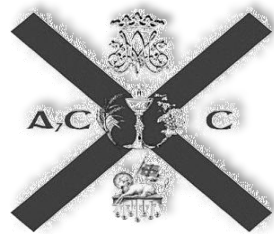


### WEEKEND MASSES

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



### 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

### EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST 2026

| Sunday   | 9 <sup>th</sup> Aug | MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST | MINISTERS OF THE WORD |
|----------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Ardcath  | 6.30pm              | Mary Moore                 | Maire McKenna         |
| Clonalvy | 10.00am             | Patricia Harford           | Cathal Caffrey        |
| Curraha  | 11.30am             | Margaret Nugent            | Maureen Mooney        |



Feeding the Multitude  
Matthew 14:13-21

#### SUNDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

|        |                 |          |                                              |
|--------|-----------------|----------|----------------------------------------------|
| Vigil  | Ardcath         | 6.30pm   | No Mass                                      |
| Sunday | Clonalvy        | 10.00am  | A.V. Catriona McCabe                         |
| Sunday | Curraha         | 11.30am  | A.V. Kevin Morgan<br>A.V. Helen & Owen Brady |
| Mon    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Curraha  | 7.30pm                                       |
| Tues   | 4 <sup>th</sup> | Clonalvy | 9.30am                                       |
| Thur   | 6 <sup>th</sup> | Curraha  | 9.30am                                       |
| Fri    | 7 <sup>th</sup> | Ardcath  | 9.30am                                       |



#### SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

|        |          |         |                             |
|--------|----------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Vigil  | Ardcath  | 6.30pm  |                             |
| Sunday | Clonalvy | 10.00am |                             |
| Sunday | Curraha  | 11.30am | Birthday Rem Henry Staunton |

#### PARISH COLLECTIONS 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> June 2026

|           | Ardcath | Clonalvy | Curraha | THANK YOU                 |
|-----------|---------|----------|---------|---------------------------|
| Offertory | € 96.15 | €202.60  | €309.00 | FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT |
| Envelopes | € 60.00 | € 0.00   | € 75.00 | OF THE WORK AND UPKEEP    |
| Offerings | € 0.00  | € 00.00  | €115.00 | OF OUR PARISH             |

#### BLESSING OF THE GRAVES 2026

ARDCATH – 13/09/2026 (Mass in the cemetery 1pm).

#### Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock:

Bishop Tom Deenihan will lead the Meath Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock on Sunday 9th August. The Diocesan Choir will also be attending. Anointing of the Sick 2.30pm in the Basilica followed by Mass at 3.00-pm. All Welcome.

**Young Adults Retreat – 21-23 August 2026.** (Friday evening – Sunday afternoon) at Dalgan Park, Navan. A great opportunity to discern one's path in life. Cost: Donation (full board, own room)

Contact: Tel: Sr. Una 090 6481666 or Michael 086 2453123 or email [youothretreats@gmail.com](mailto:youothretreats@gmail.com)

#### The Irish Synodal Pathway – The Journey So Far

When a major initiative is discussed for years, people naturally begin to wonder if anything is actually happening, and can feel disconnected. However, in 2021 and 2022, the synodal journey started right at our parish doors when thousands of people across Ireland participated, through a local consultation process, in sharing perspectives about what was working and what was broken in the Church. Those local conversations became diocesan reports, which helped shape global input. Last autumn, delegates from every Irish diocese met in Kilkenny to propose specific national priorities based on that feedback. Read more: [www.dioceseofmeath.ie/synod](http://www.dioceseofmeath.ie/synod)

**WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!** You have arrived in a rural Catholic community living the Gospel through Eucharist, prayer, and charity. Rooted in faith and Irish heritage. Journeying together in Christ: spreading faith, nurturing communion, sharing God's blessings. May you feel as good as possible among us and benefit from this experience!



**MAKING DISCIPLES** begins on our knees. We invite everyone to pray faithfully for five people in their lives, asking the Holy Spirit to touch their hearts and draw them closer to Christ. As we pray, God grants spiritual insight, helping us see others through His eyes, recognize opportunities to share His love, and become joyful witnesses of the Gospel. Through prayer, lives are transformed: including our own.

