

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deacon Rev. Liam Dunne

***Matthew 16:13-20* Burning question**

At certain stages in life, we can lose our way. A business person who starts out with a great idea can become focused only on profit and lose sight of their passion. A politician who was once idealistic becomes disillusioned. A teacher, under pressure to deliver results, loses their enthusiasm for the subject. We all have times when we get jaded, or bogged down with trivial concerns, and we forget why we do what we do. Our Christian community too can lose its way. The Church has not always lived up to its momentous responsibility to communicate God's love to the world.

Today's Gospel encourages us to reflect on our Church and its mission. Jesus' reference to "the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven" is often interpreted, in Catholic circles at least, as a reference to the origins of the Church (and the papacy). But notice what Jesus asks Peter before he hands over the metaphorical 'keys': "But who do you say that I am?" This burning question gets to the heart of the Gospel. The word "but" is crucial: Jesus is not asking the disciples what they have heard about him from others or what they understand intellectually from their time with him. He is asking them: do you really know me?

Simon Peter immediately and confidently answers, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus responds with affirmation and renames him Peter, a play on the Greek word 'petra', meaning rock. This brings to mind the earlier parable about those who built their houses on rock (Mt 7:24-27) representing those who not only hear Jesus' words but *act* on them. A thread running through Matthew's Gospel is that knowing and believing is not enough. Good intentions are not enough. Everything we do, both as individual disciples but in particular as Church, should stem from the burning question of today's Gospel: "*But who do you say that I am?*"

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"Christ asks for a home in your soul, where he can be at rest with you, where you and he, alone together, can laugh and be silent and be delighted with one another.

Caryll Houselander

ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE & RADIO

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

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Diocesan Website: www.kandle.ie Parish Radio 104.3 fm

Local Safeguarding Reps: 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**

**St. Patrick's
Rathvilly**

**The Assumption
Tynock**

26th & 27th August, 2023

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat/Sun, 26th & 27th August

Months Mind Mass for Tom Doyle, Kill this Saturday, 26th August at 7.30 p.m.

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Fr Bernard Ryan - 30th Anniversary

Marie Doyle, The Moate

Patrick & Kathleen Merrigan

Andrew & Robert Merrigan

Mary Hanlon, Fr. Cullen Tce.

Peter Mullin, Rathdangan

Brian & Laura O'Donoghue, Williamstown

Rojanie Cortes, Sydney

Sat/Sun, 2nd & 3rd September

Declan O'Toole, Bough – 1st Anniversary

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – each Friday from 4 – 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Sunday, 27th August – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Lucilla Brophy.

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Sunday, 3rd September – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Mary Kelly, Feddan.

World Meeting of Families 2018 – Celebrating the Fifth Anniversary

This week marks five years since Ireland hosted the World Meeting of Families in Dublin, from 21 – 26 August 2018 (WMOF2018). This was a very significant celebration of family life in Ireland, attended by thousands including Pope Francis who has had the family at the heart of his pontificate over the past ten years.

Pope Francis sees families as "*God's dream for humanity*".

We also recall our Parish hosted visiting pilgrims from Belarus, Poland and Russia.

We keep that part of the world in our prayers in their world situation.

HOUSEBOUND VISIT FOR SEPTEMBER – Friday, 8th Sept. 2 – 6 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The family of the late Tom Doyle, Kill, Tullow would like to thank family, relatives, neighbours, friends for their support, kindness and for attending the wake and Funeral Mass, it was all much appreciated. Many thanks to Monsignor McEvoy, Deacon Liam Dunne and all who participated in the Funeral Mass. Thanks to Halligan Funeral Directors and especially John for his attention to detail. Thank you to all staff of St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny who cared for Tom in his last few weeks.

As a token of our appreciation Mass will be offered for your intentions.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 19th & 20th August

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

Rathvilly: Offertory € 233.40

Envelopes €522.15

Kiltegan: Offertory €107.40

Envelopes €206.60

Holy Day Offertory: Rathvilly €105.31 Kiltegan €80.00

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

Results for 23rd August, 2023 Numbers: 08 – 14 – 18 – 31.

12 Match 3 numbers and get €84.00 each. One local winner –

Winner – Brenda Byrne. Promoter – Breda Reilly.

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

On **Wednesday, 30th August** the **Jackpot is €17,000**. Tickets €2.

Thank you for supporting the lotto each week. New promoters welcome.

PARISH TAX RECLAIM FORMS

Thank you to all the parishioners who have returned their signed Tax Reclaim Form. If you have overlooked it we would appreciate it if you could return it as soon as you can. By returning the signed form it means the Parish can claim a refund from the Revenue Commissioners which is a great help for our finances. Thank you for your continued support.

RETURN TO REHEARSALS

Following an extremely successful season with performances of Brahms German Requiem with the RTÉ Concert Orchestra in Carlow Cathedral and in Philharmonie Berlin with Ensemble Crescere, Carlow Choral Society is delighted to announce that they are returning to rehearsals on Monday 04 September in the Cathedral Parish Centre, R93 XV10, with an open evening at 7:30 pm.

We are recruiting new members for the coming season and welcome all voice parts, especially tenors and basses. An ability to read music is an advantage but not a prerequisite, as support is provided.

Discover the benefits of joining our vibrant community choir and being part of a supportive network that fosters wellbeing, collaboration and lifelong connections through singing. For more information about the society visit www.carlowchoralsociety.net or email carlowchoralsociety@gmail.com.

RATHVILLY NS

The Staff and Board of Management are looking forward to the safe return of all our pupils and staff on Wednesday the 30th of August 2023 and we welcome all our new pupils and families.

School gates open at 9.10am and class commences at 9.20am.

We would like to congratulate Miss Maura Murphy on becoming a permanent member of staff and we also welcome Miss Orla Morris who will be teaching 2nd class and Miss Nicola Ward as Special Needs Assistant. We look forward to working with them throughout the year. The School Office is open from 10 am to 2pm daily, Monday to Friday. Contact number: 059 9161304

Please visit your child/ren's Aladdin account or our school website for further information www.rathvillyns.com

RATHVILLY G.A.A. CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 1-12-15-25

Match 3 win or share €150

Claire Delmar Monavothe 1-5-12-25

On Line winner

Next draw 29 Aug. 2023 **Jackpot €4,200**

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 13 – 16 – 20 - 21

Liam Whelan, Collins Park, Rathvilly

Bridget Whelan

Promoter's prize €20 was won by Peg Kehoe, St. Patrick's Park, Rathvilly.

Next draw 29th. August 2023 **Jackpot €20,000**. Thank you for your support.

CARLOW COUNTY MUSEUM

Visit Carlow County Museum and get a snapshot of our great history and see objects of national and international importance. Open seven days a week.

Free Admission. Tel: 059-9131554, www.carlowmuseum.ie.

OFFICIAL PRAYER FOR WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 2018

God, our Father, we are brothers and sisters in Jesus your Son,

One family, in the Spirit of your love. Bless us with the joy of love.

Make us patient and kind, Gentle and generous, welcoming to those in need.

Help us to live your forgiveness and peace. Protect all families with your loving care, especially those for whom we now pray:

(we pause and remember our family members and others by name).

Increase our faith, strengthen our hope, keep us safe in your love,

Make us always grateful for the gift of life that we share.

We ask this, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, mother and guide, pray for us. St Joseph, father and protector, pray for us.

Saints Joachim and Anne, pray for us. Saints Louis and Zéile Martin, pray for us.

Saint Brigid and Saint Patrick, pray for us.