

Easter Sunday

Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne

John 20:1-9 Dare to hope

The empty tomb causes consternation. In John's account, Mary Magdalene the first to arrive, is confused by the missing stone, 'They have taken the Lord.' Peter and John see the empty tomb and wrappings, but appear not to understand. Only when John enters the tomb does he 'see and believe'. Mary Magdalene will be the first to see the risen Jesus, recognising him when he calls her by name. Later, Thomas will be convinced only when he sees and touches Jesus. The Good News dawns gradually for the disciples. We share in their awe and excitement this morning. Jesus is alive! We enter into the mystery, allowing ourselves to believe and to hope.

You may have heard the expression 'the audacity of hope'. It became famous as the title of Barack Obama's autobiography, but it originated in a sermon by pastor Jeremiah Wright in which he reflected on the G.F. Watts painting, 'Hope'. In the painting, a female figure sits, blindfolded, playing a lyre that has only one string. 'With her clothes in rags, her body scarred and bruised and bleeding, her harp all but destroyed and with only one string left, she has the audacity to make music and praise God ... To take the one string you have left and to have the audacity to hope ... that's the real word God will have us hear. The mystery of the resurrection is that we can dare to hope. God has made all things new.

The resurrection completes what Jesus began. The resurrection of Jesus, who was persecuted, suffered and died, is God's affirmation that victory does not rest with the world's victors, but with the victims. Jesus' words and deeds are risen and exalted too. The Jesus who is raised is the one who sides with the poor, the mistreated, the ignored; who challenges the status quo and tells us 'the last will be first'. We are challenged to model our lives on this vision of Jesus, to shine light into darkness and bring hope to an uncertain world.

© Triona Doherty & Jane Mellet, 2022. *A Journey with the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Matthew*. (Dublin: Messenger Publications 2022).

"Jesus' death was an interruption in his ministry, not the point of it. – *Daneen Akers*

ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE

www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie/our-parish/webcam Radio 108 FM

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

PLEASE NOTE: Rathvilly/Kiltegan - 083 4888149

Parish Office – Mon-Fri: 10 am – 1 pm - 059 9161114

Email: office@rathvillykilteganparish.ie Website: www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie

Registered Charity Number 20015848

Diocesan Website: www.kandle.ie

Local Safeguarding Reps: Mary Phelan Elizabeth Austin David Carton

Diocesan Director of Safeguarding: Ms Ailish Higgins Email: safeguarding@kandle.ie

RATHVILLY KILTEAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

**St. Brigid's
Talbotstown**

**St. Patrick's
Rathvilly**

**The Assumption
Tynock**

Sat/Sun, 4th & 5th April

Easter Sunday

Wishing all our Parishioners a Happy Easter

Recent Death: Peg Byrne, Killalesh, Kiltegan

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 4th & 5th April

Kathleen Smith, 6 St. Patrick's Park

Paddy Byrne, Garretstown

Agnes & Jack O'Toole, St. Patrick's Park

Paddy Delaney, Tobinstown

Sat/Sun, 11th & 12th April

George, Ellen & Larry Byrne, Maplestown

Paudie Doyle, Raheendaw

Freda Cashen nee Byrne, Slaney View

Mick Connors, 3 St. Patrick's Park

Patrick Doyle, The Dales, Ricketstown

Mary Gahan, Collins Park

Catherine & Thomas Faulkner, Garretstown

Susan Kavanagh, Ballybit

Dan Byrne, Lisnavagh & deceased family members

Timothy & Margaret Doyle, Tobinstown & deceased family members

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Easter Sunday, 5th April – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Mary Kelly, Feddan

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Sunday, 12th April – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Breedh Murphy.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

Tuesday, 7th April – Communion Service at 9.30 a.m.

Wednesday & Friday - Mass at 9.30 a.m.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION – No Adoration until Friday, 17th April.

A thought for Easter 2026 ...

"The Mass of Chrism reminds us of our calling, a calling that is rooted in our baptism. All of us are, as this year's Confirmation theme runs, 'Loved, Chosen, Necessary'. Baptism allows us all to belong, and the synod Synthesis reminds us 'belonging' is critical to our faith journey. Every one of you in the Cathedral this night is needed in our Church. Lay Pastoral Ministers do not replace the clergy. Lay Pastoral Ministers do not replace the lay faithful already immersed in the life of their parish. The clergy do not replace the call of every baptised person. The Church of Kildare & Leighlin needs everyone" (Chrism Homily 2026)

May each one of you grow to realise the profound calling that is your baptism this Easter and may your Easter be filled with light, peace and joy.

Every blessing, ✠Denis

TRAINING FOR CHURCH READERS

Thursday, 23rd & 30th April & 7th May in The Parish Centre, Tullow from 7 – 9 p.m.
Would you like to become a Church Reader, if so, please contact the Parish Office.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Sunday, 12th April in St. Joseph's Church Baltinglass at 3 p.m. Confessions available and veneration of the Divine Mercy Image.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS 28th & 29th March

We thank all our parishioners who contribute to the weekly Collections.

