

Kirstie's corner. Parish Social Media Ministry – Representatives Needed

Our pastoral area is forming a shared Social Media Ministry and is seeking one representative from each parish Darver & Dromiskin, Kilkerry, Knockbridge, Louth No prior experience is required training and support will be provided. If you are interested in representing your parish, please contact Kirstie kirstiematthews96@hotmail.com or 087-915-6682

Coffee morning There will be a coffee morning on Shrove Tuesday 17 February in the Old School Kilcrouney from 10 till 2. Proceeds in aid of Ardee Hospice. All welcome for a cuppa and a chat.

The Diocesan Congress is getting closer & closer. **On 20th to 22nd March 2026** 400 delegates including young people and clergy will gather in Armagh City Hotel for the first Congress on the theme: **Youth, Family & Faith**. As well as the clergy in our pastoral area, our delegates are: **LOUTH**: Nicola Connolly and Catherine Carolan, **KNOCKBRIDGE**: Claire Brennan, Geraldine Kirk and Ciara Nash, **DARVER & DROMISKIN**: Kirstie Mathews and Maura Melia **KILKERLEY**: Lorraine Quigley, Leah Hoey, and Lisa Carragher .This is our Church. This is our time. Let's walk together.

Dromiskin: Maríosa Prayer Hour on Tuesday 7-8pm in St. Peter's Church. A time for silence, rosary, scripture, reflection and Adoration. All in our PA. and beyond are invited and will be very welcome

Pastoral Area Bereavement Group: Bethany Bereavement Support Group is a voluntary community- and parish-based service whose objective is to support the bereaved through the grieving process. This confidential, voluntary service will commence in **February 2026**. Volunteers are also needed and full training and ongoing support will be provided. If you are interested please contact: **Catherine Barrett 086 872 6442**

Armagh Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes Booking now open for 2026. Sun 10th— Fri 15th May. Fare is €1020 per person sharing with a single room supplement of €195. Travel Insurance €55. Please contact a member of the local Lourdes Committee for more information or Catherine Lynch on 087 9575658

St. Peter's Church, Dromiskin celebrates 100 years (Oct.4th 2026)

This will be marked by a Mass led by Archbishop Eamon Martin on Sunday Oct. 4th at 3pm followed by a meal at 5pm. To prepare for this historic occasion important work needs to be done to the interior of the church: **A new Lighting system in and outside the church, preceded by a comprehensive upgrade and replacement of the churches electrical wiring, a complete restoration of the mosaics in the sanctuary, many of the windows require sealing to ensure that they are air-tight.** This is a huge undertaking and will require much fundraising, private donations and sponsorship. A fundraising team is being assembled to carry out this task but we need all parishioners to get behind this project.

Quid Games (Dromiskin) One of the first fund raising initiatives is '**Quid Games**' (31st May in the Fairways Hotel.) The church fundraising team will work jointly with a team representing St. Peters School who are celebrating their golden jubilee this year. This Committee are looking for volunteers to assist in **four key** areas over the coming months: **Contestants, Marketing, Ticket Sales, Sponsorship**. If you would like to get involved, please get in touch and you will be added to the committee **WhatsApp group** and **email list**. Kirstie Matthews 0879156682

Many thanks to the NET Team — Tomas, Jacie, Oonagh, Therese, Emmanuel, Maggie, Lydia and Tim — for leading such outstanding retreats for the children of our Pastoral Area who are preparing for the the Sacrament of Confirmation as well as meetings for their parents from 9th–12th February, and for presenting the NET Show on Friday 13th in Knockbridge Parish Centre for children and parents alike. It truly was an incredible week of faith, energy, and encouragement for our young people and their families. Sincere thanks also to everyone who helped make it possible: those who hosted the NET team, the school principals, 6th class teachers and SNAs, the Management of Stephenstown Pond, the PA Hospitality Team, and all who supported the programme in any way.



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Our Lady Queen of Peace Pastoral Area

**15th February 2026
6th Sunday in Ordinary
Time**



LENT 2026

www.ourladyqueenofpeacepa.ie

Tel: 042 6827418

Parochial House, Knockbridge, Co. Louth, A91 NA03

OUR MISSION: 'TO OPEN THE DOORS AND LET JESUS RETURN'

BAPTISMS: will normally take place on Saturdays at 2pm in each of the churches. . **It is now obligatory for all first time parents to attend a pre-Baptism course. Please contact the Pastoral Area Office for further information or contact the priest residing in the parish where the Baptism will take place**

WEDDINGS: Please contact Fr Gerry Campbell directly for all wedding enquiries. It is important that all couples who intend to marry make contact with the pastoral area office at least four months before the wedding (details above) to ensure that all necessary requirements and paperwork are fulfilled on time.

CONFESSIONS: Before monthly **Family Tree Healing Mass (Sun. 3pm Mon. 7pm)** or on request.

VISITS TO THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: If you know of anyone who requires a visit please contact the pastoral area office. If it is an emergency contact the nearest priest.

ANNIVERSARIES: can be emailed to **olqopoffice@gmail.com** at least two weeks prior to the date of the anniversary for inclusion in the parish bulletin, or contact the priest residing in the parish where the Mass will be offered. You can also book with the sacristan.

ALL SACRAMENTAL AND PASTORAL AREA NOTIFICATIONS can be emailed to **olqopoffice@gmail.com** no later than Wednesday midnight.

Webcam Masses and other events are broadcast live via webcam and can be accessed through either: **www.ourladyqueenofpeacepa.ie** or **www.churchmedia.tv** (Recording is possible on request by contacting the pastoral area office in advance.)

