Meath Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Sept 2026

Why not consider gifting a loved one a trip to Lourdes!

The Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by Bishop Deenihan, is scheduled to depart on 8th September 2026. Pilgrims have the option of selecting a 4 or 5 night stay. All pilgrims will be accommodated in hotels with fares starting at €849 for full board. Booking forms can be obtained through Joe Walsh Tours. For further inquiries contact:



Tel: 01-2410800 or visit their website at www.joewalshtours.ie

The Holy Family – Our Family, Our Parish Family

As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, we are invited to reflect not only on the home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, but also on our own families and on the wider family that is our parish.



The Holy Family was not perfect or protected from hardship. They knew uncertainty, displacement, fear, and sacrifice. Yet theirs was a home rooted in love for

and sacrifice. Yet theirs was a home rooted in love, faith, trust in God, and reverence for life. Jesus was welcomed, protected, nurtured, and cherished from the first moment of his existence. In this, the Holy Family stands as a powerful witness to the sacredness of every human life.

In a world where family life is often under pressure, and where the value of human life - especially unborn life, the elderly, the sick, and the vulnerable - is frequently questioned, the Holy Family reminds us that every life is a gift, not a burden; a blessing, not a problem to be solved. To be pro-life is not simply to defend life at its beginning, but to support life at every stage, in every circumstance.

Our parish, too, is a family. Here, young and old, single and married, strong and struggling, are called to belong, to be supported, and to be valued. Like the Holy Family, we are asked to make room for Christ by making room for one another - especially for those who feel unseen, unheard, or unsupported.

May this feast renew our commitment to family life, strengthen our support for parents and children, and deepen our resolve to protect and cherish all human life. May our homes - and our parish—be places where life is welcomed, faith is lived, and love is learned.



THE PARISH OF OLDCASTLE & MOYLAGH 28th December 2025 049-8541142

oldcastleparish@gmail.com www.oldcastlemoylaghparish.ie

Mass intentions for the week ahead...

Sat 5.45pm Michael, Mary Ellen Bernard, Michael Joe Briody. Peggy Dolan

Sat 7.00pm Eugene Cadden. Liam Lynch. John & Bridget Alwell.

Sun 10.00am Johnjoe O'Reilly. Kit, Moira & Christy Shaw.

Sun 11.30am **Mona O'Reilly (MM)** Nancy Halpin & Joe Brady.

John, Margaret & Seán Garrigan & decd fam.

Mon 10.00am Mass Cards Tues 10:00am Mass Cards

Wed 10.00am Alice, Jack & John McGovern, & PJ Dooner

Thurs 11:00am News Years Day

Fri 10.00am First Friday - Altar List of the dead

Sat 5.45pm Celebrant's Intention

Sat 7.00pm Ollie Purcell. Imelda Culleton

Sun 10.00am Missa Pro Populo Sun 11.30am Tom Tunney



At Christmas, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, Emmanuel - God-with-us - we pray for an increase in vocations to the diocesan priesthood. May those whom God is calling respond generously, and may the future priests of our diocese become true Emmanuels in our midst: a loving, healing, forgiving, and merciful presence of Christ in the Church and in the world.

The Parish Office will be open on Monday 29th from 10am-3pm Normal office hours will resume on Wed 7th & Thurs 8th January

Sts Brigid & Oliver's Church Ministers of God's Word

Sat 27th: Mary Sun 28th: Gretta

Special Ministers of Holy Communion for DECVigil: Sinead B, Elizabeth, Carmel

Vigil: Sinead B, Elizabeth, Carmel 11.30am: Mairin, Bridget, Caroline

January ministers tbc



St Mary's Church Ministers of God's Word

Sat 27th:Cathy

Sun 28th: Mairead & Laura

W Millian

Special Ministers of Holy Communion for DEC Vigil: Eilish & Mary

10am: Elaine & Theresa

January ministers tbc