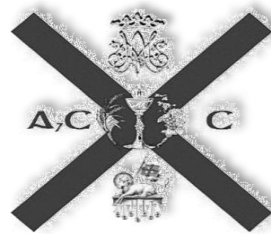


**WEEKEND MASSES**

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**

**Second Sunday of Easter**

**12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026**



Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup> April	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST	MINISTERS OF THE WORD
Ardcath	6.30pm	Maire McKenna	Paula Allison
Clonalvy	10.00am	Frances Whyte	Ann White
Curraha	11.30am	Amy Battersby	Maureen Mooney

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER** is known by many rich and historic titles. Traditionally called *Low Sunday*, *White Sunday (Dominica in Albis)*, and *Quasimodo Sunday*, it marked the completion of the Easter Octave for the newly baptised. In recent times, it is celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday, concluding the Divine Mercy Novena. Whatever its name, it remains a joyful proclamation of the Risen Lord. Alleluia.



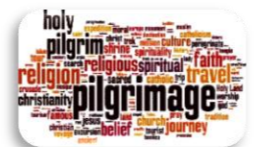
**FIRST COMMUNION:** Our parish community joyfully looks forward to celebrating First Holy Communion, as our children receive the Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. The celebrations will take place at St. Mary's Church, Ardcath, at 11am on Saturday, 16th May 2026, and at St. Andrew's Church, Curraha, at 11am on Saturday, 23rd May 2026. We warmly commend our young parishioners and their families to your continued prayers.

**GETTING READY:** With First Holy Communion now just over five weeks away, our enrolled children are actively preparing, deepening their understanding of the sacrament and the Holy Eucharist. Father Steve looks forward to welcoming you each week for Mass and rehearsal: on Thursdays in Curraha and Fridays in Ardcath, each morning in the church. We continue this journey of faith together with joy and reverence. *The Body of Christ! Amen.*



**PILGRIMAGE:** Celebrating the Franciscan Jubilee Year, Bishop Deenihan will lead a Meath diocesan pilgrimage to Padua, Loreto, Venice and Assisi from 26 September for five nights. Pilgrims will visit major shrines including St Anthony's Basilica, the Holy House of Loreto, San Damiano, the Basilica of Saint Francis, and the tomb of Carlo Acutis. The pilgrimage includes flights, transfers and half-board accommodation. Cost €1,335. Bookings are through Joe Walsh Tours nationwide now.

**THE EASTER OCTAVE,** from Easter Sunday to the Second Sunday of Easter, is a joyful eight-day celebration in which each day is marked as Easter Day. The wider Season of Easter then continues for fifty days, until Pentecost, proclaiming Christ's Resurrection with the constant acclamation of *Alleluia*. This sacred season invites us to share Easter joy in prayer, liturgy, and daily life, rejoicing together in the Risen Lord



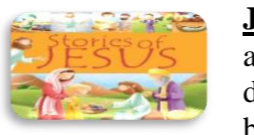
**PILGRIMAGE:** Join us on a special Pilgrimage to San Giovanni, Assisi and Rome, departing 3rd September 2026 for seven nights. This unique journey coincides with the 800th Anniversary of the death of St Francis, with sacred relics available for veneration. Pilgrims will also visit the Shrine of St Carlo Acutis. Spiritual Director: Fr Sean Henry. Cost €1,595 per person sharing. Book with Joe Walsh Tours.

**TRÓCAIRE BOXES:** Parishioners are warmly reminded to return their Trócaire Boxes to the churches or the Parish Office at their earliest convenience. Your generous response brings real hope and practical support to communities most in need. We extend our sincere thanks for your compassion, generosity, and faithful commitment to this vital Lenten appeal, which continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of so many (Only 22 boxes so far).



**BLESSING OF THE GRAVES 2026:** Parishioners are warmly invited to join us for the annual Blessing of the Graves, a cherished time of prayer and remembrance. Ceremonies will take place at Piercetown (27 June), Clonalvy (28 June), Curraha, Crickstown and Kilmoon (5 July), Kilbrew (6 July), and Ardcath (13 September). We remember our loved ones with faith, hope, and gratitude for their lives.

**POPE LEO:** In his Easter 2026 *Urbi et Orbi* message, Pope Leo XIV proclaimed the Resurrection as the victory of life, light, and love, calling the world to embrace peace rooted in nonviolence. He urged leaders to lay down weapons and choose dialogue over domination, reminding all that true strength flows from God's love, forgiveness, and mercy. Easter, he said, opens a new path for humanity toward justice, fraternity, and hope.



**JESUS STORY:** I came to them at dusk, when fear still clung to the walls. Thomas stood apart, wounded by hope delayed. I did not scold him. I showed him my hands. I invited his doubt to touch my mercy. He fell silent, then believed. I said gently: you have seen, and you believe; but blessed are those who will trust me without seeing, and still love me.

**COMMUNITY NOTICES:**

**St. Andrew's N.S.** have successfully been collecting plastic bottles and aluminum cans as part of the Deposit Return Scheme for the past year. If you would like to donate any of your bottles/cans, please drop them to the school on Thursdays to the orange bin located at the front of the school. Thank you

**Community Recycling Day** This is a not for profit community event. In Ashbourne Retail Park. Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of April 2026 8am - 4pm. (Sharp)

**Curraha I.C.A. Meeting** will be held in the Parish Centre on Monday 13th at 12.30pm. Margaret a First Responder will be with us to advise on what to do in an emergency and will demonstrate how to use a defibrillator,

**SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY)**

Vigil	Ardcath	6.30pm	A.V. Carmel & Vincent Geraghty & DM Powderly Family A.V. Paddy & Jean Andrews Rem Shay Lane A.V. John & Maureen Carberry & DM Carberry & Matthews Families A.V. Josephine Howard Rem Husband James
Sunday	Clonalvy	10.00am	A.V. Jack, Mary & Imelda Andrews & DFM A.V. Kit Johnson & DFM
Sunday	Curraha	11.30am	People of the Parish
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	Curraha	7.30pm	Deirdre Lyons
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup>	Clonalvy	9.30am	Special Intention
Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup>	Curraha	9.30am	Gay Coughlan
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup>	Ardcath	9.30am	Special Intention

**SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Vigil	Ardcath	6.30pm	A.V. Dominic & Katherine Gogan & Daughters Rosemary and Alma.
Sunday	Clonalvy	10.00am	
Sunday	Curraha	11.30am	A.V. Monica Mulvaney & DFM A.V. Jim King A.V. Eamon Woods

**PARISH COLLECTIONS Easter Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> April**

	Ardcath	Clonalvy	Curraha	THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE WORK AND UPKEEP OF OUR PARISH
Offertory	€ 155.98	€313.36	€ 646.60	
Envelopes	€ 10.00	€260.00	€1190.00	
Offerings	€ 20.00	€530.00	€1130.00	

**The Parish Development and Offerings boxes** are being distributed over the next couple of weeks in the parishes. There is a letter with the boxes explaining new changes regarding the diocese, leading to Pastoral areas which are now in place. Also a set of accounts for the past five years is displayed in the notice board at the back of the church in Curraha.

**The Meath Diocesan Pilgrimage** to Lourdes seeks volunteers to support assisted pilgrims from 8–12/13 September. Helpers assist medical teams, accompany pilgrims to key events, provide daily practical support, and receive full training and Garda vetting. Contact Mark Whearty at 086 8761849 to express interest.