

Week of Witness and Red Wednesday

This year, ACN Ireland's **Week of Witness** takes place from **November 15–November 23** with **Red Wednesday** falling on **November 19**. It is our earnest hope that as many parishes as possible will be able to mark this important week that is a concrete sign of our solidarity with the suffering Church.

Anam Cara will be hosting an Online Bereavement Information Evening on Thursday 20th of November at 7pm for bereaved parents.

Niamh Fitzpatrick will be our guest speaker for the evening, bringing together her personal experience of grief and her professional expertise as a psychotherapist. This session may be especially beneficial for parents seeking to understand their children's unique perspectives on grief, and those navigating traumatic or sudden losses.

Down & Connor Diocesan Fatima 2026

Led by: Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ. Pilgrimage Directors: Canon Sean Gilmore, Fr Martin Graham Adm, Fr Gerry McCloskey PP. **29th MAY 2026**, 7 nights, £850 per person sharing, **(£100 off per person if paid in full by 3rd NOV 2025)**. **Direct return flights from Belfast to Porto, 7 nights** Hotel Avenida, Full Board: breakfast, lunch & dinner each day, Full religious programme, Guided tour of Sanctuary & Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary, Visits to Aljustrel & Valinhos, Optional: Travel insurance & Single supplement (Limited Places). For information please contact: **JOE CATNEY 07776425631**

Bambinelli Sunday 14th December

Gaudete Sunday is the **3rd Sunday of Advent**. Gaudete means rejoice. and on this feast day we rejoice because we are almost at Christmas, the day when we celebrate the coming of Jesus into the world, the greatest gift we have ever been given. To mark the feast, our parish will join with parishes around the world in celebrating the tradition of Bambinelli Sunday. We invite each family in the parish to bring the figure of Jesus from their family crib to the Masses on **Sunday 14th of December**, where they will be blessed.

A suggestion is, following the blessing, take your "bambinelli" home and place it in a gift box, wrap it, and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift your family opens on Christmas Day, when together you place your Baby Jesus figure in the crib, and have a home blessing of the Nativity for your whole family.