

WEEKEND MASSES

ARDCATH: 6:30PM (SAT VIGIL)
 CLONALVY: 10.00AM (SUNDAY)
 CURRAHA: 11:30AM (SUNDAY)
 CURATE: FR. STEVE CIUBOTARU 0873379031
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PARISH OFFICE

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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
Fifth Sunday of Lent
22ND MARCH 2026



Sunday	29 th March	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST	MINISTERS OF THE WORD
Ardcath	6.30pm	Lara McCormack	Maire McKenna & Trish Fox
Clonalvy	10.00am	Leta Harford	Cathal Caffrey & Catherine Campbell
Curraha	11.30am	Gerard O'Connor	Maureen Mooney & Patricia Smith

GRATITUDE: With sincere gratitude, we thank the boys and girls who took this important step, First Confession, the parents, guardians, and grandparents who accompany them with faith and love, and the teachers and school staff whose dedication made this journey possible. We rejoice with 7 candidates from Curragha and 13 from Ardcath. As we look ahead to First Holy Communion in May, we continue together with hope, prayer, and joyful expectation.



„I was a little scared at first, but the priest was kind and smiled at me. When I said sorry, I felt calm. After my confession, I felt happy inside. It was like Jesus took something heavy away from my heart. I knew God loved me and forgave me, and that made me feel safe and peaceful.” (Raul)

„When I went to confession, I learned that God listens to me. I said sorry, and the priest helped me. Afterward, I felt light and clean inside. I was not afraid anymore. I felt close to Jesus and happy to begin again. I knew my sins were gone and that God still loved me very much.” (Liz)



„Before confession, I felt nervous, but it was easier than I thought. The priest spoke gently. When he prayed, I felt good inside. It was like getting a fresh start. I felt happy and proud. I wanted to be kinder and try again because God forgave me and gave me peace.” (Sam)

„My First Confession was quiet and nice. I liked that no one rushed me. I said sorry, and the priest helped me feel better. Afterward, my heart felt clean and happy. I felt like Jesus gave me a hug. I learned that confession is about love, not fear.” (Teo)

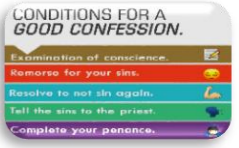


„I thought confession would be hard, but it was gentle. I felt calm when I spoke. Afterward, I felt very happy. God forgave me, and my heart felt new again. I learned that I can always talk to God, say sorry, and start over. That made me smile.” (Ann)



EASTER CONFESSIONS: You are warmly invited to prepare your hearts for Easter through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Easter Confessions will be celebrated in Curragha on Monday before the 7.30 pm Mass, in Clonalvy after the Tuesday 9.30 am Mass, and in Ardcath on Thursday after the 6.30 pm Mass. All are encouraged to take this grace-filled opportunity to pause, reflect, and renew their relationship with God as we journey together toward the joy of Easter.

FIVE STEPS: To celebrate the Sacrament of Penance well, we are invited to follow five simple and meaningful steps: to reflect honestly on our lives, to feel genuine sorrow for our sins, to resolve to begin again with God's help, to confess our sins openly to the priest, and to accept the penance given. These steps guide us gently toward forgiveness, healing, and a renewed relationship with God.



HOW OFTEN? The Church encourages the faithful to approach the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly, and at least once each year, especially during the Easter season. This annual confession helps us pause, reflect, and realign our lives with God's mercy. Making time around Easter renews the heart, restores peace, and prepares us to celebrate the Resurrection with gratitude, freedom, and a renewed commitment to live the Gospel together as a faith-filled community today.

112: Think of Confession as a spiritual 112 call: when the heart needs urgent care. We come honestly, naming one sin that weighs us down and one harmful habit we wish to change. We leave renewed, choosing two new healthy practices that bring life, balance, and peace. This simple, focused approach turns mercy into action and helps us move forward with clarity, hope, and a fresh start grounded in God's healing grace.



25 MARCH – THE ANNUNCIATION: On Wednesday, we celebrate the Annunciation, the moment when the Angel Gabriel invited Mary to become the Mother of God. In her simple and courageous “yes,” Mary shows us the heart of true discipleship: trust, openness, and faith in God's word. Her response (“*May it be done to me according to your word*”) continues to inspire all who seek to follow Christ with humility and hope.

CONGRATS: With great joy, we congratulate the six new altar servers who were officially received into the Altar Servers group last Sunday. We commend their generosity, reverence, and willingness to serve at the Lord's altar. Your commitment enriches our liturgy and strengthens our parish community. May your service be marked by joy, faith, and growing friendship with Christ, and may you always feel supported and encouraged by the prayers of the whole parish family.



SUNDAY 22ND MARCH FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Vigil	Ardcath	6.30pm	A.V. James & Bridget Maloney & Sons Thomas, Sean & James A.V. Noelie Savidge
Sunday	Clonalvy	10.00am	A.V. Joe Whyte
Sunday	Curraha	11.30am	A.V. Liam Hetherton
Mon	23 rd Curraha	7.30pm	Peter Galligan, Carmel Allen
Tues	24 th Clonalvy	9.30am	Special Intention
Thurs	26 th Curraha	9.30am	Francis McGee
Fri	27 th Ardcath	9.30am	A.V. Alice, Peggy, & Bartle Lee & William & Alice Lee.

Online Donation and Parish Support.
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SUNDAY 29TH MARCH PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Vigil	Ardcath	6.30pm	
Sunday	Clonalvy	10.00am	A.V. Agnes & Tony Keenan & DFM
Sunday	Curragha	11.30am	A.V. Paddy McDermott

PARISH COLLECTIONS 14th & 15th February 2026

	Ardcath	Clonalvy	Curraha	THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE WORK AND UPKEEP OF OUR PARISH
Offertory	€ 136.07	€119.40	€ 470.57	
Envelopes	€ 10.00	€ 10.00	€ 50.00	
Offerings	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 130.00	

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

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

Easter 2026: Palm Sunday – Ardcath 6:30pm (Vigil), Clonalvy 10am, Curragha 11:30am; Holy Thursday – Ardcath 6:30pm; Good Friday – Clonalvy 3pm (Stations), Curragha 6pm; Easter Vigil – Curragha 6pm, Ardcath 8pm; Easter Sunday – Clonalvy 10am, Curragha 11:30am; Easter Monday – Kilbrew Nursing Home 11:30am.

Don't forget to change your clocks on Sunday, 29 March. As we welcome spring and longer, brighter days, clocks will move forward by one hour, marking the start of summertime. While we may lose an hour of sleep, we gain many more hours of daylight to enjoy in the months ahead. A simple reminder to help you stay on time: *spring forward, fall back.*