

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, Kilkerley, 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

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](mailto:Catherine.Barrett@loouth.ie)

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

Afternoon Tea Dance: in aid of NECRET & Drogheda Oncology services. Join Dolores McNally & Mary McArdle for a wonderful afternoon Tea (Sandwiches & Cakes), Live Music by Brian Mohan & friends. Exciting Raffle on the day. and treats in support of our vital local cancer services.

Date: **Sunday 8th March 3pm—6pm in Knockbridge Community Centre**. Tickets €20. Raffle on the day. If you are unable to attend but would like to support you can donate at <https://www.idonate.ie/fundraiser/doloresmcnally1>

GATHERING OF FRIENDS meet on Wednesday next 25th, in the St. Brides clubrooms at 11am. All very welcome



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Parochial House, Darver, A91 YC60

Our Lady Queen of Peace Pastoral Area



Trocaire 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.

CONFESIONS: 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.)

22nd February 2026
1st Sunday of Lent

CHURCH OF SAINT MICHAEL, DARVER

Sunday 22nd February 10.30am : Máire Cluskey, Derry Maguire, Jack McGuinness, Deirdre Horgan
Tuesday February 9.30am: Thursday 9.30am

CHURCH OF SAINT PETER, DROMISKIN

Saturday 21st February 7.00pm: Owen, Mary Alice & John McKenna, Ann & Paddy Walsh, Richard & Nena McGuinness
Mon. 23rd Feb. -6.20pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass & Novena - Wed —9.10am Rosary, 9.30am Mass:
Fri 27th Feb — 9.10am Rosary, 9.30am Mass—Hugh, Amanda & Owen McDonnell 10am Adoration

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, KILKERLEY

Saturday 21st February 6.00pm: Marie Hughes, Micheal, May, Michael & Patrick Mulholland & DFM
Sunday 22nd February 10.30am : -
Tuesday 9.30am— Thursday 9.30am

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

CHURCH OF ST. MARY'S, 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
Wed 9.30am:
Fri 27th February 9.30am — Donal Carney
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Monday 10am to 10pm

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, LOUTH

Saturday 21st February 5.30pm:
Sunday 22nd February 9.30am: Deceased members of the Hanratty family, Fiacre & Catherine Connolly, Brian Kirk, Paddy Byrne
Tues 9.30

OUR LADY OF SNOWS CHURCH, STONETOWN

No Masses in Stonetown in February

RECENTLY DECEASED. Please pray for Ciaran Gallagher, Peadar O'Baoighill, Stephen Martin, Sean Reynolds, TJ Kelly (Ballinloughan & Luton) Malachy Coogan, David McBride, Joe Daly, Noel Clarke, Noel Sampson, Sheila O'Brien,

ANNIVERSARIES FOR NEXT WEEK:

Darver: Sunday 1st March 10.30am - Kevin McHugh, Patsy & May Carolan, Kevin Crawley
Dromiskin: Saturday 28th February 7.00pm - Jem & Mardi Corrigan
Kilkerley: Saturday 28th February 6.00pm -
Sunday 1st March 10.30am— Noel Clarke M.M.
Knockbridge: Saturday 28th February 7.30pm — Sean Prendergast
Sunday 1st March 11.30am — Sheila O'Brien M.M, Noel Sampson M.M, Kevin Little, Bernard Byrne,
Louth: Saturday 28th February 5.30pm— Sharon Gartlan 1st Anniversary, Sean & Eileen Gartlan, dec members of the Gartlan & Pembroke families, Sam & Kathleen Feely & DFM , Chrissie & Jack Matthews & DFM
Sunday 1st March 9.30am —

COLLECTIONS DROMISKIN: 15TH FEB € 391 **DARVER** 15TH FEB €395 **KILKERLEY:** 15TH FEB €1185

KNOCKBRIDGE: 15TH FEB €1074 **LOUTH:** 15TH FEB €750

(LOUTH SVP COLLECTON NEXT WEEKEND)

Day of Atonement

Last Friday, the First Friday of Lent was the annual day of prayer for victims and survivors of abuse in the Catholic Church in Ireland. To mark this sad time in our history, candles of atonement will be placed in all churches in our Pastoral Area (PA) and Prayers of Atonement will be recited at Masses this weekend (21st & 22nd Feb.) . We take this opportunity to thank the parish Safeguarding Representatives in all four parishes: **Darver & Dromiskin** (Sinead Quigley & Lena Langan), **Kilkerley** (Catherine Lynch) **Knockbridge** (Irene Brennan & Pauline Woods) **Louth** (Mary McDonnell). We continue to pray for all victims and survivors of abuse.

Trócaire Lenten Campaign 2026 This Lent, Trócaire focuses on Rwanda, one of the top 10 most vulnerable countries to climate disasters. Many families already live in extreme poverty, struggling with poor access to healthcare, food, and water. With your support, Trócaire can help families build a more secure future. Last year, Trócaire worked with over 40,000 people in at-risk communities across Rwanda, helping vulnerable families build resilience against climate change by: • Supporting over 2,500 women to receive training in sustainable resource management • Providing over 20,000 families with fuel-efficient cookstoves to reduce firewood use . Planting over 320,000 trees across the country Please take a Trócaire Box for your home and join us in making a difference. . For more information, visit www.trocaire.org.

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.

BEHOLD Lenten Daily Reflections

The BEHOLD Team — (Fr. Pat, Fr. Gerry, Carmel Kennedy, Evelyn Agnew, Irene Brennan, Joan McKenna, Marian O’Sullivan and Maura Melia) are sharing **daily Lenten oral reflections** to help you journey more deeply through this sacred season. Each reflection offers Scripture, prayer and encouragement as we prepare our hearts for Easter. We warmly invite you to walk with us this Lent.

Follow us on social media: @ourladyqueenofpeacepalouth **Join our BEHOLD WhatsApp Group** (to receive the daily reflection only): Text **Kirstie Matthews** on **087 915 6682** *Let us walk together toward Easter*

PAC Meeting. The Pastoral Area Council (PAC) will meet with the clergy on **Wednesday 25th February at 7.30pm** in the parochial house Knockbridge. This group is made up of coordinators of various ministries in the Pastoral Area. Members are: **Joan McKenna** (Ministers of the Word) **Jean McLoughlin** (Ministers of the Eucharist) **Maura Melia** (Ministry of Music) **Eileen Fitzpatrick** (Baptism Team) **Catherine Barrett** (Bereavement Team) **Lorraine Quigley: Chairperson** (Hospitality) **Lisa Carragher** (Childrens Liturgy) **Eugene Callan** (Sacristans). **Kirstie Matthews:** Secretary (Communication) The role of Youth Coordinator is vacant . As well as reporting back on each ministry, the agenda will include Lent, Easter and the upcoming Congress on Youth, Family and Faith.