

The Transfiguration of the Lord

Deacon Rev. Liam Dunne

Matthew 17:1-9

“It is good for us to be here”

Today’s Gospel describes an overwhelming experience for three of the disciples, Peter, James and John – Jesus’ ‘inner circle’. Jesus has been talking about his impending death and resurrection and about the challenges of discipleship (Mt 16:13 –27). It’s an intense chapter in their friendship with Jesus, and now they have an opportunity for time alone with him. Mountains are important locations in Matthew’s Gospel, associated with divine revelation, places where heaven touches earth. The trio realise there is something deeper going on as Jesus is transformed before their eyes. The presence of Moses (representing the Law) and Elijah (representing the Prophets) invites parallels between these figures and Jesus, who fulfils both the Law and the Prophets.

“*It is good for us to be here.*” These words of Peter recognise the enormity of the moment. Life is full of opportunities to acknowledge and appreciate the presence of God and others. ‘It’s great to see you.’ ‘Thanks for coming.’ We pause with gratitude when we welcome a loved one, particularly if we haven’t seen them for a while. Think of the joyful reunions after the COVID-19 pandemic had abated, and we could visit and hug our loved ones again. How often do we take a moment with God to simply say, ‘Here I am’? Today gives us that opportunity to press pause and come into the presence of God. Every moment holds the gift of God’s presence. Sometimes this is referred to as the ‘Sacrament of the present moment’, a realisation that God is not ‘out there’ but here and now, in this time and place. We encounter God in both the extraordinary and ordinary moments of life. In times of laughter and joy, when we delight in our loved ones, God is to be found. In times of rest and reflection, God is within. So, while we might not identify with the disciples’ experience of the Transfiguration Jesus, if we are attentive to the present moment, we may just find that our world is ablaze with divine love.

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“Too often we are not present to the beauty, love, and grace that brim within the ordinary moments of our lives . . . The secret to prayer is not to try to make God present, but to make ourselves present to God. *Ron Rolheiser*”

ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE & RADIO

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

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RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

**St. Brigid’s
Talbotstown**

**St. Patrick’s
Rathvilly**

**The Assumption
Tynock**

5th & 6th August, 2023

The Transfiguration of the Lord

Recent Deaths: Andrew Shortall, Kiltegan Paul Norton, Tullow

Sat/Sun, 5th & 6th August

Months Mind Mass for Peter Byrne, Knocklishen Beg this Saturday, 5th August

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Joe & Bridget Keogh, St. Patrick’s Park
Paddy Kelly, Ballyhackett
Mary Doyle, Knockavagh
Bridget Gahan, Lisnavagh
Rose & Hugh Foley, St. Patrick’s Park
Kevin & Margaret Curry, New Road, Ballyoliver

Sat/Sun, 12th & 13th August

Peter Blake, Garretstown

ST. PATRICK’S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

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

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

ST. BRIGID’S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Sunday, 6th August – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Breedh Murphy.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Saturday, 12th August – Mass at 6.00 p.m.

Reader: Muireann Gartland.

RATHVILLY CEMETERY MASS 2023

Mass will take place in St. Patrick’s Cemetery, Rathvilly this Sunday, 6th August at 11a.m. (weather permitting) otherwise Mass will be in the Church.

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

Results for 2nd August, 2023 Numbers: 02 – 20 – 22 – 27 **History made this week**
No Jackpot winner of €13,000. No Match 3 winners.

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

On **Wednesday, 9th August the Jackpot is €14,000.** Tickets €2.

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

PARISH OFFICE REDUCED HOURS – Tuesday & Friday -10 am – 1 p.m.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 29th & 30th July

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €243.17

Envelopes €300.75

Kiltegan: Offertory €288.13

Envelopes €422.72

UISCE FOR TANZANIA

This is a charity in support of the work of providing clean water supplies to villages in Northern Tanzania. Jim Kavanagh will speak at Mass in Talbottsown Church this Sunday, 6th August. Further information www.uiscefortanzania.ie.

