

Kingscourt Parish Bulletin



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<p>19th/20th May Pentecost Sunday Saturday 6pm: P.J. Hanratty, Months Memory , Michael Buckley, Anniv. Muff Vigil: 7.30pm Patsy Gargan & dec family. Corlea 9am: Kathleen Treacy & dec Lynch family 10.30am: David Lekerauskas, Months Memory. 12noon: Gerard Malone Anniv. 3p.m. Celebration of Confirmation</p>	<p>26th/27th May Saturday 6pm: Tom Greene First Anniversary. Muff Vigil: 7.30pm: Evelyn Fitzpatrick Anniv. Corlea 9am: Elizabeth, Thomas, James & Thomas Carolan & dec family Anniv. 10.30am: Thomas McCabe Anniv. Carroll Martin, Months Memory. 12noon: John & Mayme Gargan & dec family Anniv..</p>
<p>Tuesday : 10a.m Maud Corcoran & dec family Anniv. Wednesday: 10a.m. Mass</p>	<p>Thursday: 10a.m Mass Friday 10a.m. Mass</p>

Eternal rest grant

unto them O Lord:

**Reborn through
Baptism & The
Holy Spirit:**

Tony O'Shaughnessy, Cork & London, Monica MacDermott Barnes, Glenageary.

Congratulations to Erin Mary Reilly, Oisín Laurence Tuite, Maisie Marie Muldoon on their recent baptisms. Baptisms take place on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month at 4p.m. in Kingscourt Church. The next baptism preparation meeting is on Thurs 7th June at 8p.m. in The Parish Centre, with Team B Please note ALL BAPTISMS TAKE PLACE IN KINGSCOURT.

**One in the
Sacrament of
Marriage:**

Congratulations to Mark McGrath and Louise Halpin on their recent marriage. Couples intending marriage in the Diocese of Meath during 2018 must complete an ACCORD pre marriage workshop, www.accord.ie. The Dates for the Navan ACCORD Centre are as follows: For the civil registration of marriages, please visit www.crsappointments.ie The following are the dates for ACCORD in Navan during 2018: May 25th & 26th, June 22nd & 23rd, September 7th & 8th, October 5th & 6th, November 16th & 17th, Nov 30th & Dec 1st.

**May Rosary:
Kingscourt Come
Dancing:**

The May Rosary for the Protection of Life continues on Monday at the Grotto at 7p.m.

A reception for all dancers and volunteers involved in the very successful Kingscourt Come Dancing will take place on Friday next in The Parish House at 8p.m.

Fr. Phoney:

Fr. Phoney Mackin will celebrate his 90th birthday on Saturday July 7th with a special Mass at 6p.m. followed by a reception. All are welcome.

TROCAIRE:

Thank You for your very generous response to the TROCAIRE Lenten Campaign which realised € 9000 in our parish this year.

**Annual Exam
Mass:**

Our annual Exam Mass for the students and their families will take place in Kingscourt on Sunday next at 12noon and all are welcome.

**Corlea First Holy
Communion:
Home Visits:
Offering Day:
Cemetery:**

Congratulations to the pupils of Corlea school who celebrated their First Holy Communion with their families last weekend: Ella Fitzgerald, Eimear Brady, Alfie Ward and Violet Brady.

Fr. Gerry will continue visitation to the homes of Dun a Ri Lane these weeks.

Today is an Offering Day in support of your Priests.

Please note that the Cemetery Barrier closes during these summer months at 10p.m.

St. Joseph's

St. Joseph's N.S. Autism Awareness Info Evening on June 7th at 7.30p.m. in The School.

This week's collection: Plate: €1322 Many thanks. Development Fund Target €2000 Received €1805

Community Notices:

Dun a Ri Drama Group presents The Year of the Hiker on next Saturday & Sunday at 8.30p.m. in The Matt Talbot Hall. Charity Walk in memory of Ann Clarke on May 26th at 11a.m. in Baileboro. Five week basic computer course in Cormeen, call 046 9280790. 24hour Adoration in Kilmainhamwood commencing on May 23rd at 10a.m. Navan Theatre Group present a Night of One Acts in the solstice on May 25th & 26th in The Solstice. The 70th Diocesan pilgrimage from Meath Diocese to Lourdes takes place from September 12th – 17th. Cost €749. Good luck to all in Colaiste Dun a Ri with their awards night on Tuesday at 7p.m. The McKenna Family hold a street collection for The Mellon Education Project on Friday next and your support would be appreciated.

“A Truly Compassionate Society Values All Life”
Pastoral Letter from
Bishop Michael
on the forthcoming referendum



In a few days' time, the people of Ireland must make a decision that will have a profound impact on the kind of society we will be in the future. We will be asked to decide on whether to retain the 8th amendment in our Constitution by voting '**No**' or to remove it by voting 'Yes'. I wish to share with you my conviction about why it is essential to **Vote “No”** if we are to build a truly compassionate society that values all life.

The choice before us has become even starker in the light of the recent judgment of the Supreme Court which stated that the only legal protection the unborn child has at present is the 8th amendment. If this is removed, the unborn child up to birth becomes a non-person in Irish law. Do we want to say that the child in the womb has no rights whatsoever in our Constitution? This, I am sure, every mother would find impossible to believe from her experience of her child moving in the womb as he or she grows and develops. The Supreme Court judgment means that the child in the womb would have no constitutional right to treatment or support.

Despite suggestions to the contrary, the Church asks that all necessary medical treatment be given to a mother in pregnancy, even if this were to result in the unintended death of the child. Highly respected medical and legal experts have made it clear that under the present law the best standards of care are available to mothers in a crisis pregnancy. All involved in caring for the pregnant mother in Ireland have to take pride in the fact that Ireland is one of the safest countries in which to be pregnant.

A compassionate society will do all in its power to support and love the mother and baby. The 8th amendment is a declaration of equality and respect for human life. It represents, at the very foundation and substructure of our laws, a conviction that all human life has to be cherished. Are we as a society to say to women experiencing a crisis in their pregnancy, that the solution to their concern is to be found in abortion? Does this show compassion and care for women? The solution to a crisis pregnancy should be found in addressing the crisis, not in terminating the life of an innocent child. Abortion is a brutal act. There is no semblance of compassion involved in ending the life of the child in the womb. It is difficult to imagine how such an action could be compatible with the Catholic faith in any way.

The recent Supreme Court judgment means that, were the 8th amendment to be removed from the Constitution, **the current government will legislate for unlimited abortion on demand up to 12 weeks, for unlimited abortion up to 24 weeks on the grounds of mental health, and for unlimited abortion up to birth in cases of life-limiting conditions.** This prospect can only be described as horrifying. The appalling statistics of abortion rates in other countries should fill us with the dread of similar rates becoming normalised here. Are we to ignore the images, which technology makes available to us, of a child at 12 weeks who has a beating heart, a brain, eyes and ears, limbs, sucking the thumb, and who is clearly saying to us, “I want to live!”? To deprive the child of the right to life would be the gravest of injustices and by removing the 8th amendment we are doing just that.

It remains my hope that we can hand on to future generations a vision for society that is truly inclusive, which enshrines in its laws the equal right of every person to life, and which is capable of offering compassion and care to those in crisis. Our Constitution acknowledges that the right to life precedes all our laws, and our common humanity tells us that this is how it should be. The power to decide who lives and who dies should not belong to the individual. This can never be the foundation for a society that seeks to put compassion and care at its heart. Saving the 8th means that we do not have to choose between two competing rights.

To choose life is to choose both.

