

Ministry Update

A newsletter for all involved in parish ministry from
Kildare and Leighlin Faith Development Services

www.kandle.ie

June 2025

Parishes Alive!

A Day for
lay people and clergy

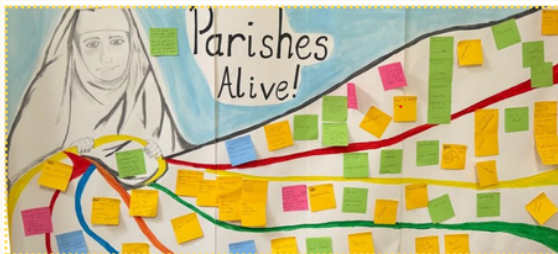
“Parishes Alive! - Moving Forward in Hope”

Bishop Denis, together with the Diocesan Pastoral Council, will host a day for lay people and clergy to explore the direction of the Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin and how it impacts on the day-to-day life of a parish.

We are building on the work done previously by the DPC, the Council of Priests, Faith Development Services, and across parishes. The day will comprise inputs from guest speakers, along with prayer, general discussion, and intentional listening. The keynote speaker will be Prof. Fr Michael Conway, Professor of Faith & Culture at St Patrick's College, Maynooth.

It takes place on **Saturday, 21st June 2025 in Carlow College**, with registration at 9:30am, starting promptly at 10am and concluding at 4 pm. Lunch is included.

Only a few places left so booking is essential by email to parishdevelopment@Kandle.ie, providing your name and parish, or by phoning 083-8305681.



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A Family Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
as we bring our prayers to you as a family,
we know that you are with us
and that you love and care for each one of us.

We thank you for the gift of your son, our brother, Jesus Christ.
May our faith in Jesus encourage us to follow his ways
as we try to do our best every day and to live happy lives.

As Jesus taught us,
may we always care for one another and care for your creation,
may we choose to be kind, understanding and forgiving
to both friend and stranger.

Every day may we help to bring your peace to our world
through what we do and what we say.

We remember and offer our prayers to you for
those who are hungry this day,
those who are without a home this day,
and those who are living in places of war or conflict this day.
We place our own prayer intentions before you now.

In this Jubilee year may we say yes each day to the invitation
to be Pilgrims of Hope, living our faith and
knowing that our hope is Christ who is alive!
May the joy and peace of Christ dwell in our home
and throughout the earth.
To you, our God, be glory and praise for ever.
Amen.



Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin
Kandle.ie

Image Credit:
Simone Legno/istockphoto/Vatican Media

K&L LITURGY CONFERENCE



LITURGY CONFERENCE

'It is Good for Us to be Here'

Come and join us for a day of personal enrichment as we explore many aspects of the celebration of Mass and liturgy in our parishes

20 September 2025

Carlow College and Cathedral

Hosted by Kildare and Leighlin Commission for Liturgical Formation

Choice of Workshops

- A** Engaging Children in the Scriptures through Godly Play - Gemma Mulligan
- B** Art and Environment that Supports and Deepens our Worship throughout the Liturgical Year - Naas ParishTeam
- C** Let us Pray: The Call to Celebrate Lay Led Liturgy in our Parish - Mary Connolly
- D** The Art and Practice of being a Minister in the Liturgy - Fr Peter O'Kane
- E** Why Sunday Matters...the Importance of Sunday and our Celebration of It - Julie Kavanagh
- F** Supporting our Congregations to Sing the Liturgy through the Seasons - Ian Callanan

Please note that if you book into the music workshop, you will do two music workshops. You cannot book another workshop. Music workshop participants are very welcome to form part of the choir for 6:15pm Mass when some of the workshop music will be sung.

We are excited to announce that a liturgy conference will take place on 20th September, 2025. This day is for anyone in our diocese - clergy and parishioners - who would like to join us.

We will begin with Morning Prayer in the Cathedral. Dr Jessie Rogers and Martin Foster will give keynote addresses during the day, while people will be able to avail of two of the offered workshops - with music ministers working with Ian Callanan for both of their workshops.

Bookings will open in August. See local newsletters for more details over the summer.

Irish Bishops' Conference New Digital Platform



'The Way' is a digital multimedia platform set up by the Irish Bishops' Conference dedicated to sharing the Good News and the witness of the Catholic Church in Ireland. In the very early Church, the first believers were known as followers of 'the Way' (e.g. Acts 9:2). In answer to the question 'how can we know the way?' (John 14:5) Jesus declared that 'I am the Way, the Truth and Life.'

This platform is intended to help people to know the Way – to discover the faith, live the faith and pass on the faith. It is for both seekers and followers. Together, we are led by Christ to be pilgrims of hope.

See www.theway.ie to sign up for its e-zine, and follow, like, and subscribe on X, Facebook, Instagram, Spotify and YouTube.