Rathvilly: Offertory €362.52 Envelopes €433.05

Kiltegan: Offertory €91.35 Envelopes €207.00

EASTER COLLECTION – This weekend for the Clergy Fund. Please support.

PARISH LOTTO (Kildare & Leighlin Co-Op Lotto Draw)

Results from 1st April, 2026 No Jackpot winner of €11,000

Numbers: 09-14-25-27. 17 Match 3 numbers get €59.00 each.

No local match three winner this week.

Next draw on Wednesday, 8th April. **Jackpot €12,000.**

The draw takes place each Wednesday at 4 p.m. in the Parish Centre, Portlaoise.

Pentecost Retreat @ Slí an Chroí, St Patricks Missionary Society, Kiltegan

We invite you to relive that first Pentecost – invoking the Holy Spirit as the Church's life giving breath. In quiet prayer, shared reflection, and communal worship we open ourselves to transformation and to a renewed missionary courage for our time.

Friday 22nd May to Sunday 24th May, €315.00 per person. Enquiries to Michele Sinnott slianchroi@spms.ie or 089 4690 508

RATHVILLY GAA CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 4-9-24-26

Match 3 win or share €150. 5 Lucky dips

Murt & Jean Hennessey Carlow On Line winner

Kara, Pippa, Phoebe Nolan Ballon On Line winner

Ciara Deering Ballybit On Line winner

Joan Sibbald Collins Pk. Post Office

Liam Murphy Phelan St. Post Office

Next draw 7 April 2026 **Jackpot €7,300**

RATHVILLY HERITAGE INTEREST GROUP

Rathvilly Heritage Interest Group would like to thank all who supported their recent wheelbarrow hamper draw. Thanks to Msgr John McEvoy for doing the Draw for us. Thanks also to The Chocolate Garden, Folklore, Rathvilly Pharmacy, The Green Lemon, Lawlor's Bar and Centra Rathvilly for their support. It was a great success. Congrats to the winners 1st prize (Wheelbarrow Hamper) Caragh Britton and 2nd prize (Chocolate Garden Hamper) Inese Jankevica.

THE IRISH CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER – €3.50 Please put money in Shrine Box.

DAFFODIL DAY

A big thank you to everyone who supported Daffodil Day in any way – in Centra and the Pharmacy. The great amount of €2,480 has been lodged with the Irish Cancer Society. Well done and thank you to all.

OLD KNOCKLISHEN SCHOOL

Research is being carried out for a book on the Darcy Family, of which a few members taught in Knocklishen School up to 1920's when it was replaced by Tobinstown School. Anyone who has information about the Darcy Family or who knows of any living relative in Ireland should send contact information to the Parish Office 059 9161114.

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto numbers drawn on Tuesday 31st. March were 1-2-23-28

Dylan Connors, Collins Park Jenny Donegan

Mag Smith, Collins Park Jenny Donegan

Ger Kavanagh Snr., Ballybit Laura Kavanagh

Martin Molloy Rathvilly Martin Molloy

Gary Byrne, Rathvilly Brian Curran

Promoter's prize €20 was won by Rathvilly Post Office.

Next draw 7th. April 2026. Jackpot €5,300. Thank you for all your support.

TABLE QUIZ

Rathvilly NS Parents Association are hosting a Table Quiz on Friday, 17th April in Lawlor's Bar at 8 p.m. €40 per table (4 per table). Prizes for the winners. Raffle on the night. Grab your team, text your knowledge and enjoy a great night out!

TRÓCAIRE BOXES – Please return your Trócaire Box as soon as possible.

Graiguecullen MONSTER Bingo Tuesday 7th April St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm
Jackpot 48 numbers €4,730 Double number €1,230 Lotto €1,950 Bonus Ball €1,250

LOUGH DERG – 2026 Pilgrimage Season

A pilgrimage has a vital part to play in our life of faith, for it removes us from our daily routines, and gives us time and space to encounter God more deeply.

Three Day Pilgrimage – Friday, 29th May until Saturday, 15th August. Adm. €85.00.

One Day Retreat – May 3rd, 4th, 9th, 12th, 17th, 23rd & 25th

August – 18th, 22nd, 23rd, 29th & 31st. September – 5th, 6th, 9th, 12th, 15th, 19th & 20th.

Admission €50.00. Quiet Day – Heritage Day – Lakeshore Pilgrimage.

Contact 071 9861518 or info@loughderg.org or www.loughderg.org

KNOCK – DIVINE MERCY PILGRIMAGE

Weekend After Divine Mercy Sunday – 18th & 19th April.

Saturday, 18th April - 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. in Basilica with Mass – A Call to Prayer and Adoration.

Sunday, 19th April – Pilgrimage Day 10.30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Buses are available – Contact 086 1027411 for information.