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*I Am the Vine  
you are the branches*  
JOHN 15:5

# The Grapevine



Mooncoin Parish Newsletter

Vol. 36 No. 11

22nd March 2026

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

### Fifth Sunday of Lent – Parish Reflection

As we move ever closer to Holy Week, today's readings invite us into one of the most powerful promises at the heart of our faith: *God brings life out of death.*

In the first reading, the prophet Ezekiel speaks to a people who feel lost, defeated, and without hope. Into that darkness, God declares: *"I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live."*

St Paul, in his letter to the Romans, reminds us that the Spirit of God is already living within us. We are not alone, nor are we trapped by our weaknesses.

In the Gospel, we encounter the deeply moving story of Lazarus.

This is not only about Lazarus. It is about each one of us. There are "stones" in our lives—fear, grief, sin, or doubt—that can seal us in. Yet Christ calls us out, inviting us into new life, even now.

### An Action for This Week

Take a few quiet moments each day to ask: *"Lord, what in my life needs to be unbound?"* Bring that honestly to prayer, and take one small step—through forgiveness, kindness, or trust—toward the new life God is offering you.

### A Word of Gratitude

We extend sincere thanks to all who supported the recent Lenten Station for the priests. Your prayer, presence, and generosity are deeply appreciated.

### Parish Concert – March 27th

You are warmly invited to a special concert in Mooncoin Church on Friday, March 27th at 8 p.m., featuring the Cois Nore Choir and local artists. Admission is free, and a bucket collection will be held in aid of Cancer Research. Your support would mean a great deal.

### Looking Ahead to Holy Week

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday, marking the beginning of the most sacred week in the Christian calendar. We encourage all parishioners to take part as fully as possible in the liturgies of Holy Week. It is a unique and grace-filled opportunity to journey with Christ—from the cross to the empty tomb. May this final stretch of Lent be a time of renewal, hope, and deeper faith for us all.

MOONCOIN PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPS: Katherine Hogan. Miriam Grace. Marian Walsh  
c/o Mooncoin Parish Office 051 895 123

**MASSSES FROM THE 23RD - 27TH MARCH**

Monday 23rd March NO MASS  
Tuesday 24th March NO MASS  
Wednesday, Feast of the Annunciation  
Mooncoin 9.30am  
Thursday Mooncoin 9.30am  
With Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
until 12 noon.  
Friday Mooncoin 9.30am

**HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation and Mass**

Tuesday 31st March at 7 p.m.

**Holy Thursday**

Thursday 2nd April  
Mass of the Lord's Supper.... 7 p.m.  
with the renewal of commitments  
for all Eucharistic Ministers.

**Good Friday**

3rd April, The Lord's Passion, 3 p.m.

**Holy Saturday**

4th April The Easter Vigil, 7 p.m.

Reminder for everyone  
attending **Hurling and Camogie**  
training: Please note that the **Hall car**  
park is **ONLY** for those attending **Bingo**  
on **Monday evenings**. On **Wednesdays**,  
the car park is reserved for **Bridge and**  
**Line Dancing**. If you're coming to  
training, please use the carparks at the  
GAA Complex, Centra and the Church  
and keep the hall spaces free for those  
events. Thanks for your co-operation!

Come along to Mooncoin Women's Group  
"Coffee Morning" after dropping the kids to  
school for a cuppa and chat on Tuesday 31st  
March from 10.30am - 12.30pm. All proceeds  
will go towards Scoil Mhuire's Sonas & Spraoi  
classes and Carrigeen NS ASD Unit. Donations  
of cakes and buns are greatly appreciated. There  
will be a raffle on the day with some fab prizes  
on offer.

