

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Deacon Rev. Liam Dunne

Matthew 11:2-11

What sort of Messiah is this?

John the Baptist is in prison because he challenged Herod for marrying his brother's wife. We learn later in the Gospel that Herod has John beheaded. While John is in prison, fear and doubt have set in. John is wondering if Jesus really is the Messiah. This is quite a turnaround from the John who felt unworthy to Baptise Jesus in the Jordan and who declared 'the Kingdom of Heaven has come near' (3:2). John led quite an ascetic life and fasted frequently. The reports he now hears about Jesus includes feasting, telling his disciples they do not have to fast, associating with tax collectors, drunkards and sinners. So one can understand why John began to have doubts. What sort of Messiah is this?

During these times, people had a checklist of ways to recognise the Messiah; it includes liberating captives, healing the sick, raising the dead and restoring the sight to the blind. Jesus' response to John's enquiries is that his actions speak for themselves. Jesus' actions are reminiscent of the Jubilee Year of Restoration (Lev 25; Isa 61) where injustices would be overturned, the land would be restored and the people given a fresh start. All of these things are being fulfilled in Jesus' ministry. The Gospel ends with a paradox: John is the greatest that has ever born; yet the people who are considered the 'lowest' or the 'least' in this world are considered even greater than John by God. The more we reflect on this statement, the more we come to see that both aspects of it are true and in harmony with one another. In this new age that John had announced, the poorest and those considered the lowest in society will be greater than John himself. This is the Kingdom of Heaven that Matthews announces to his readers. A new era, a great upheaval has begun. **Copyright © Triona Doherty & Jane Mellet, 2022. *The Deep End, A Journey with the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Matthew.***

"The problem is not feeding the poor, or clothing the naked, or visiting the sick, but rather recognising that the poor, the naked the sick, prisoners, and the homeless have the dignity to sit at our table, to feel 'at home' among us, to feel part of a family. This is a sign that the Kingdom of Heaven is in our midst.

- Pope Francis.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, Rathvilly/Kiltegan - 083 1494412

ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE & RADIO

www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie/our-parish/webcam Radio 104.3 fm

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 Parish Radio 104.3 fm

Local Safeguarding Reps: Eoin Cheasty Mary Phelan Elizabeth Austin David Carton

Diocesan Director of Safeguarding: Ms Kathleen Sherry Email: safeguarding@kandle.ie

RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

**St. Brigid's
Talbotstown**

10th & 11th December, 2022

**St. Patrick's
Rathvilly**

**The Assumption
Tynock**

3rd Sunday of Advent

Recent Death: Joe Byrne, Bristol & Fr. Cullen Tce. Mass of Christian Burial takes place on Monday, 19th December at 12 Noon in St. Patrick's Church followed by Burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Sat/Sun, 10th & 11th December

Months Mind Mass for Nonie Doyle, Bough on Saturday, 10th December

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Alice & Mylie Carson, Raheendaw

Matthew & Christina Hanly, Williamstown

Matt & Rita Hanly, Dublin

James, Mary & Ann Leonard, Monavothé

Sat/Sun, 17th & 18th December

Paddy Donoghue, Kevin Barry Road

Breda & Patsy Molloy, Ricketstown

Eamonn Lawlor, Coole

Bill Gahan, 25 Collins Park

Joseph McGuirk, Ricketstown

Denis & Mary Kelly, Haroldstown

Tom & Bridie Kehoe, Ballyoliver

James Doyle, Coole

James Doyle, Haroldstown

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday - Mass at 9.30 a.m. **No Mass on Tuesday.**

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – Thursday - 10.00 – 11.00 a.m.

CONFESSION Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Confessional & during Thursday's adoration.

St. Brigid's Church, Talbotstown

Mass on Sunday, 11th December at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Fiona Kane.

Church of the Assumption, Tynock

Mass on Sunday, 18th December at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Muireann Gartland.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Special Mass for all First Holy Communion children takes place this Sunday, 11th December. Talbotstown at 9.30 a.m. and Rathvilly at 11.00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS PENANCE SERVICE

Monday, 19th December – Tullow & Baltinglass at 7.30 p.m.

Tuesday, 20th December – **Rathvilly** & Ballyconnell at 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday, 21st December – Hacketstown at 7.30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve – Mass in Rathvilly at 7.00 p.m. Tynock at 9.00 p.m.

