



*Ballymount, Crookstown, Kilmead & Moone*

Parish Bulletin - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 18th January 2026

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**PARISH SECRETARIES**

**BER MURPHY & BETTY MURPHY**  
Mon, Tues, Wed 10am - 3pm, closed  
Thurs, Fri 10am - 2pm. Ss. Mary &  
Laurence Church, Crookstown  
TEL:0598623154.

Email: [stlaurenceschurch@gmail.com](mailto:stlaurenceschurch@gmail.com)

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

**The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is traditionally observed from the 18th to the 25th January .Its inauguration in Dublin will take place at an Interdenominational Service on Sunday 18th January 2026, 8pm, at St Thomas Indian Orthodox Church in Palmerstown, Dublin 20, D20 VP97. For more information [ctbi.org.uk](http://ctbi.org.uk) weekofprayer . All are welcome**

**Grandparents Day Mass, Crookstown N.S.** The staff and pupils would like to invite Grandparents, Parents and families to celebrate Grandparents Day at a Mass on Friday 23rd January @ 9:30am in Crookstown Church.  
All are welcome.

**MASS TIMES**

**MOONE TUESDAY 10AM** - Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

**MASS TIMES IN NARRAGHMORE & MOONE**

**ST JOSEPH'S BALLYMOUNT:** Sunday 8:30am

**Ss MARY & LAWRENCE CROOKSTOWN:**  
Saturday 7pm (Vigil)  
Wednesday & Friday: 9.30am

**ST ITA'S KILMEAD:** Sunday 10.30am  
Mass is celebrated most weekdays at 10am but is subject to change

**MOONE TUESDAY 10AM** - Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

**MOST BLESSED TRINITY MOONE:**  
Sunday 12noon. Holy Day: 11am

**INTENTIONS SATURDAY & SUNDAY**

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Mary Piggott  
Brendan McManus  
Paul Foley

**CROOKSTOWN 7PM**

Thomas Lawlor  
Patrick Cassidy  
Pat & Sally Flood  
Kit & Miko Doyle (A)  
Kathleen Farrell (3rd A)  
Teresa Mackey (10th A)  
Liam Scully & Kitty Scully  
Peg Brown - Ballitore (A)  
Ellen (Nell) Fleming - Grangecon (2nd A)  
James Moore (A)  
Thomas and Elizabeth Donohoe (A)  
Mary Donohoe (A)

**BALLYMOUNT 8:30AM**

Shelia Haydon Hughes (4th A) and Denis Hughes (A)

**KILMEAD 10:30AM**

Diarmuid Flynn (2nd A)  
Des, Mike, Liam and Pauline Dempsey - Tinnakill (A)  
Declan (Dick) Travers Months Mind and Birthday Remembrance  
Gillian Dempsey (A)  
Peg and Tommy Ryan - Ballindrum (A)

**MOONE 12:00NOON**

Gavin Anthony (1st A) and his mother Valerie  
William (Bill) Carton - Sheriff Hill (A) and remembering his wife Shelia  
Fr. Ambrose Farrington O'Cist - Bolton Abbey (A)  
Chris, Nora & Paddy Kane - Moone (A)  
Bridget O'Sullivan (A)  
Patrick Mahon (A)

## CATECHETICAL CORNER – SACRAMENTALS

Sacramentals are not Sacraments. There are seven Sacraments – *Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Matrimony and Holy Orders*. A Sacrament is an outward sign of an invisible reality, that accomplishes what it signifies. A wedding ring is an outward sign of the invisible reality that the wearer is married. However, wearing a ring on the third finger of your left hand does not make a person married. Whereas the marriage rite of the Church, the Sacrament of Matrimony, actually makes a person married.

Sacramentals, on the other hand, are sacred signs – prayers, blessings, objects – instituted by the Church, that dispose a person to receive the grace of the Sacraments. They differ fundamentally from the sacraments as they are instituted by the Church, while the Sacraments are instituted by Christ. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says this: “*[Sacramentals] are sacred signs which bear a resemblance to the sacraments. They signify effects, particularly of a spiritual nature, which are obtained through the intercession of the Church. By them men are disposed to receive the chief effect of the sacraments, and various occasions in life are rendered holy.*” (CCC #1667). The Catechism goes on: ‘*Sacramentals derive from the baptismal priesthood: every baptized person is called to be a "blessing," and to bless. Hence lay people may preside at certain blessings; the more a blessing concerns ecclesial and sacramental life, the more is its administration reserved to the ordained ministry...*’ (CCC #1669). It is appropriate that parents bless their children, or that we bless our food by saying a Grace Before/After Meals. The difference between a priestly blessing and lay person blessing is this: when a priest blesses it is in fact GOD Himself who blesses through the priest. Just note the final blessing at Mass; ‘*May Almighty GOD bless you, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*’ Note that it is not in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, which is how a lay person would bless.

The Catechism continues: ‘*For well-disposed members of the faithful, the liturgy of the sacraments and [using] sacramentals sanctifies almost every event of their lives with the divine grace ... From this source (the Paschal mystery) all sacraments and sacramentals draw their power. There is scarcely any proper use of material things which cannot be thus directed toward the sanctification of men and the praise of God.*” (CCC #1670)

Some common examples of sacramentals include: Holy water, blessed candles, crucifixes, medals (like the Miraculous Medal), rosaries, scapulars, blessed salt, ashes, palms. As well as some actions and prayers, such as: The Sign of the Cross, blessings (of people, homes, meals), exorcisms, liturgical gestures. There are 3 main types of Sacramentals; Blessings, Consecrations and Exorcisms.

A sacramental isn't magic or superstition; it's a tool for devotion. When a priest blesses a crucifix, or a person uses holy water with faith, they are inviting God's grace, remembering Christ's sacrifice, and asking for spiritual strength, making the everyday world a path to holiness.

### Holy Hour Crookstown

Holy Hour takes place every Tuesday evening in Ss. Mary and Laurence Church Crookstown from 7pm-8pm.

### Spiritual Exercises: 5 Day Silent Ignatian Retreat for Men

Led Benedictine monks from St. Joseph Abbey, in France. Starts Thursday 30th April (3pm). Benburb Priory, Co. Tyrone (1.5 hrs from Dublin). €450 (all meals & single room included). Daily Mass - Ordinary Form (Latin & ad orientem). Discover the strength that only comes when you stop running and let God speak. Book at: <https://soutenir.clairval.com/retreat-benburb-priory>



### PARISHES OF ATHY, MOONE & NARRAGHMORE

#### PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2026

7 nights 4 Star Hotel Padoue 22nd June – 29th June 2026

Cost €995 pps

Spiritual Director Fr. Francis McCarthy

Saving Club available.

Further details contact –  
Christopher Rowan  
087 2707 182

Kilmead Holy Hour will take place on the First Friday of every month from 7pm-8pm. Our next holy hour will be on Friday February 6th . All are welcome .

### LENT 2026 – WALKING IN MERCY RETREAT

Mercy International Association (MIA) is offering an online retreat on Tuesday, February 17, on the theme 'Walking in Mercy'. The retreat, which will be offered by Caroline Thompson, is an opportunity to kick-start your Lenten Journey through the lens of Mercy. The retreat will be offered via Zoom at 10am and 2pm. Self-registration is open now and all are welcome. For more see [www.mercyworld.org](http://www.mercyworld.org).

### Prayer Space

We welcome you to pray in our prayer room which is situated in the room to the left as you come into Ss. Mary & Laurence Church Crookstown. This space gives you an opportunity to sit and pray in front of an image of the Sacred Heart. All are welcome