

# Parish Newsletter

3rd March 2024

Third Sunday in Lent



No: 1936

Jn 2:13-25

## The Referendums - Next Friday We Vote!

*On Friday next, the 8th of March, we are being asked to vote in two Referendums.*

### **The Family Amendment and the Care Amendment.**

I would think there is a certain confusion about both, we're not sure of the where, the why, the reason or purpose of these referendums. Sometimes, you fear that in order to seem progressive and modern in our attitude, we are trying to negate the past. A tendency today to neutralise language and to diminish, to dilute what is important, and there is nothing more important than the family: where all human life is experienced and lived.

Families today come in all shapes, forms and configurations. The most important thing is that children feel loved and that they know they belong. Where possible, the commitment of marriage does contribute to the common good of society, it deserves protection. Sometimes marriage as an experience is life-giving, sometimes it isn't. Sometimes Priesthood/Religious life is similarly life-giving, sometimes it isn't. However, in the ideal sense, Marriage entails a public legal commitment. There is a generosity in making a commitment to another whether it is religious or civil. The words 'durable relationship' may lack clarity.

Various commentators have suggested that the term 'durable relationship' could lead to unforeseen and unintended consequences.

Then there is .....**The Care Amendment (40th Amendment)** which seems to delete reference to: Home, Woman and Mother. Reading the original statement of 1937, it does not state that a 'woman's place is in the home', neither does it excuse men of their duties to the home and family. It is reasonable to ask to what benefit will it be to remove such references of home, Mother, Woman. In contemporary life there now exists a welcome co-responsibility between women and men for every aspect of home life, including the role of caring. If change were deemed to be necessary, it would be reasonable to include: reference to parents, or to Mothers and Fathers, therefore respecting the core value of parenting in family life.

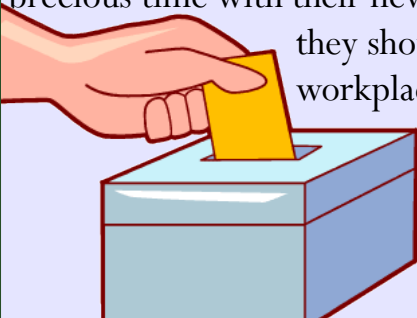
Whatever the outcomes of these referendums, will peoples' lives be improved? In the 20 million or so that will be spent, it won't change the lives of loving and caring parents: married or single, as they watch a child await surgery for the painful condition of scoliosis. It won't change the lives of young couples stretched and burdened by childcare and mortgage costs as both are forced to work.

When visiting young couples preparing for the Baptism of their child. Young Mothers on Maternity Leave will often say they are going to take unpaid leave for a period of time. They value that precious time with their new baby. They ought to have options, and, when returning to the work, they should not be penalised, but resume, if they so desire, their position in the workplace where they can progress and advance their careers as is their right.

In the questions being posed by these referendums, sometimes, we need to assess what is important, what is of value.

Clarity is important and essential. Ambiguity is never helpful.

*(some of the above content has been sourced from the Irish Episcopal Conference).*



## PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

NAAS PARISH OFFICE: Tel.: 045 879 730

E-mail: [office@naasparish.net](mailto:office@naasparish.net)

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm

SACRISTY OUR LADY AND ST DAVID: 045 856 925

BALLYCANE OFFICE AND SACRISTY: 045 895 629

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10am to 1pm

SACRISTY TWO MILE HOUSE: 086 399 1706

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 20015848

FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/naasparish](https://facebook.com/naasparish)

TWITTER: @naasparish

PRIEST ON DUTY: **085 708 8407**

PARISH WEBSITE: [www.naasparish.ie](http://www.naasparish.ie)

## PARISH TEAM

Fr. Liam Morgan	Sallins Road	087 133 7879
Fr. Alex Kochatt	Lakelands	045 898 684
Fr. Michael Flattery	Hazelmere	045 879 730
Fr. Robert Petrisor	Sallins Road	045 879 730
Dn. Fergal O'Neill	Parish Deacon	086 381 6133
Ms. Trish O'Neill	Youth/Pastoral Minister	045 879 730
Ms. Sarah Farmer	Parish Manager	045 879 730

## SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

**Naas:** Geraldine Faherty & Adrian King  
**Sallins:** Dermot McGilloway & Emer McCarthy  
**Two Mile House:** Paula Clancy & Suzanne Powell

**Diocesan Designated Liaison Person:** Ailish Higgins  
**Deputy Diocesan Liaison Person:** Michele Hughes,  
c/o Bishop's House, Carlow **Phone:** 085 802 1633

*Safeguarding Policy displayed in all Church Porches.*

For MASS TIMES for the Pastoral Area of  
Naas, Sallins, TMH & Kill

PLEASE SEE PARISH WEBSITE: [www.naasparish.ie](http://www.naasparish.ie) or the  
PARISH APP.

