

February 2026

Dear CASA Family,

As we step into 2026, we're filled with excitement for another year of connection, joy and unforgettable moments. Before we look ahead, let's take a moment to reflect on 2025 - a year brimming with fun, laughter and shared experiences. From lively gatherings to heartwarming celebrations, each event reminded us of the incredible bonds that make CASA so special.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Your enthusiasm and support are what make our community shine.

Lourdes Pilgrimage

CASA once again had a very successful pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2025, facilitating over 50 people living with disability or challenging illness, each accompanied by a personal companion or carer. Our group also included dedicated volunteer teams: a medical team (doctor, nurses and care support staff) and a Pastoral team who coordinated the experience.



We follow the full Lourdes programme at a gentle pace, allowing time for rest and reflection, making it meaningful and manageable for all. This uplifting pilgrimage is a highlight of the year, offering deep spiritual renewal and a strong sense of shared community.



Our shops provide essential revenue for CASA.

We operate 4 shops in the following locations:-

Dublin

- 26 Capel Street, Dublin 1
- 59 Upper Dorset Street, Dublin 1

Mullingar

- 17 Austin Friar Street, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath

Longford

- 9 Rear Chapel Street, Longford, Co. Longford



Longford

Many thanks to Bernie Belton who stepped down as Leader of our Longford Group after many years of dedicated service. Bernie brought great warmth, friendship and dedication to Longford Group members. Luckily, Bernie will still be part of the planning team for our Lourdes pilgrimage so thankfully we won't be saying goodbye altogether.



Longford Group had monthly socials and outings including a great day out at A Day With The Stars at Roscommon Race Course during the year. Overall a very active year.



Cork Region

Cork's socials for Northside, Mahon and Turner's Cross resumed in 2025 and they had 3 wonderful occasions in the Knocknaheeney Community Centre, where a freshly cooked meal was enjoyed together. Fr Donal continues to support the group and his Masses at events are always appreciated. Cork concluded the year with their Christmas social where great fun was had by all.



This past year has been particularly successful thanks to the hard work and dedication of our staff and volunteers. As always, donations are gratefully accepted!

Youghal



CASA Youghal has had a very busy CASA schedule throughout 2025. As well as the usual fun socials, the annual Golf Classic in July was a great success once again. Youghal's commitment to the CASA Lourdes programme continued and 26 people from Youghal travelled to Lourdes. The feedback was excellent as usual. The Christmas party was the highlight of the year, with 120 participating, the biggest Christmas social ever for the group. Santa was really good to everyone.

Dublin

The Dublin groups continue to gather Northside and Southside for socials and also often run their individual events at group level as well. On the Northside, Raheny, Ballygall, Drumcondra, Berkeley Road, Swords and Avila groups combine to have socials of usually around 100 people, with Mass led by Fr. Tom, food, singing and dancing.

Similarly on the Southside, Kimmage Manor, Greenhills, Harolds Cross and Blackrock combine regularly for socials and also arrange cinema trips, picnics and other outings. It's great to see all the groups going strong, with Blackrock supporting members from Bray group regularly too.

Malahide Breakhouse

Our day socials in the CASA House, An Chlann, in Malahide are continuing to be successful and very popular with both members and volunteers. During 2025, there were 12 events in the house - 128 member breaks were provided. The events may include a walk for coffee and always include good chat, food and music. As there has been plenty of activity on the house, some refurbishment works was required and we're delighted to report that has progressed very well. Along with installing a brand-new front door, we have upgraded one of the bathrooms and we've replaced all the kitchen appliances to create a more welcoming and functional space. This vital work is made possible thanks to the generous support of our corporate donors whose contributions make such a difference.

Kenya

CASA's 3 projects in Kenya are continuing to flourish. As you know, CASA works with the Daughters of Charity (Thigio), the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph (Asumbi) and Development Pamoji, led by James Hennessy in Nakura. By working through third parties who know their areas very well CASA ensures that our contribution can help those who most need it.



Loughrea



Huge congratulations to all our Loughrea members and volunteers who celebrated their 15th anniversary in 2025. From small beginnings, this group continues to thrive due to the commitment and dedication of all involved and the social to celebrate this milestone was a very happy celebration.

As usual, Loughrea organised their annual Christmas fundraising swim which has become a key event in the town's calendar.