CHURCH OF SAINT MICHAEL, DARVER

Sunday 15th February 10.30am : Brendan McDonnell, Elizabeth Mullen & Dominic Craven

Tuesday 17th February 9.30am: Paudi FinneganThursday 9.30am

CHURCH OF SAINT PETER, DROMISKIN

Saturday 14th February 7.00pm: Paddy &Annie Neary, Paddy (Jun), Betty & Geraldine, Arthur & Ita Murtagh, Jemmy Neary

Mon. Jan-6.20pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6.30pm Rosary

7.00pm Mass & Novena - Wed —9.10am Rosary, 9.30am Mass:

Fri— 9.10am Rosary, 9.30am Mass 10am Adoration

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, KILKERLEY

Saturday 14th February 6.00pm: John Woods M.M, Owen & Bridget Quigley, Dec members of the McNally & Hamill families.

Sunday 15th February 10.30am : -

Tuesday 17th 9.30am— Pat & Ann DevineThursday 9.30am

ROSARY & ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FRIDAY 6.30-7.30PM

CHURCH OF ST. MARY’S, KNOCKBRIDGE

Saturday 14th February 7.30pm : Anne & Pat Nugent (Ballybarrack), Special intention

Sunday 15th February 11.30am : Philip Gunne, Ruth Kennedy Gunne, Michael & Christina McCarthy, Patsy Breen, Patrick, Anna & Joseph O’Neill, Derek McMahon & DFM

Wed 9.30am: Fri 9.30am —

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Monday 10am to 10pm

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, LOUTH

Saturday 14th February 5.30pm: Hughie Byrne, Mary De Castro (nee Maguire)

Sunday 15th February 9.30am: Gertie, Breda, & Waltie Gernon

Tues 9.30

OUR LADY OF SNOWS CHURCH, STONETOWN

No Masses in Stonetown in February

RECENTLY DECEASED.

Please pray for Sean Reynolds, TJ Kelly (Ballinloughan & Luton) Malachy Coogan, David McBride, Joe Daly, Noel Clarke, Noel Sampson, Sheila O’Brien, John Woods, Brian P. Clarke,

ANNIVERSARIES FOR NEXT WEEK:

Darver: Sunday 22nd February 10.30am - Máire Cluskey, Derry Maguire

Dromiskin: Saturday 21st February 7.00pm - Owen, Mary Alice & John McKenna, Ann & Paddy Walsh, Richard & Nena McGuinness

Kilkerley: Saturday 21st February 6.00pm - Marie Hughes, Micheal, May, Michael & Patrick Mulholland & DFM

Sunday 22nd February 10.30am—

Knockbridge: Saturday 21st February 7.30pm — Bridie & Sheila Sweeney & DFM, John & Nancy Halpenny, Jim & Olive Mackin, Deceased members of the Brennan & McCartan family


Sunday 22nd February 11.30am – Alice & Michael Geoghegan

Louth: Saturday 21st February 5.30pm–

Sunday 22nd February 9.30am — Deceased members of the Hanratty family, Fiacre & Catherine Connolly, Brian Kirk

COLLECTIONS DROMISKIN: 8TH FEB €637 DARVER 8TH FEB €555 KILKERLEY: 8TH FEB €1069

KNOCKBRIDGE: 8TH FEB €850 LOUTH: 8TH FEB €1050



Ash Wednesady: Repent & Believe.

(A little message from Fr. Gerry).

This Wednesday 18th February Lent begins. Lent is the forty days (excluding Sundays) leading up to Easter. The number forty is significant as it refers to Jesus’ forty days in the desert prior to beginning his ministry of teaching. On Ash Wednesday, Catholics receive ashes in the shape of a cross on their forehead. These ashes are created from the palms used during Palm Sunday last year.. They symbolize penance, which is appropriate as Lent is a season of penance, and remind us of our own mortality. During the Mass, as the priest or lay minister applies the ashes, he/she says “Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return.” or “Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel. Lent is not about failure and guilt. It is about opportunity. No matter how your spiritual life has been recently—strong, weak, distracted , or dry—this is a new beginning. Do not let Lent pass like any other season. Choose something concrete. For example: Set aside time each day for prayer – even 10 minutes. Return to Confession if you have been away. Try fasting from one meal. Give generously to someone in need. Forgive someone you have held at a distance. Come to Mass every weekend. Lent works when it is deliberate. Decide your path—don’t drift into Easter unchanged.

Mass times on Ash Wednesday are as follows: Dromiskin 9.30am, Kilkerley 9.30am, Louth 9.30am and if you cannot attend morning Mass there will be Mass at 7.30pm in Knockbridge.

Lectio Divina During Lent

Lectio Divina — “sacred reading” — is a simple, prayerful way of listening to God through Scripture. It invites us not just to read the Word, but to reflect on it, pray with it, and allow it to shape our lives. It is slow, attentive, and deeply personal — a true Lenten practice.

After a very successful introduction to Lectio Divina in Advent ’25, we begin again on the Mondays of Lent: Feb. 23rd, Mar. 2nd, 9th, (Wed. 18th), 23rd, (Tues. 31st — Holy Week). 7.30-8.30pm in the parochial house Knockbridge. What a beautiful way to enter more deeply into the Lenten readings and let the Word of God speak to the heart. Everyone is welcome and we especially encourage all Ministers of the Word to take part—this will enhance your ministry no end. Come let us listen together to God’s living Word and allow it to shape us more deeply as disciples of Christ. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Here’s something new: A Unique Praise & Worship Night will take place on Friday 20th February at 7pm– 9pm in St. Mary’s Church , Knockbridge. The evening will be led by Fr. Gerry Campbell & Helen Stewart. Music by The Holy Family Prayer Group, Drogheda. It will include praise and worship, teaching, testimony and blessing with holy oil.

Pastoral Area Finance Committee will take place in the parochial house Knockbridge on Thursday 19th February at 7.30pm