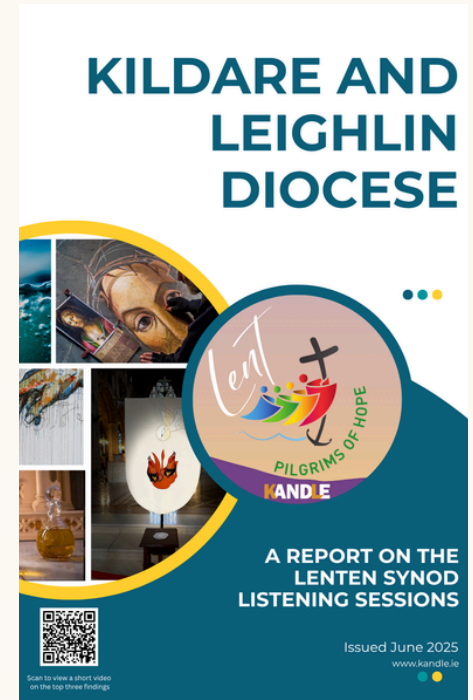
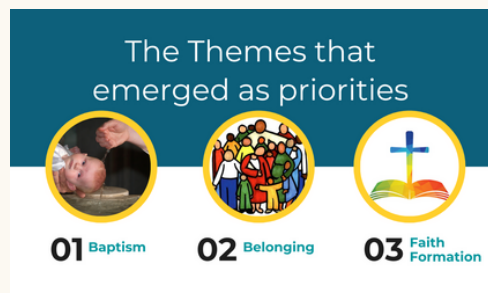
iCatholic is supporting 'The Way' and will be producing content for the platform.

Diocesan Synod Team Issue Report and Video from Lenten Synod Listening Sessions

The REPORT from our Lenten listening sessions is now available to read on www.Kandle.ie/synod. There you will also find a five minute VIDEO summary of its content. We invite you to take a look at both of these communications to find out what people in our diocese said. The findings give invaluable insights to us at this point in future planning in our diocese and parishes.

The report was sent to the National Synod Team and was carefully considered, alongside submissions from diocese and church groups from across Ireland, over a two day meeting in May.

The National Synod Team will work with delegates from every diocese at a national pre-synodal assembly in October to determine the themes to progress to a Synodal Assembly in 2026.



Carlow to Host International St Columbanus Celebration

TURAS COLUMBANUS
THE COLUMBAN WAY
XXVI Columbanus Day
11-13 July 2025

FOR MORE INFORMATION
✉ info@carlowtourism.com
☎ 059 913 0411
🌐 www.kandle.ie

WALKING TOGETHER IN HOPE

FRIDAY 11TH JULY

1.45PM	Opening Address & Words of Welcome by Bishop Denis Nulty, Carlow County Museum
2:00PM	Launch of Exhibition "Ireland and the Birth of Europe" with Prof. Dáibhí Ó Cróinín, Carlow County Museum
3:00PM	Symposium - "If You Want to Know the Creator, Understand Creation", facilitated by Cynthia Ní Mhurchú MEP, Carlow College, St Patrick's
5:00PM	Ceremony of welcome and reception, Carlow College, St Patrick's
8:00PM	Ecumenical Evening Prayer with Columbanus Relics, Adelaide Memorial Church, Myshall followed by procession with the Columbanus relics to the Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Myshall

SATURDAY 12TH JULY

10:00AM	Assemble for Walk from Nine Stones to Myshall on the Columban Way (2.5 hours)
1:00PM	Buffet Lunch in Myshall Hall following walk
2:30PM	Talk: "Columbanus, the Man from Myshall" – Former President Mary McAleese – Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Myshall
5:00PM	Reception for Pilgrims and Guests hosted by Carlow County Council in Carlow College, St Patrick's
8:00PM	Concert in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow followed by an Irish Music Night in Carlow Town

SUNDAY 13TH JULY

10:30AM	XXVI Columbanus Day Mass in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow
12:30PM	Pilgrims' Lunch in the Woodford Dolmen Hotel, Carlow

County Carlow will play host to a major international celebration this summer, as over 250 visitors from France, Italy, Germany and Northern Ireland, along with many more from local counties, will arrive for the 26th Columbanus Weekend, taking place from 11th to 13th July 2025.

The weekend's programme will highlight Carlow's spiritual, cultural and historical connections to the saint, with events taking place in Carlow Town and Myshall. The recently established Columban Way, a 571km walking route inspired by Columbanus' journey from County Carlow to Bangor in County Down, also features prominently. On Saturday morning, pilgrims will walk a section of the route from the Nine Stones on Mount Leinster to Myshall, based on the theme of **"Walking Together in Hope."**

PREPARATION IN FINAL STAGES FOR LAY PASTORAL MINISTERS TRAINING



Since January, candidates for the Diploma in Lay Pastoral Ministry have met monthly in Mount St Anne's in a process of discernment. This included two residential weekends. In that time people bonded as a group as they explored different aspects of faith and lay pastoral ministry. In the coming weeks, candidates will decide with the diocese whether or not to proceed to training.

Plans are in place to register our students in St Patrick's College, Maynooth on the 5th of September with the first residential weekend of training and study scheduled for 12th to 14th September.



Pastoral Placements will play a key part of the students' training. From the start, they will be encouraged to reflect and gain insights from their pastoral experiences. To support this, a number of facilitators from Kildare and Leighlin joined with facilitators from the Kilmore Diocese for three days of training in Reflective Practice Facilitation with Dr Michael Paterson.



PEACE WITH CREATION SEASON OF CREATION 2025

The Biblical text for this year is **Isaiah 32:14-18**. The prophet Isaiah pictured the desolated Creation without peace because of the lack of justice and the broken relationship between God and humankind. This description of devastated cities and wastelands eloquently stresses the fact that human destructive behaviours have a negative impact on the Earth.

Our hope: Creation will find peace when justice is restored.

There is still hope and the expectation for a peaceful Earth. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and be quiet, but to act, pray, change, and reconcile with Creation and the Creator in unity, metanoia (repentance), and solidarity. See seasonofcreation.org to find out more.

1 September - 4 October



Facilitators from Kildare and Leighlin Diocese and Kilmore Diocese with Dr Michael Paterson

For further information on any of the content of this newsletter, please contact:

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