**JESUS STORY:** Come and see how My Father works. A great crowd followed Me into a deserted place, and they were hungry. Though only five loaves and two fish were offered, I blessed them and gave them away. The food multiplied, and all were filled. So, it is with God's Kingdom: when you place your little in My hands with faith, I make it enough for many.



**HABITS OF THE HEART:** To become more like Jesus, begin with a simple daily habit: start each morning with gratitude. Thank God for three blessings and ask Him to guide your thoughts, words, and actions. This practice draws you closer to God, fills your heart with joy, and helps you reflect Christ's love and compassion in everyday life.

**ABC OF FAITH:** Assumption and coronation of Mary celebrate God's grace and glory revealed in Mary, whom the Church honours on the Solemnity of August 15. Assumed body and soul into heaven and crowned Queen of Heaven, Mary shares fully in her Son's victory. This feast reminds believers of their hope in eternal life and their call to holiness, faithfulness, and joyful discipleship.



**THE PORTIUNCULA – 2 AUGUST:** The Church celebrates the Portiuncula Indulgence, also known as the Pardon of Assisi, a gift associated with St. Francis's deep love for God's mercy. Spiritually, the Portiuncula reminds us that no sinner is beyond forgiveness. It invites us to conversion, reconciliation, and renewal, encouraging us to trust in God's mercy, seek holiness, and become instruments of pardon and peace for others.

**CONFIRMATION BIAS** is the tendency to seek, interpret, and remember information that supports existing beliefs while ignoring conflicting evidence. Spiritually, this bias encourages believers to practice humility and remain open to truth beyond personal assumptions. Faith calls for discernment, self-examination, and a willingness to be corrected. Genuine spiritual growth comes from seeking wisdom honestly rather than merely validating what one already believes.



**ST JOHN MARY VIANNEY (4 August):** Born in 1786 near Lyon, St John Mary Vianney overcame many obstacles to become a priest. Appointed to the village of Ars, he renewed faith through prayer, preaching, and tireless service in the confessional. His wisdom, humility, and compassion attracted countless pilgrims. Honoured as the Patron Saint of Parish Priests, he remains a model of holiness and dedication.

**ST DOMINIC (8 August):** Born in Spain, St Dominic united deep prayer with passionate preaching. Encountering heresy, he proclaimed the Gospel with truth, humility, and simplicity, embracing a life of poverty among the people. In 1215, he founded the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), dedicated to prayer and study. Patron of Astronomers, he remains a model of zeal, wisdom, and faithful service to the Church.



**ST TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS (9 August):** Born into a Jewish family in 1891, Edith Stein was a gifted philosopher who embraced the Catholic faith after seeking truth. She became a Carmelite nun and took the name Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. Arrested during Nazi persecution, she died at Auschwitz in 1942. Patron saint of Europe, she inspires through faith, courage, learning, and sacrificial love.

**AFTER LIFE** – A Soulful Journey Through Grief and Grace: Though not explicitly religious, *After Life* reflects Christian themes of loss, compassion, and hope. Tony's grief resembles a spiritual struggle where meaning seems hidden. Through friendship, kindness, and love, he slowly finds healing. His journey echoes the Christian path from suffering to renewal, showing how grace can work quietly through human connection and enduring love.



**THE TRANSFIGURATION:** On the mountain, Jesus revealed His divine glory to Peter, James, and John, strengthening their faith before His Passion. The Transfiguration teaches that God's light shines even amid suffering and uncertainty. Like the disciples, we are called to listen to Christ, deepen our prayer, and reflect His presence in our daily lives through faith, hope, and loving service.

**THE CHURCH IS A MIRROR** of its community. Just as a person's character is revealed through their words, and especially through their criticisms, which often reflect their own struggles, the care of the church reflects the hearts of its people. From flowers and altar linens to cleaning, spiders and flies, windows and toilets, every detail speaks of a community's commitment, respect, unity, and faith. Let us move from criticism to action and together make our church a reflection of the beauty and love we wish to see.

