

Newsletter February 2025

Assumption Church Walkinstown .



Popes intentions for February. For Vocations To The Priesthood And Religious Life.

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

IRISH SAINT

This is not about Bridget as you might expect in February. Our great co-patron saint needs no introduction. You are probably familiar with all her stories, some of them extraordinary. And sometimes that's a problem. When incredible feats are attributed to saints it can make it harder for us ordinary humans to identify with them. Saintry lives are meant to be examples for us to follow.



Clare Crockett is a good example, *now*. However, until she was 17, the Derry girl was a self-confessed wild party girl well on the way to developing a serious alcohol problem. She wanted to become a famous actress. She wasn't interested in religion and didn't understand it. In 2000, a friend tricked her, inviting her on a free trip to Spain. Picturing this as a chance to party and spend time on the beach, Clare went. However, it turned out to be a 10-day, Holy Week retreat! The reluctant participant went through the motions until she had a profound religious experience at the Veneration of the Cross on Good Friday. Ah, you might think, we've come to the extraordinary bit! Maybe. But this is how Clare herself described it:

That simple event lasted only 10 seconds. To kiss the cross, something that seemed so insignificant, had such a strong impact on me. I do not know how to explain exactly what happened. I did not see the choirs of angels or a white dove come down from the ceiling and descend on me, but I had the certainty that the Lord was on the cross, for me. When I returned to my pew, I already had imprinted in me something that was not there before. I had to do something for him who had given his life for me.

In 2024, the Church declared Clare Crockett to be a Servant of God, the first step on the road to being recognised as a saint. Why? I'll tell you in the next newsletter. If you don't want to wait, check out these links:

[All or Nothing: Sr. Clare Crockett - Full Movie \(and also shorter YouTube videos\)](#)

<https://www.sisterclare.com/en/her-life/biography>

or the book, *Sister Clare Crockett: Alone with Christ Alone*, by fellow sister Kristen Gardner.

Lectio Divina Meeting Restarts

A small group of us meet every Friday after the 10 o'clock Mass in a room off the sacristy for 30 minutes to prayerfully explore what the Sunday gospel means for us now. You would be most welcome.



We would like to welcome the babies who were baptised recently, **Niall & Ned** May God look over them.

Mass Times

Monday — Friday 10am

Saturday - 6pm (Vigil Mass)

Sunday- 11:30am

Holy Days –Mass at 10am

Vigil Mass 7pm previous evening.

Confessions before weekend masses or on request.

Adoration takes place every Thursday morning after 10am Mass in the Church. All are welcome.

Rosary

We say the rosary every morning from 9.30am until Mass at 10am. You are all welcome to come and join in.



Parish Priest Fr. Paul Glennon. **Parish Secretary** Ann Conway
089 2389681 **01-4502649**

Baptisms are the **3rd** Sunday of every month. If you would like to book a baptism please contact the **Parish Office: 01-4502649.**

Mon - Fri 9.30am– 11.30am.

Out of hours please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Parish website;

www.walkinstownparish.ie

Email;

walkinstownchurch@gmail.com

Sunday Gospel Reflection



Lectio Divina continues in the church every Friday after the 10.00 o'clock Mass. You are very welcome to drop in and check us out – you might like it! If you'd like some information beforehand call John on 087 615 7795.

In Memory

We remember our parishioners who have passed away recently, especially **Charlie Kavanagh** late of Slievebloom Park, **Thomas (Mo) Quinn** formally of Walkinstown Park, **Betty Power** late of Walkinstown Ave and **Thomas (Tommy) Kealy** late of Slievebloom Park.

We will continue to keep them and their families in our prayers.



Saint Valentine - Feast Day 14th February.



Saint Valentine was a Catholic priest who had also worked as a doctor. He lived in Italy during the third century AD and served as a priest in Rome. Historians don't know much about Valentine's early life. They pick up Valentine's story after he began working as a priest. Valentine became famous for marrying couples who were in love but couldn't get legally married in Rome during the reign of Emperor Claudius II, who outlawed weddings. Claudius wanted to recruit lots of men to be soldiers in his army and thought that marriage would be an obstacle to recruiting new soldiers. He also wanted to prevent his existing soldiers from getting married because he thought that marriage would distract them from their work.

When Emperor Claudius discovered that Valentine was performing weddings, he sent Valentine to jail. Valentine used his time in jail to continue to reach out to people with the love that he said Jesus Christ gave him for others. He befriended his jailer Asterius, who became so impressed with Valentine's wisdom that he asked Valentine to help his daughter, Julia, with her lessons. Julia was blind and needed someone to read material for her to learn it. Valentine became friends with Julia through his work with her when she came to visit him in jail. Emperor Claudius also came to like Valentine. He offered to pardon Valentine and set him free if Valentine would renounce his Christian faith and agree to worship the Roman gods. Not only did Valentine refuse to leave his faith, he also encouraged Emperor Claudius to place his trust in Christ. Valentine's faithful choices cost him his life. Emperor Claudius was so enraged at Valentine's response that he sentenced Valentine to die. The most famous miracle attributed to Saint Valentine involved the farewell note that he sent to Julia. Believers say that God miraculously cured Julia of her blindness so that she could personally read Valentine's note, rather than just have someone else read it to her.

Holy Water

We have holy water at the side entrance of the Church, if you would like to bring some home with you. Holy Water has been blessed by a priest and is called a sacramental as it is a visible sign that imparts invisible grace. It is extremely effective at protecting us from evil and temptation. Sprinkle yourself with it before leaving home in the morning and before you go to sleep.

