

Parish Newsletter

1st March 2026

Second Sunday of Lent



No: 2034

Mt 17:1-9

Update on Bi-Centenary Projects, 1827-2027

As we look forward to a milestone year, the Bi-Centenary of our Parish Church in 2027, we take the opportunity this weekend to give you an update on planned works and developments... outlining where we are at this moment in time.

Parish Office/Shop on Sallins Road

Our plans to refurbish and extend the Parish Office and Shop on the Sallins Road are still on track. Tender documents for potential contractors have been issued and over the coming weeks we await the various submissions. These will be considered in terms of our budget estimates and timeline. We will see how this stage of the process unfolds.

Interior Painting of Parish Church and Maintenance / Repair Works

Last year we engaged a paint consultant, Vincent O'Brien, from Abbeyleix. Vincent worked as a consultant on the painting of Baltinglass Parish Church. He has made an assessment of the church and believes that while the paint is generally in a good state some areas could use refreshment and a rebalancing of colour.

We have decided to repaint the walls and ceiling of the Sanctuary area, the Shrine areas left and right of the Sanctuary which have become discoloured due to smoke from the candles. Also the choir gallery, window surrounds, and the lower parts of the walls.

Generally, the walls are in good shape and where there is some flaking this will be addressed. For painting works, three quotations were obtained. Based on price, experience and availability, local contractor and parishioner Philip Stynes has been appointed to complete the work.

The Kneelers on our seats have become tatty and worn over the last 10 years and need to be covered in new material. We are awaiting the cost details involved and hope to have this work completed at the same time as the repainting of the church.

Important Announcement

Unfortunately, disruption is inevitable, and it will be necessary to close the church for a period of time, to allow for scaffolding and repairs to the kneelers.

The Church will be completely closed from 25th May until 17th July.

All Sunday Masses, weekday Masses, Funerals, Weddings and Baptisms will take place in Ballycane Church or, alternatively Sallins or Two Mile House.

We are sorry for the inconvenience.

A temporary and revised schedule of Sunday Masses will be published shortly.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

continued on page 3

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

NAAS PARISH OFFICE: Tel.: 045 879 730

E-mail: 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

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

TWITTER: @naasparish

PRIEST ON DUTY: **085 708 8407**

PARISH WEBSITE: www.naasparish.ie

Registered Charity No: 20015848

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

Naas: Geraldine Faherty & Adrian King
Sallins: Dermot McGilloway & Gillian Fitzharris
Two Mile House: Paula Clancy & Suzanne Powell
Diocesan Designated Liaison Person: Michele Hughes,
c/o Bishop's House, Carlow **Phone:** 086 171 0643
or **email:** dlp@kandle.ie

Safeguarding Policy displayed in all Church Porches

Family Masses 7th/8th March

OLSD: Sat 6pm, Sun 11am

Sallins: Sat 7pm,

Ballycane: Sun 10.30am & 12noon

Two Mile House: Sun 10am

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTIONS

Naas: Development Fund: €3,690

Online donations (19th - 25th Feb): €308

Tap&Go (19th - 25th Feb): €820

Sallins: Envelopes: €250 Baskets: €515

TMH: €627

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



Jim O'Leary, St. Conleth's Place

Brendan Russell, Sarto Park

Betty Keane, Kingsfurze

Grace Elliott & Brian Frisby, Ashgrove

Vincent McGovern, Sallins Road

Sheila McCarthy, Spring Gardens

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Recent Baptisms



Colin Brett, Oak Park Drive

Autumn Magee, Kill

Cillian Carey, Craddockstown

Saoirse McNally, Oak Glade

Bonnie Pakenham, Rathaskar Lane

Charlie Hickey, Tipper Road

Living Lent

Some suggestions for the week ahead:

- † Persevere in your chosen resolutions for Lent
- † Find out how you can help a chosen charity
- † Pray the Stations of the Cross
- † Cut down on screen time and pay attention to the people around you.
- † Check that you have a copy of a Catholic bible in your home and take some time to read it.

1st March is known as St David's Day. St. David ministered in Wales some 1,500 years ago. Reputed for his humility and for his affinity with the natural world, David was a pillar of the early Christian faith in these islands. He was well known to the emerging Christian church in Ireland. His specific connection with Naas came later when dedication to him was brought by the Norman-Welsh barons such as the FitzGerald's who settled in these parts some eight centuries ago. They named the ancient church in the town centre - the Church of Ireland now - after the patron saint of their homeland. The dedication to St David was continued by Naas people in the centuries that followed to the extent that his name was included in the title of the parish church "Our Lady and St David" when it was completed in 1827.

St David was a practical kind of saint enjoining his people to be **"faithful in the little things."**

"The Phone Basket"

WEEK 2 – Our Lenten Tree ... this week ... the purple labels.

This Sunday our theme is Fasting, shown by the purple labels on our Lenten Tree. Fasting means letting go of something so there's more room for what matters.

A family kept fighting during dinner because everyone was on their phones. One night the mother placed a basket on the table and said, "For Lent, our phones rest here." At first it felt strange - but soon they talked more, laughed more, even prayed together.