**South Kilkenny Historical Society lecture**

Caring in the Crossfire: Northern Ireland's  
Health Services during the Troubles  
Speaker: Dr Ruth Duffy, Queen's University  
Belfast

Date: Friday, 27th March 2026

Time: 8pm

Venue: Mullinavat Parish Hall (opposite St.  
Beacon's church)

**AT CLONMEL LIBRARY**

**MABS (Money Advice and Budgeting  
Service)**

Free information stand. Practical supportive  
advice to help with finances and budgeting.  
On Wednesday, March 25 from 10am to 12  
noon. For more info visit <https://mabs.ie>  
**FREE Blood Pressure and Pulse Checks**  
Mobile Unit at Clonmel Library, Co  
Tipperary E91YW66. On Wednesday, March  
25th from 10.30am to 2. 45pm. During a  
heart health check, our expert nurses will  
check your blood pressure and pulse,  
provide information advice to help reduce  
risk of disease stroke. For more information,  
call 052-6166130 or  
email [clonmellibrary@tipperarycoco.ie](mailto:clonmellibrary@tipperarycoco.ie).

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Amber Rose Cody, Roseleigh.

James Delahunty, Ballybrazil. Mai Moran, Ballybrazil. Pat Purcell, Carrick Road/Watford,  
England. Tom Dermody, Ballincur. Nora Foley, Main Street. Bridget Walsh, Clooneen.  
John, Tom & Michael Crowley. Josie Luddy. Olivia Dungan nee Crowley, Barrabehey.  
Walter Crowley, Polerone. William O'Keeffe, Roseleigh. Kathleen Maher, Carrick Road.

**MONTHS MIND MASS** for Eamonn Kinsella, Ballytarsney Saturday 28th March @ 7pm in  
Mooncoin Church.

Mooncoin Parish Presents. **Cois Nore Choir and local musicians**. A Celebration of  
Community Concert will be held in the Church of the Assumption Mooncoin on Friday  
March 27th at 8pm. This is a free event (no tickets necessary) Your kind donations on the  
night will go to the Mooncoin Cancer Support Group.

**Lenten Dues (Stations) – A Word of Gratitude**

Sincere thanks to all parishioners who contribute to the Lenten Dues (Stations). Your  
generosity helps support the priests of the parish and diocese in their ministry and care for  
God's people. Your kindness and continued support are deeply appreciated. May the Lord  
bless you abundantly for your thoughtfulness.

Next edition of the Newsletter **29th March 2026**

**Mooncoin Parish Pastoral Council – Survey Feedback Continued**

This week, we are sharing a summary of feedback under the heading of Nourishing Faith.

**Nourishing Faith Pillar**

**Strengths** – Faith plays a central role in the lives of the majority of parishioners. Most  
people who responded feel supported by the Parish in their faith journey. There is interest  
in multiple types of faith formation.

**Challenges** – People who are new to the Parish may feel excluded or unsure how to  
integrate.

Some parishioners express concern over historical grievances. Some parishioners feel faith  
support is very centred on schools and there is limited adult engagement outside of  
sacramental preparation.

**Opportunities** – Increase visibility of parish roles and structures so that everyone knows  
how to get involved. Find ways to encourage youth and family engagement. Foster  
initiatives between generations. Promote volunteer pathways for newcomers. Expand  
spiritual practices  
beyond weekend Masses.

**News** - During this past week, the Pastoral Council followed up with everyone who shared  
their contact details on the survey forms. Sincere thanks to Tracy and Joe who are  
supporting us in publishing The Grapevine on the Mooncoin Facebook Page every  
Monday.

**Priests:** Fr. Martin Tobin Adm. 086 240 1278  
Fr. Michael Kelly, SJ, CC Kilmacow and Pastoral Area Assistant 087 3791406  
**Parish Secretary:** Tracy Driscoll **Office Phone :** 051-895 123  
**Email:** mooncoin@ossory.ie

**Office Opening Hours**

Monday - Wednesday - Friday 9.45am - 12.45pm (closed bank holidays)

**Radio Frequency:** MHz 108 FM . **Website:** www.mooncoinparish.ie

**Live Streaming:** www.churchservices.tv/mooncoinparish