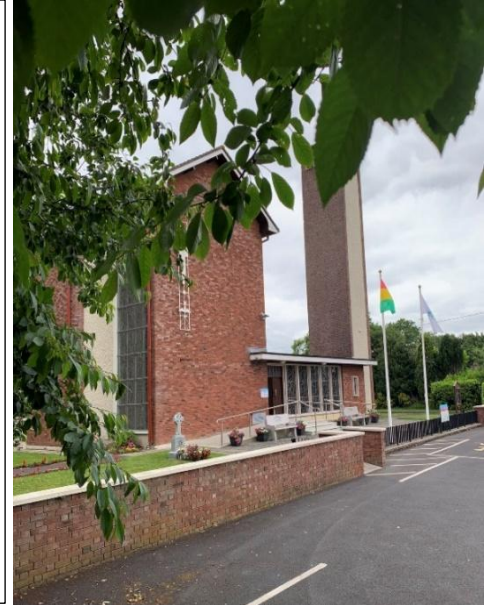


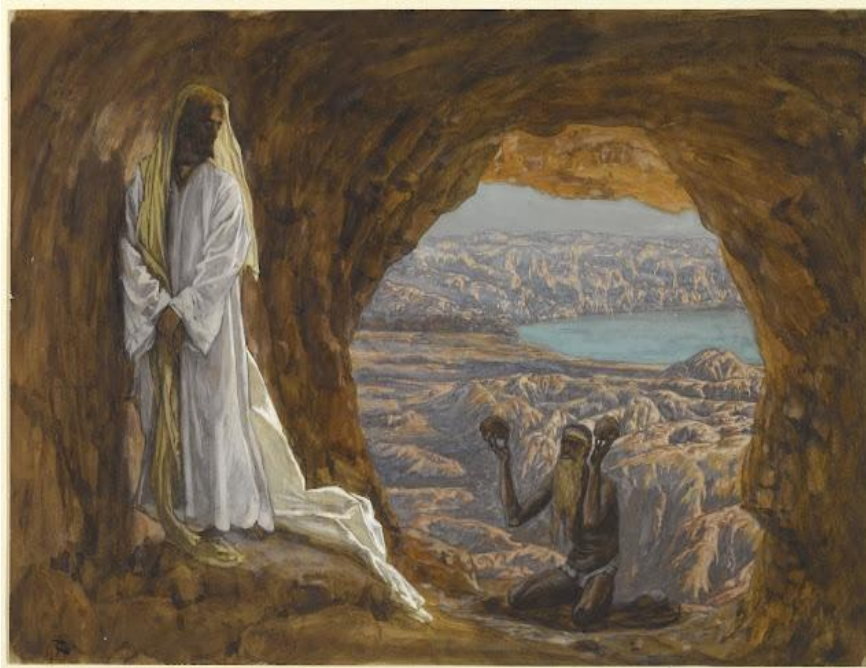


# Parish Newsletter Cooleragh - Staplestown

8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025



1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent



### Envelopes & Offertory Collection

Total €1,284

Mass in Christ the King Church, Cooleragh,  
**Mon to Fri 9am**

**Tuesday Morning 9am** Mass. Remembering those who are enduring the burden of injury or illness. Followed by Adoration

**Thursday Morning 9am** Mass. Remembering especially those who have gone before us.

Email: [standco100@gmail.com](mailto:standco100@gmail.com)

Phone during office hours 045 860281

Parish Account Cooleragh No 1

IBAN IE43 AIBK 9332 3629 5300 19

### Anniversaries for the weekend *Christ the King Church, Cooleragh*

**Saturday Vigil 6.30pm**

Christy Fitzgerald Brockagh

Conor McManus Maynooth

Kathleen (Kate Moran Coill Dubh

Dolores Kennedy Cooltrim also

remembering Mary Lawlor Ballyduff  
Kerry

### *St Benignus Staplestown 11.15am*

MM Helen Crowe

Mary Coffey The Range

Bernard Kilmurry Blackwood his  
wife Mary & son James

### Anniversaries for the next weekend

### *St Benignus Staplestown 11.15am*

Paddy Walshe (former sacriston of  
St. Benignus)

James Heffernan Hodgestown.

### *St Patricks Day*

### *Christ the King Church, Cooleragh*

**8.30am** Eden & Rose Wards Coill  
Dubh

Maryanne, John & Seanie Ward  
Corduff.

### *St Benignus Staplestown 11.15am*

Jack Wilson Cooleragh

### St Patrick's Day Mass Times

**Christ the King 8.30am**

**St Benignus 11.15am**

The Stations of the Cross will be recited every Friday for the 5 Fridays in Lent instead of the Rosary

15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**Ministers of the Word**

*Christ the King, Cooleragh*

Vigil Mass 6.30pm

Laura Cullen

Sunday 8.30am.

Laurence Cummins

St Patrick's Day 8.30am

Caroline Ennis

*St Benignus, Staplestown*

Sunday 11.15am

Maggie Kennedy

**Ministers of the Eucharist**

*Christ the King, Cooleragh*

Saturday 6.30pm

Ann Moore

Sunday 8.30am

Catherine Harney

*St Benignus, Staplestown*

Sunday 11.15am

Liam Holton\Mary Fallon

**Diocesan -Parish Lotto** The Jackpot for next week's draw is €15,000. Thank you for your support. Tickets can be purchased in Daybreak Supermarkets Coill Dubh, Wards Shop Cooleragh, Styles & Smilzes Staplestown, Parish office during office hours or after weekend masses in our churches.

**Feast Day for the week**

**Tuesday:** St. Aengus

**Thursday:** To day is the anniversary of the election of Pope Francis in 2013



**Marriage**

**Encounter**

**Weekend 28-30**

**March 2025**

Restore, Renew, Rekindle. We welcome you to our next

Marriage

Enrichment Weekend Friday

28th- 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Venue: Knock, Co.

Mayo [www.marriageencounter.ie](http://www.marriageencounter.ie)

**Pope: Ashes 'bring us back to reality'**

**By Joseph Tulloch**

Cardinal De Donatis delivers

Pope Francis' homily for Ash

Wednesday Mass

Human fragility

The Pope began by focusing on the ways that the imposition of ashes reminds us of deeper realities about ourselves.

"We bow our heads in order to receive the ashes", he said, "as if to look at ourselves, to look within ourselves. Indeed, the ashes help to remind us that our lives are fragile and insignificant: we are dust, from dust we were created, and to dust we shall return."

This fragility takes many forms, the Pope said: weariness, weaknesses, fears, failures, failed dreams, illness, poverty, suffering, and, of course, mortality.

Although we sometimes try to flee these realities, Pope Francis said, the imposition of ashes "reminds us of who we are". This is good for us, he stressed – it helps prevent narcissism, and brings us back to reality, making us "more humble and available to one another".

**Our hope**

While ashes remind us of our fragility, however, Pope Francis said, they also remind us of our reasons for optimism.

"The ashes remind us," the Pope said, "of the hope to which we are called in Jesus, the Son of God, who has taken upon himself the dust of the earth and raised it to the heights of heaven."

Such hope is important, Pope Francis said, because, without it, we risk "passively enduring the fragility of our human condition" and, in the face of our own mortality, "sinking into sadness and desolation".

Pope Francis brought his homily to a close with an exhortation to "return to God with all our hearts".

"Let us place Him at the centre of our lives," the Pope said, "so that the memory of what we are — fragile and mortal as ashes scattered upon the wind — may finally be filled with the hope of the Risen Lord."

