



# Galway Cathedral Newsletter

1 March 2026  
Second Sunday of Lent

## CATHEDRAL NEWS

**Stations of the Cross** are prayed after the 6:00pm Mass each Friday during lent.

**Youth 2000 Gathering** on Wednesday at 7:00pm.

**Last Sunday's Offertory Collection** amounted to €2,889.39; we are very grateful to all who continue to support the Cathedral in this way.

**First Friday & Saturday** — Next Friday and Saturday are the first of the month; Communion will be brought to the sick and housebound on Friday, and on Saturday there is Mass and office of Our Lady at 11:00am.

**Celebrations This Week** — Optional memorials of St Casimir (4 March), St Kieran, bishop (5 March), and Ss Perpetua & Felicity, martyrs (7 March). St David, bishop (1 March) is not celebrated this year as the Sunday takes precedence.

### Ministry of Catechist & the Permanent Diaconate

Would you be interested in serving in the Ministry of Catechist or the Permanent Diaconate in the Dioceses of Clonfert, Galway, Kilmacduagh and Kilfenora?

As part of a dynamic and creative team, in union with priests, deacons, parish pastoral councils and others, catechists assist with the delivery of various faith development programmes and opportunities at both parish level and beyond.

Permanent Deacons are ordained to a life of service in charity to the poor, the vulnerable and the marginalised. They also provide a Ministry of the Word in preaching in church and officiating at certain liturgies, and Ministry of the Altar, in assisting the celebrant at Mass and preparing people for and officiating at baptisms and weddings.

Both the Ministry of Catechist and the Permanent Diaconate involve a sizeable period of discernment and formation. For further information please contact Fr Hugh Clifford (091-637154 or [catechistsdeacons@clonfertgalway.ie](mailto:catechistsdeacons@clonfertgalway.ie)) before 4 March 2026.

## OTHER NEWS

**Rise & Shine Trust** wishes to thank all who supported its church gate collection last week, which realised €1,016.66 at the Cathedral.

**Craft Fair**, to mark Seachtain na Gaeilge and hosted by the Local Enterprise Office Galway, takes place in County Hall, Prospect Hill, between Monday 2 and Wednesday 4 March, from 10:00am until 3:00pm each day.

**Eucharistic Healing Retreat** in St John's Welcome Centre, Knock Shrine, on Saturday-Sunday, 7-8 March, beginning at 10:00am both days. The retreat is led by Fr Roza Palic. No booking is required; please bring a packed lunch.

**GRETB Open Day** takes place on Tuesday 10 March in the Galmont Hotel, Galway, between 9:00am and 8:00pm, and offer an opportunity to learn about courses and apprenticeships, as well as explore opportunities in Counties Galway and Roscommon.

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

*Masses for the living are not listed here, though are celebrated as usual.*

Sat	6:00	David & Shane Smith	Thur	11:00	Joan & Jack Fahey
Sun	9:00	Concannon & Greaney families		6:00	Brian & Bernard McDonagh
	10:30	Annie, Thomas & PJ Heneghan	Fri	11:00	David Carey
	6:00	Michael Holland		6:00	Golden Book of Remembrance
Mon	11:00	November Lists of the Dead	Sat	11:00	Michael Folan
	6:00	Patrick & Mairead Mullan		6:00	Ronan Duignan
Tue	11:00	Michael Keane	Sun	9:00	Richard de Buitléir
Wed	11:00	Deceased members of Newcastle Active Retirement Group		10:30	Tom & Louisa Gill
	6:00	Mary Conneely		6:00	Mary O'Connor

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e [info@galwaycathedral.ie](mailto:info@galwaycathedral.ie)  
w [www.galwaycathedral.ie](http://www.galwaycathedral.ie)

### Clergy

Mgr Peter Rabbitte  
Fr John Gerard Acton  
Fr Jijo Johney  
Br Ian Cunningham OFM

### Mass on Sunday

Sat. 6:00pm; Sun. 9:00am (Gaeilge),  
10:30am (choir), 12:30pm, 6:00pm

### Mass on Holy Days

Vigil Mass at 6:00pm; Mass on the day at  
11:00am, 6:00pm

### Mass on Weekdays

11:00am, 6:00pm

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday-Saturday, 5:30pm-5:50pm

### Eucharistic Adoration

Monday-Friday, 11:30am-6:00pm  
Sunday, 1:30pm-6:00pm

### Marriage & Baptism

For details & requirements see [www.galwaycathedral.ie/liturgy](http://www.galwaycathedral.ie/liturgy)

### Cathedral Bookshop

091-531433  
Monday-Saturday, 9:30am - 5:15pm;  
Sunday after each morning Mass

### Bethany Bereavement Support

Contact the group at 085-2258827

### Legion of Mary

Contact: 087-2423068

### Safeguarding

Ms Aileen Cawley: 085-2288047

### Music at today's 10:30am Mass

Missa Orbis Factor (plainchant)

O bone Jesu (Palestrina)

O good Jesus, have mercy on us, for you have created us, you have redeemed us through your most precious blood.

Ave verum corpus (Mozart)

Hail, true body, born of the Virgin Mary, who truly suffered, sacrificed on the cross for man; whose pierced side overflowed with water and blood, be for us a foretaste in the test of death.

Organ postlude: Toccata in F (Buxthude)

Weekly music listings on the Cathedral website:  
[www.galwaycathedral.ie/music/listings](http://www.galwaycathedral.ie/music/listings)

## Second Sunday of Lent

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### The Liturgy of the Word – Listening to the Beloved Son

On the mountain of the Transfiguration, Peter, James, and John see Christ radiant in glory, and they hear the voice of the Father declare, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” That command was given not only for the apostles but for every disciple who would follow.

The Liturgy of the Word is where that command becomes real for us.

The Church teaches that “Christ is present in his word, since it is he himself who speaks when the holy Scriptures are read in the Church” (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, 7). When the readings are proclaimed, Christ addresses us personally. We sit as disciples ready to receive instruction, and we stand for the Gospel in reverence because the Lord speaks.

Throughout the week, we hear many voices – cultural expectations, workplace demands, social media commentary, fears about the future. Rarely do we listen in silence. The Mass forms us differently. It trains us to receive rather than react.

Saint Jerome warned, “Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.” If we allow distraction to dominate, we miss the Lord speaking into our marriages, our parenting, our moral struggles, and our anxieties. Pope Benedict XVI wrote, “The Word of God is not simply a set of ideas but a living reality” (*Verbum Domini*, 7). It has power to console and to correct.

A reading about forgiveness may challenge us to reconcile with someone we have avoided. A psalm about trust may steady a heart anxious about health or finances. A Gospel about sacrifice may call us to greater generosity.

To listen well is to allow the Word to shape our decisions during the week.

#### Prayer

*Heavenly Father,*

*open my heart to the voice of your Son.*

*Remove distraction and pride that prevent me from listening deeply.*

*May your Word take root in my daily life,*

*guiding my speech, my work, and my relationships.*

*Teach me to listen with faith and to obey with love.*

*Amen.*