more faithfully in thought, word and action throughout the Lenten journey.

TRÓCAIRE has launched its 2026 Trócaire Box, highlighting Uwamahoro, a young mother in rural Rwanda caring for three generations of her family. Her story invites parishioners to reflect on strength, dignity and hope amid climate injustice. This Lent, Trócaire calls on communities to turn compassion into action by supporting the Trócaire Box and donating generously to help families like Uwamahoro's build a more just and sustainable future.

POPE LEO XIV in his 2026 Lenten Message presents Lent as a renewed call to conversion through listening and fasting. He invites the Church to place God at the centre, to hear the cry of the poor and the earth, and to purify desire through humble self-denial. By listening deeply and fasting authentically, communities are called to grow in justice, compassion and hope, building relationships that reflect the Gospel and a civilization of love.

FASTING during Lent invites a purposeful simplicity of life. Parishioners are encouraged to abstain from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays, limit indulgences such as sweets, alcohol and snacking, and step back from digital distractions, entertainment and unnecessary spending. These intentional sacrifices create space for prayer, self-discipline and generosity, helping hearts refocus on what truly matters and strengthening commitment to live the Gospel with clarity, freedom and deeper spiritual attentiveness throughout the Lenten season.

PRAYING during Lent invites a deeper, more intentional relationship with God. The faithful are encouraged to enrich their spiritual lives through daily prayer, participation to Mass, Scripture reading and the Sacraments. Practices such as the Rosary, Stations of the Cross, quiet reflection, family prayer and pilgrimage create sacred space amid busy lives, helping believers and communities grow in faith, reconciliation and hope as they journey together toward Easter.

GIVING during Lent calls believers to live love in practical, generous ways. Acts of kindness begin at home through quality time with family and loved ones, and extend outward through service, encouragement and quiet good deeds. Supporting parish life, reaching out to others and choosing words that uplift rather than harm help build stronger communities, deepen relationships and reflect the compassion of Christ in everyday actions, witness and service throughout the Lenten journey.

LENTEN JOURNEY: „Living with Wounds - Healing Wounds". We are pleased to share a new six-week reflection booklet. Rooted in Scripture and monastic wisdom, it offers gentle guidance for prayer, healing, and renewal as we journey toward Easter. All parishioners are warmly invited to use it at home or in groups as a source of hope and spiritual strength this season (https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tNXKqyyIB1qoFJli0vUGT-upyYpWI6XO/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=118188266001036200294&rtpof=true&sd=true).

LETTER: Lent has begun, and with the sign of ashes we heard the call: "Repent and believe in the Gospel." This Lent, we invite you to take a simple but powerful step of faith. Please take a moment to personalise the letter by the door adding the name of the invitee and your own name as inviter. One heartfelt letter can become a gentle invitation home, a quiet yes to God, and a sign of hope this Lent.

POPE FRANCIS: „Fast from hurting words and say kind words. Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude. Fast from anger and be filled with patience. Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope. Fast from worries and have trust in God. Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity. Fast from pressures and be prayerful. Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy. Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others. Fast from grudges and be reconciled. Fast from words and be silent so you can listen".

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Meath Mentors, in partnership with SEAI, will host a Home Energy Upgrade Event at the Pillo Hotel, Ashbourne on Saturday 7 March, 1–4pm. Attendees can meet experts from One Stop Shops, BER assessors, EV dealers, solar PV and heat-pump installers, insulation specialists, Meath County Council and Ashbourne Credit Union. Information on the latest SEAI and Department of Climate, Energy & Environment grants will also be available. **Register now on Eventbrite:** SEAI Home Energy Upgrade Event - Ashbourne Tickets, Sat 7 Mar 2026 at 13:00 | Eventbrite

Choral Workshop: free choral workshop for choir members, musicians, singers, and anyone interested in church music on **Thursday 12th March at 7 p.m.** in **Kingscourt Parish Centre**, led by **Ciaran Coll** (Irish Church Music Association) and **Derek Eakins**. All are welcome.