

Bicentenary of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church Dungarvan
Appeal for information, photographs and/or artifacts of historical interest.

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Mitchell Street, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford will celebrate its 200th Anniversary in 2028. Over the past 200 years there have been significant changes to the interior of the Church and its surrounds. Over the past 100 years some of these changes may have been captured in the form of written documents, photographs, video recordings, or in statues/artifacts that were removed from the Church.

St. Mary's Parish Pastoral Council, in conjunction with Waterford County Museum, Dungarvan are seeking the public's assistance in relation to obtaining information, photographs and/or artifacts of historical interest relating to the Church building and its surrounds.

Should you be able to provide any of the above, it would be greatly appreciated if you could contact Waterford County Museum, or St. Mary's Parish Church at the contact details below.

Waterford County Museum,
 St. Augustine Street,
 Dungarvan,
 Co. Waterford
 X35 NW63 Tel: 058-45960
 Email: Info@waterfordmuseum.ie

St. Mary's Parish Church,
 Mitchell St.,
 Dungarvan,
 Co. Waterford
 X35 KD56 Tel: 058-42374
 Email: parishofficedungarvan@gmail.com

**ST. MARY'S
 PARISH CHURCH**

DESIGNED BY
George Richard Pain 1828

ALTERED 1870 BY
Rev. J.V Cleary P.P.

**Plaque on railing
 St. Mary's Church**

Church Gate Collections

Groups / Clubs / Organisations etc, who have permits to collect at the church gates are reminded that they are obliged to keep well back from the entrances to the church. It is not a pleasant duty to have to tell collectors that they are not keeping back sufficiently from the entrances. There are notices on the railings which remind collectors that there are **'No collections inside this point.** Thank you.'

**Parishes of
 St. Mary's, Dungarvan, An Rinn & Sean
 Phobal , Kilgobinet, Colligan & Kilbrien.
 August 2026**



Prayer for Those Waiting for Exam Results.

Lord, give me peace of mind as I wait for the exam results.
 Take away any fear, worry or anxiety I may have.
 I put my faith and trust in you. Amen.



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

This novena begins on Monday 24th August at 7.30pm and will continue for 9 Mondays until Monday 19th October. No morning Mass on Mondays during the novena. The Icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help draws us in. Mary says: 'Come to me.' Her face is sorrowful, yet calm. She is looking, not at Jesus, but at each of us, her children, saying: 'come to me and I will bring you closer to my Son.'

August 15th Feast of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven.

On the Solemn Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (2020), Pope Francis said that Mary's assumption into Heaven was an infinitely greater achievement than man's first steps on the moon.

"When man set foot on the moon, he said a phrase that became famous: 'That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.' In essence, humanity had reached a historic milestone. But today, in Mary's Assumption into Heaven, we celebrate an infinitely greater achievement. Our Lady set foot in Heaven she went there not only in spirit, but with her body as well, with all of herself... This step of the little Virgin of Nazareth was the giant leap forward of mankind. Pope Francis said that in Mary's Assumption into Heaven, one sees life's end goal: "not to gain the things here below, which are fleeting, but the homeland, which is above, which is forever." *Pope Francis: Angelus Address, 15/8/2020.*

Pope Leo XIV: In Mary Taken into Heaven we see our Destiny.

'Brothers and sisters, when we "choose life" in this life (cf. Deuteronomy 30:19), then in Mary, assumed into heaven, we have reason to see our destiny. She is given to us as the sign that the Resurrection of Jesus was not an isolated case, an exception. In Christ, we can all swallow up death (cf. 1 Cor 15:54). Of course, it is God's work, not ours.' Pope Leo XIV: 15th August 2025.

Masses for the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Saturday, 15th August, a Holyday of Obligation.

Masses for the Holyday in St. Mary's Parish Church and the Friary Church only.

Vigil Mass in the Friary only: 6.15pm, Friday 14th August.