## **Chrism Mass in Carlow Cathedral Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

There will be a return bus to the Cathedral  
leaving Sallins at 5.20pm and leaving  
Ballycane Church at 5.45pm.



To put your name down for the bus, go  
to the Parish office on the Sallins Road.  
*Please note those participating in the Mass who  
need to be there early, should make their own  
travel arrangements.*



## **Baptism Meetings:**

are held on 2nd & 4th Tuesdays  
of each month at 8pm in  
Room 4, Ballycane Church.  
There is no need to book.



**First Thursday  
Eucharistic Adoration  
in Ballycane Day Chapel  
9.15pm -10.15pm.  
All are Welcome.**



## PARISH FINANCES

**Naas:** Development Fund: €3,965  
**Online donations** (22nd - 28th Feb): €133  
**Tap & Go** (22nd - 28th Feb): €510  
**Sallins:** Envelopes: €355 Baskets: €605  
**TMH:** €865

## Recent Baptisms

Jessica Kilduff, Kerdiff Close  
Calvin Creagh, Craddockstown Park  
Iarla Callaghan, Landen Park

**HOLY MASS, COME AND FIND OUT MORE**  
We continue the journey this Tuesday...



**THE LAST SUPPER  
AND THE CROSS  
Part 2 - THE WORDS OF  
INSTITUTION  
COME AND LET'S DISCOVER  
MASS TOGETHER.**

**Tuesday 5th March,  
Ballycane Church at 7.15pm**

**Tuesday mornings after the 10am Mass  
in the Upper Room: Scripture Sharing  
on the Sunday readings of Lent.**

Join the Legion of Mary in  
praying the Stations of the  
Cross each Friday in Lent  
at 3pm in the Church of  
Our Lady and St. David.  
All welcome.



**"THOSE WHO DIE IN GRACE GO BUT  
TO GOD AND GOD IS VERY NEAR"**

Michael Curtis, Patrician Avenue  
Margaret Roe, Oak Glade  
Mary Clements, Mill Lane  
**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**



## 1st March - Feast of St. David.

**1st March marks an age-old link between Wales and Kildare's county town.**

The first days of the spring months are marked by the feast days of two great saints of the early Christian church in these islands. Here in Kildare we have celebrated the significance of the 1st February as the feast day of St. Brigid. The 1st of March is the feast day of Saint David. Now David might be thought of mainly as the patron saint of Wales but his memory is also kept alive in Co. Kildare where, for some years now, the day is marked in Naas which, since the 12th century, has had a connection with the Pembrokeshire peninsula in south-west Wales.

St. David never visited Naas but rather he was imported in to the locality in the 12th century by the Normans who landed on the Wexford coast having crossed the Irish sea from Wales. The barony of Naas was granted to Maurice Fitzgerald who had family connections with the area of St. David's monastery and cathedral on the Pembrokeshire peninsula.

Mediaeval Naas acquired many of the features of a Norman outpost with a moat, mills, walls and gates all being recorded. But also the Normans brought a cultural impact to bear with traces of Norman-Welsh Culture being welded to existing Irish custom and practice.

One of the most striking similarities between Kildare and Pembrokeshire is in the names of townlands and localities. Overlay a townland map of Co. Kildare on to a map of south-west Wales and the coincidence of naming is remarkable. Townland names such as Herbertstown, Sherlockstown, Craddockstown are to be found in Pembrokeshire. An obvious Norman import for example is Kerdiffstown (as in Cardiff in Wales) and it may come as a surprise to Kildare folk that there is another Punchestown – in this case near Fishguard on the Pembrokeshire peninsula.

