

## The Jubilee year of Hope 2025 prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos, in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. **Amen.**

## Words of Hope from Pope Francis for Jubilee Year

- Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring.
- Hope is born of love and based on the love springing from the pierced heart of Jesus upon the cross.
- Patience, one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit, sustains our hope and strengthens it as a virtue and a way of life. May we learn to pray frequently for the grace of patience, which is both the daughter of hope and at the same time its firm foundation.
- We need to recognize the immense goodness present in our world, lest we be tempted to think ourselves overwhelmed by evil and violence. The signs of the times, which include the yearning of human hearts in need of God's saving presence, ought to become signs of hope.
- The first sign of hope should be the desire for peace in our world, which once more finds itself immersed in the tragedy of war.

**Please Remember**

**Farnavilla Cemetery Mass, Saturday 13th September @ 2 PM  
(Castletown, Ballycumber. Nearest Eircode R35 E229)**



# Killickfeehan Cemetery Mass

## Saturday 23rd August 2025



## Jubilee Year of Hope 2025

**Celebrants:**

**Fr. Michael Whittaker P.P.  
Fr. Frank Guinan**



## A Word of Welcome

We welcome you this evening to our cemetery here in Killickfeehan for the annual blessing of the graves and evening Mass. A special welcome to all who have travelled from both near and far for our Cemetery Evening. Cemetery Evening is a very special day each year in our Parish, when we come together, to remember and pray for departed loved ones and to pray that we will continue to live by their values. The values of prayer and faith, the values of goodness and kindness and in this Jubilee year of Hope, the value of being sources of Hope and encouragement for one another.

As we stand here together as one Christian Community, we remember our dearly departed family members, neighbours, work colleagues, friends and people that we know, that are laid to rest here. We gather to give thanks to God for their lives and pray for their eternal rest. We especially remember those who passed away in the past year.

As we remember at this time, all the people buried here in this cemetery, we also think of all people buried in all our parish cemeteries.

**Blessing Prayer for Graves** Let us pray – God of Abraham and God of Moses, Lord of the living, who visited Jesus within his grave and filled him with the fullness of eternal life, hear our prayers this day as we come to **Killickfeehan Cemetery**, this holy place of burial.

With reverence, we visit here where the sacred bodies of our loved ones have been placed in the womb of the earth to await the final day of glory. We pause in silence to be united with our loved one. (Pause) Lord, we have come on this pilgrimage of prayer in order to keep the flame of love alive in our hearts. As we bless these graves with our prayers and with holy water, we give thanks that the names of these loved ones buried here have been written for all ages in the palm of your hand. May the breath of creation that surrounds these holy graves – the trees, the grass, the birds, the wind, and the sun – join us today in prayer. May this pilgrimage remind us of what our faith teaches us – that our souls do not die, but rather are transformed into new life through Christ. Holy are these resting places. Holy is this earth that has held in gentle embrace the bodies of all who are



buried in this cemetery. Lord, with reverence, we leave our prayers and our love at these graves, and we remember in faith the reality of that earthen Easter morning when all the holy dead shall rise in the splendour of your glory. Until that day, eternal rest be to those whose graves we visit today, and to all the holy dead. We place this prayer before you through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Killickfeehan Cemetery Rahan is made up of the old cemetery, which dates back to the 16th century and the new part which was opened in 2007 by the late Fr. Seamus Dunican P.P. The old graveyard features some very old gravestones and has become the final resting place for generations of people, some of whom were born in neighbouring parishes. The cemetery features many old gravestones, offering insights into the area's history and heritage. The new adjoining lawn graveyard is maintained along with the old one by the local voluntary committee. The combination of the old and the new will ensure that generations to come will continue the yearly remembrance mass and blessing.