10th Anniversary of the Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Nulty

On Friday 4th August Bishop Denis will celebrate the 10th anniversary of his ordination as Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin. People, Religious and Clergy are invited to participate in the 7pm Mass on Sunday 6th August in Carlow Cathedral to mark this occasion and to acknowledge Bishop Denis' dedicated service to the diocese since coming to us in 2013.

Rathvilly Public Realm Plan Press Release “Great Turnout shows pride in Irelands once tidiest village” Brian O’Donoghue said:

"A huge crowd gathered in St. Patrick's Church Rathvilly on Tuesday night to hear a briefing on a public realm plan which had been progressing for the last year. The meeting and great turnout shows pride in Irelands once tidiest village"

The four take away points from the meeting were:

1. This is only the start of a process of applying for funding for Rathvilly.
2. A lot more consultation will happen when more detailed designs are required.

members of the public from the village.

4. The next part of the process will be before the elected councillors at their meeting in September.

In recent weeks and months a lot of disquiet and misinformation had been spread and a lot of confusion about the next steps of the process had surfaced.

Kieran Comerford, head of Carlow LEO and project leader on the public realm plan gave a detailed briefing on the process until this point and potential next steps depending on whether the plan is approved or rejected.

The 100 strong crowd had plenty of questions, statements and points of clarity and a very frank and open discussion was had with members of the public questioning the process, the consultative approach and the merits of the plan in general.

Several local councillors spoke and assured the public that further consultation would take place and a "town team" could be created when more detailed design stages take place.

Submissions on the public realm plan are open until the 18th of August and can be made online at <https://consult.carlow.ie/en/content/vision-rathvilly-2040-public-realm-plan-survey>

Or in writing by addressing your submission to the Carlow LEO office, O'Brien Road Carlow."

PRAYER FOR FINE WEATHER

All-powerful and ever-living God, we find security in your care and love for us. Give us the fine weather we pray for and now badly need.

Bless the hard work and efforts of so many of our people that their labours may come to fruition.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen**

HURLING FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Davy Russell's Best V Jim Bolger's Stars

The Hurling for Cancer Research charity match, run annually by the legendary racehorse trainer Jim Bolger and the two-time National Hunt champion jockey Davy Russell, has raised more than €1m for the Irish Cancer Society's vital cancer research in its 8-year history. The good news is that you will still get your chance to rub shoulders with celebrities from sports and entertainment all whilst making a difference and helping support vital cancer research with Hurling For Cancer Research to be held on Monday 21 August 2023 from 6pm at Netwatch Cullen Park in Carlow. Purchase your individual (€10) or family* (€15) ticket online or make a donation direct to Hurling for Cancer Research and help support a great cause. All funds from the sale of tickets and donations will go directly towards funding vital cancer research, bringing us closer to a future free from cancer.

For any questions regarding Hurling For Cancer Research please contact Emma at ehayden@irishcancer.ie.

*A family ticket covers two adults and up to three children under 15.

CYCLES

Cycles is an arts participation project happening across Hacketstown, Rathvilly, Graiguecullen and Tullow, exploring language, history, landscape and cycling led by artists Michelle Browne and Eszter Némethi. Cycles will culminate in a large outdoor cycling and performance event in September 2023.

Writing Workshop - Thursday, 10th August, 4 - 6pm in Rathvilly Parish Meeting Room. **Everyone is invited to attend.**

RATHVILLY G.A.A. CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 3-7-10-11

Match 3 win or share €150

Bridget Keogh Ladystown

On Line winner

Anthony Byrne Woodgrove

Tom Whyte

Next draw 8 Aug. 2023 Jackpot €3,900

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 3 – 4 – 6 -24

Helen Byrne, 5 Collins Park, 3-4-6-9

Kevin Byrne

Promoter's prize €20 was won by The Harp Bar, Rathvilly.

Next draw 8 August. 2023 **Jackpot €20,000.** Thank you for all your support.