When the new Catholic church was built in 1827 on the Sallins Road in Naas it was named after Our Lady & St. David. However it seemed as if the connection between Kildare's county town and Wales might have faded completely in the twentieth century until in 1990 a number of local historians in Naas succeeded in influencing the Urban Council to conclude an official twinning between Naas and the cathedral city of St. David's. So, this March the Welsh dragon will fly outside the Town Hall in Naas as it might have flown over the town back in the 12th century when the Normans found space – among all the Irish saints – for the patron saint of Wales. *(Thanks to Liam Kenny, full article available on the parish website and app.)*



**Join us on Palm Sunday, 24th March  
in Punchestown at 3pm  
as we walk the track and pray the  
Stations of the Cross together.  
All very welcome.**



**Naas Courthouse - March 7, 7-8pm**

## **CANDLELIGHT VIGIL FOR PALESTINE**

**International Women's Day**

**As we pray for an immediate ceasefire  
and peace between these two nations.**

## **Family Masses: March**

*2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH - ALL ARE WELCOME*

**9th/10th March**

**OLSD:** Sat. 6pm & Sun. 11am

**Ballycane:** Sun. 10.30am &  
12noon

**Sallins:** Sat. 5pm

**TMH:** Sun. 10am

**All families are welcome  
to attend a family Mass in  
any of our churches which  
suits their schedule.**



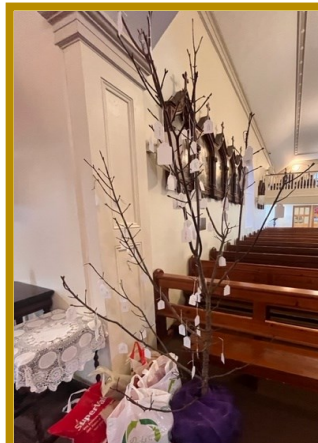
## **The Alms-Giving Tree**

Each Church now has a tree.

All donated goods will be distributed by NaasPoint to people in need in the parishes.

This initiative is being coordinated by the Youth Groups and will continue for the whole of Lent.

A big thank you to all who have donated already.



**Seachtain Na Gaeilge**  
1-17 Márta  
Imeachtaí do gach aois  
ghrúpa.  
Tuilleadh Eolais ar  
sultnasollan.ie  
www.cilldaralegaeilge.ie

**Seachtain**  
na Gaeilge  
le enÉrgia

## St. Patrick's Well, Killashee Pilgrimage, 17th March 2024

Please join us on St. Patrick's Day  
at 11.15am outside the main  
entrance to the Killashee  
Hotel for our annual  
pilgrimage to the St.  
Patrick's Well.

All are very welcome.



## Easter Raffle in Parish Shop:



Win this lovely  
*Easter Hamper*  
Tickets €3 each or  
4 for €10.

Draw will be held  
Tues. 26th March  
at 2pm in the Parish  
Shop on the  
Sallins Road.

## Monster Bingo

Community Centre, Coill Dubh  
on Sunday 3rd March at 2pm.

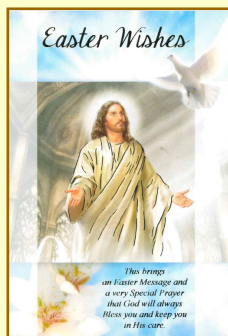
Proceeds will go to Cooleragh & Staplestown Parish.



## Parish Office Shops

Please see the Parish Shops on the Sallins Road  
and in Ballycane Church for a full range of Cards,  
Pins, Prayer Books, Missals, Prayer Cards,  
Rosettes, Gifts, Jewellery and Keepsakes for  
Confirmation, First Holy Communion, Mother's  
Day, St. Patrick's Day and Easter.

Mother's Day Mass Bouquets and a brand new  
range of **Easter Mass Bouquets** on sale now.



As well as a new range of  
Hanging Decorations from  
Kings Forge Glass



**King's Forge Glass**  
by Grace Brennan

## Sallins Local History Group

### "Country Houses of North Kildare"

A Talk by Historian  
Gerry McCarthy  
Monday, 4th March at 8pm in  
the Railway Inn, Sallins.



## Naas Ladies Gaelic Football Annual Table Quiz

on Friday 8th March 2024  
at Naas GAA Club, Sallins  
Road at 8pm.



Price €10 per ticket (€40 per table of 4 ). Win a  
weekend away for two people in the Dunraven  
Arms Hotel, Adare plus more great raffle  
prizes.

Tickets can be purchased at the door on the  
night. All are very welcome to join in this fun  
social night out.

## Naas Parish Weekly Lotto Draw

Jackpot now stands at **€10,000**

Numbers Drawn on 28th February: 2-1-28-9

**Lucky Dip:** D. & S. Bergin, A. Mooney, E. Cahill, A. Burke

You could win the Jackpot of **€10,000** on Weds 6<sup>th</sup> March.

Tickets from the Parish Shops, Whelans Menswear,  
Barker & Jones, Stationery Store, Harbour Hotel,  
the Soda Bread Shop and Swans on the Green.

Also on the Parish Website or Parish App.

Thank you for your support!