Christmas Day – Mass in Talbotstown at 10 a.m. Rathvilly at 11.15 a.m.

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

Results for 30th November, 2022 Numbers: 10 – 15 – 23 – 30.

No Jackpot winner of €13,000

12 Match 3s get €84.00 No local winner this week.

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

On **Wednesday, 14th December** the **Jackpot is €14,000**. Tickets €2.

Thank you for your continued support. Full results on our website.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 3rd & 4th December, 2022

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €390.61

Envelopes €572.00

Kiltegan: Offertory €109.90

Envelopes €141.50

ST VINCENT de PAUL – Rathvilly/Kiltegan Conference

SVP will be conducting their Annual Collection this weekend 10/11 December.

All funds raised will be spent in this community helping those who need it most.

If you need assistance please phone 083 1494412. We rely entirely on the support of our parishioners. Thank you for your continued support.

USE YOUR BRAIN NOT YOUR FISTS

An assault can wreck a victim's life, but it can also ruin your own future.

You could lose your job, your ability to travel, even your freedom, not to mention the distress it would cause your family.

A Garda initiative as part of their mission of Keeping People Safe that is aimed at reducing and preventing assaults which can have serious consequences for both victims and perpetrators.

RATHVILLY PUBLIC REALM STRATEGY CONSULTATION EVENT

Please don't miss out on this once in a generation opportunity to have your say on the future of Rathvilly.

Monday 12th December (view the plans) 10am-6pm

Tuesday 13th December (Meet the architect) 3pm-8pm

The Consultation Bus will be parked up in the middle of the village

Your views will be heard. Your opinion matters. DONT MISS YOUR CHANCE.

RATHVILLY G.A.A. CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 5-11-21-23

Match 3 win or share €150

Caoimhe Deering 5-7-11-21

On Line winner

Lorraine Kelly Woodgrove 11-17-21-23

On Line winner

Nwxt draw 13 Dec. 2022 **Jackpot €7,700**

Thank you for your continued support.

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 1 – 7 – 12 – 24

Mairead Faulkner, 27 Collins Park 1-7-12-22

Jenny Donegan

Valarie Whyte, Garrettstown, Rathvilly 1- 7-11-24

Michael Kehoe

Keelan, Bailey + Harley Byrne, Woodgrove Ave.1-7-23-24

Kevin Byrne

Margaret Donoghue, 15 Fr. Cullen Terrace 1-12- 24-25

Jenny Donegan

Declan Clarke, Waterstown 7-12-19-24

Declan Clarke

Harry Germaine, Parkmore, Baltinglass 7-12-20-24

Breda Keogh

Promoter's prize €20 was won by Brian Curran, Woodgrove Avenue, Rathvilly.

Next draw 13 Dec 2022 **Jackpot €20,000**. Thank you for all your support

Golden Goal Fundraiser Result-

World Cup: England v's Senegal – Winning minute was the 38th.

Winner of €60 – Anthony Byrne, Woodgrove Avenue, Rathvilly

SHOP LOCAL – BORROW LOCAL

Support Rathvilly Credit Union and keep a vital Service in the area. There will be a Loan Officer in attendance every Thursday in Rathvilly Office to meet with you and discuss any loan requirements you may have. No appointment necessary.

For further info please phone (059) 9131994 or check their

website www.carlowcreditunion.ie

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR! We want to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and happy New Year from all at Carlow District Credit Union. Our own Christmas day takes place on the 22nd of December. Come and join us in our carlow office for some fun, refreshment and spot prizes. Everyone is welcome, both members and non-members!

BIGSTONE NATIONAL SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PLAY

Bigstone National School will be putting on a performance of their Christmas play, 'A Fireside Nativity' on Thursday, 15th December at 7pm in Bigstone Community Hall. There will be a raffle, and refreshments will be served after the play. We are also expecting a visit from Santa! All are welcome!

GRAIGUECULLEN BINGO ON TUESDAY 13th December

St.Fiacs Hall (R93PO30) @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 50 numbers €4860

Double number €1230 Lotto €550 Great prizes, bring a friend.

ALONE are seeking volunteers

Would you be willing to provide companionship or make calls to Older People once a week? ALONE are seeking volunteers in your area. Full training and support provided. If interested please sign up here: <https://alone.ie/volunteers/>

For more information, contact Frances on volunteer@alone.ie or on 086 1085965.

IRISH CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER available each week at €2.50 each.