The purple labels hanging on our Lenten Tree help us remember that fasting isn't about punishment - it's about choosing better things. This week, could you let go of one distraction so you can give your full attention to someone who needs it?

Jesus, help us let go of what distracts us.

Teach us that fasting brings freedom.

Help us choose what truly matters.

Church Grounds at Our Lady and St. David's

At a meeting of the Parish held on the 13th November 2025, we outlined plans for the upgrade to our church grounds. A Planning Application had been submitted which included the installation of a pedestrian bridge to link the car park and church, the re-orientation of car park and grounds, and the partial removal and lowering of railings fronting the church on the Sallins road. The overall response from parishioners raised many concerns. We took this on board and appreciated the honest feedback offered.

The response from KCC sought more information on the proposed bridge such as requesting a 'Full Ecological Impact Assessment' and possibly being required to conduct a 'Bat, Otter and White-clawed Crayfish Survey' along with consultation with Inland Fisheries Ireland. KCC also requested consideration of the entire removal of the railings. Listening to concerns raised at the meeting around boundary demarcation and general safety along with the increased cost associated with the KCC suggestions, we feel it would not be a prudent use of parish finances.

We are now pressing the pause button on the PLANNING APPLICATION submitted to KCC. We do however intend to proceed with the resurfacing of the car parks and the improvements to the Grotto. Quotations are being sought from reputable contractors.

In conclusion... On my own behalf, thank you for your faithful and consistent support of parish finances which allow us to undertake these works. As with any project of this magnitude, some fundraising may be necessary.

We look forward to our Bi-Centenary year, a wonderful moment in the life of our parish. Good to be alive, and please God and to be part of this milestone.

Later in the year a Programme of Bi-Centenary Events and Celebrations will be published.

As always, thank you for your faithful support.

Fr. Liam and Trevor Macnamara, on behalf of the Parish Finance Committee

Fr. Liam pictured at the KFM studios with radio presenter Paul Power of KFM and Michael English, promoting our forthcoming Bi-Centenary Concert in Our Lady and St. David's Church on Friday 6th March.



Congratulations to Stephen O'Brien, winner of the €7,650 jackpot .

Our grateful thanks to all who support the parish lotto including our hard-working committee.

Stephen is pictured with Jo Coy, our Parish Draw Manager and Fr. Liam.

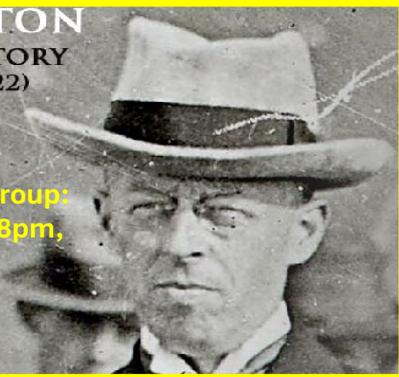


ROBERT BARTON

ENIGMATIC SIGNATORY OF THE TREATY (1922)
DR CHRIS LAWLOR

Naas Local History Group:
Tuesday, 3rd March, 8pm,
Town House Hotel.

All very welcome.



Local Bereavement Network Information Evening

Living with Grief - Community Supports, Kildare

Tuesday, March 24th, 7:00 - 9:00pm

in the Keadeen Hotel, Newbridge, W12 T925

Free event but booking is necessary.

Please see full poster on Parish Website.



Tea Party Fundraiser in aid of Haematology Day Ward - TUH on 7th March, 12noon - 4pm. Hosted by Della McCarthy, 89 The Paddocks. All are Welcome



Join HLI's Mission to make Christ, King of Our Hearts and venerate the relics of St. Therese & the Holy Face.
Town House Hotel 7pm
Wednesday 11th March 2026.



First Thursday Eucharistic Adoration
Ballycane Day Chapel 9.15pm -10.15pm
on Thurs. 5th March. **All are Welcome.**



Daffodil Day 2026 - Fri 20th March Volunteers Needed

The Organisers are looking for volunteers this year in Naas for collections at a number of different supermarkets throughout the town. Last year the people of Naas managed to raise over €17,000 our best year.

To volunteer please contact **Lorraine 0851433535**

Solemn Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

St. Peter & Paul's Church Monasterevin,
Monday 9th March to Friday 13th March.
Starting at 7.30pm. See poster on Parish Website. All are welcome



Naas Retirement group. We meet every second Tuesday of the month in McAuley Place at 2 until 4pm. We have speakers, go on trips, play bingo and have tea and chat. If you are interested in joining us, we would be delighted to see you. **Next meeting is on Tuesday the 3rd of March.**

Naas Musical Society: presents **'We Will Rock You' in the Moat Theatre from 7th - 13th March.** Featuring more than 24 of Queens biggest hits. Show starts at 8pm (6:30pm start on Sunday). Tickets are on sale now online through the Moat theatre - €25 plus booking fee.



Naas Parish Weekly Lotto Draw

There was no winner of the €2,100 Jackpot on 25th February.

Numbers Drawn were: 15-27-18-28

Lucky Dip winners were: Anon., E. O'Brien, I. King, A. Hennessy

You could win the Jackpot of **€2,350** on Weds. 4th March.

Thank you for your support.