Morning Masses: The Friary, 10am; St. Mary's, 11am.

Evening Masses on 15th August for the 16th August, the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Friary: 6.15pm; St. Mary's 7.30pm. Sunday Masses as usual.

Saturday, 15th August: Vigil Mass, 7.30pm Colligan. Sunday Masses as usual.

17th August: Our Lady of Knock .

The story of Knock began on the 21 August 1879 when Our Lady, St. Joseph and St John the Evangelist appeared at the south gable of Knock Parish Church. This miraculous apparition was witnessed by fifteen people, young and old. Knock is an internationally recognised Marian Shrine. Saint John Paul II visited Knock as part of his 1979 papal pilgrimage to Ireland. Pope Francis went to Knock and prayed at the Shrine before the final Mass of the World Meeting of Families at the Phoenix Park, Dublin, on Sunday, 26 August 2018. The date of the memorial is within the annual novena conducted at the Shrine. Pope Francis, on the Feast of St. Joseph, 19 March 2021, declared Knock to be an International Shrine of Eucharistic and Marian Devotion. (*Liturgical Calendar for Ireland 2026, p.186*)

Prayer to Our Lady of Knock.

Our Lady of Knock, Queen of Ireland, you gave hope to your people in a time of distress and comforted them in sorrow. You have inspired countless pilgrims to pray with confidence to your divine Son, remembering His promise, "Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find." Help me to remember that we are all pilgrims on the road to heaven. Fill me with love and concern for my brothers and sisters in Christ, especially those who live with me. Comfort me when I am sick, lonely or depressed. Teach me how to take part ever more reverently at Mass. Give me a greater love of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Pray for me now, and at the hour of my death. Amen.

Martyrs: Witnesses of the Faith, Witnesses of the Hope that comes from Faith in Christ.

'...martyrs have accompanied the life of the Church in every age, and flourish as "ripe and excellent fruits of the Lord's vineyard" even today. **As I have said many times, martyrs "are more numerous in our time than in the first centuries": they are bishops, priests, consecrated men and women, lay people and families, who in the different countries of the world, with the gift of their lives, have offered the supreme proof of charity.** (cf. *LG* 42)

(Some) despite being aware of the dangers they face, manifest their faith or participate in the Sunday Eucharist. Others are killed in the effort to assist in charity the lives of the poor, in caring for those rejected by society, in cherishing and promoting the gift of peace and the power of forgiveness. Still others are silent victims, as individuals or in groups, of the upheavals of history. **To all of them we owe a great debt and we cannot forget them.'**

(From Pope Francis' letter constituting the "Commission of the New Martyrs - Witnesses of the Faith" at the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints, 05.07.2023)

17 Catholic missionaries around the world were killed for witnessing to their faith in 2025.

Africa (10): 6 priests, 2 seminarians and 2 catechists. The Americas (4): 2 priests and 2 nuns. Asia (2): 1 priest and 1 layperson. Europe (1): a Polish priest. They witnessed to Jesus with their lives. They call us to faith and support us with their prayers.

'The blood of martyrs is the seed of the Church.' Tertullian, 2nd century.

Pope Leo XIV on Vacation.

'Let us therefore commit ourselves, especially in these days of vacation, to give space to listening, reading and meditating on the Word of God, cultivating, together with rest and healthy fun, also significant moments of silence and prayer. We will return to our usual occupations renewed in body and spirit, ready to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel and ever more capable of cooperating in the growth of the Kingdom of God.'

Pope Leo XIV: Castel Gandolfo before the Angelus on Sunday, 12th July 2026.

The Journey of Faith.

"The journey of faith is one that lasts for all our lives. It is not merely a one-off event, but a process. Jesus asked for followers who would take up their cross and follow him. He didn't just ask for occasional customers browsing in his spiritual services catalogue!" (Building Faith in Young People: Irish Catholic Bishops' Message to mark the 20th World Youth Day, Cologne, 2005)