

First Sunday of advent Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne

Mark 13:33-37 'Keep awake'

We begin Advent and a new Church year with a reading from a section of Mark's Gospel known as the '*Apocalyptic Discourse*'. This is Jesus' farewell speech to his disciples where he describes catastrophes that lie ahead, such as the destruction of Jerusalem and its Holy Temple, persecutions, family divisions and betrayals. Jesus sketches an image of a world that will be hostile to his message and to his followers. In the final parable, Jesus urges total trust in God's cosmic plan and calls for vigilance: 'Keep awake'. And, whether we like it or not, this text is also addressed to each of us: 'What I say to you, I say to all.'

The story of Jesus is told to bring readers into a greater awareness, to help spiritual growth and transformation in life. Mark's first audience experienced many obstacles as they lived under the fear of persecution, but the greater danger expressed in this text is the danger of sleepwalking through life. As we journey through Mark this year, we will see that the disciples are asleep a lot of the time; there is a spiritual blindness in them as they constantly fail to understand what Jesus is all about. The caution here for them, and for us, is to 'keep awake' in our search for deeper insight and wisdom.

While this might not sound like a very cheery text with which to begin the joyful season of Advent, we dare to read this narrative through the lens of hope. Instead of worrying about when the 'master of the house' will return, we can focus instead on what we do in our daily lives to aid our own awakening: perhaps we need to slow down in order to wake up, to create quiet spaces for ourselves, to reflect a little more deeply, to find the stillness we truly need. Challenges lie ahead, that much is guaranteed, but so do amazing possibilities. For great things can happen when we truly wake up and respond to the reality of the world around us. Let awe and wonder grow and be prepared for the coming of the true Christmas Gift.

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ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE & RADIO

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

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Registered Charity Number 20015848

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

RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

**St. Brigid's
Talbotstown**

**St. Patrick's
Rathvilly**

**The Assumption
Tynock**

2nd & 3rd December, 2023

1st Sunday of Advent

Recent Death: Mary Ryan, Dublin, sister in law to Phyllis Fowler, Slaney Bank

Months Mind Mass for Christy (Christopher) Nolan, late of Ballyoliver and Kilkea this Saturday, 2nd December at 7.30 p.m.

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 2nd & 3rd December

Miley & Alice Carson, Raheendaw

Matthew & Christina Hanly, Williamstown

Matt & Rita Hanly

Anna & Michéal McEvoy

Des Conway, Barnhill

Peter & Annie Conway, Barnhill

P.J. Conway, Ashbourne

Mick Connors, 3 St. Patrick's Park

Joe Dempsey, Rathvilly

Cora Cullen, Knockavagh

Nancy Malee, Phelan Street

Moya Mullin, Rathdangan

Michael Mullin, Rathdangan

Martin Mullin, Rathdangan

Sean Mullin, Rathdangan

Peter Mullin, Rathdangan

Sat/Sun, 9th & 10th December

Gerard Cullen, Dublin

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

Tuesday & Wednesday – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Holy Day 8th December – Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Vigil Mass on Thursday, 7th Dec. at 7.30 p.m. Friday, 8th Dec. – **Mass at 11.30 a.m.**

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – each Friday from 4.00 – 7.00 p.m.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

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

Reader: Mary Byrne.

Holy Day – 8th December - Mass in Tynock Church at **9.40 a.m.**

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Mass for Advent - Monday, 4th December – Mass at 9.45 a.m.

Sunday, 10th December – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Byrne Family.

PARISH AUDIT OF MASSES – this Weekend.

This audit will inform the reduction of Mass schedules in the New Year.

ADVENT – WEEK ONE – Waiting in Hope Longing for Peace

See separate leaflet in the Church or on our Parish Website.

HOUSEBOUND VISIT FOR DECEMBER

Kiltegan Area – Friday, 8th December 2 – 4 p.m.

SACRAMENTS

Special Mass for First Holy Communion & Confirmation Classes take place this Sunday, 3rd December. Tynock Church at 9.30 a.m. Rathvilly Church at 11.00 a.m.

TALBOTSTOWN & TYNOCK MASSES FOR ADVENT

Monday, 4th December & Monday, 18th Dec. in Talbotstown Church at 9.45 a.m.
Monday, 11th December in Tynock Church at 9.45 a.m.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

SVP Annual Collection takes place next weekend 9th/10th December.

RATHVILLY/BALTINGLASS PARISH CLUSTER

CANDLELIGHT PRAYER FOR PEACE

This Advent the parishes of Rathvilly and Baltinglass will come together to pray for peace especially in the Middle East and Ukraine at 7.30pm as follows:

St. Joseph's Church, Baltinglass on Wednesday, 6th December at 7.30 p.m.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 25th & 26th November

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

Rathvilly: Offertory € 512.19

Envelopes € 526.55

Kiltegan: Offertory €53.97

Envelopes €232.00

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

Results for 29th November, 2023 One Jackpot winner of €17,000 from Abbeyleix Parish. Winner - "Two Amigos". Promoter – Fran Ruth. No local winners.

Numbers: 01 – 13 – 23 – 26. 16 Match 3 numbers and get €63.00 each.

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

On **Wednesday, 6th December** the **Jackpot is €10,000**. Tickets €2.

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

YOUTH 2000 IRELAND

Annual Christmas retreat in Dominican College, Newbridge, Co Kildare on the 8th -10th of December for ages 16-35. This promises to be a special retreat. There are free buses leaving from all over the country to the retreat. Donation only. Find out more and register now on www.youth2000.ie

CHRISTMAS PLAY

Bigstone National School will put on a performance of their Christmas play, "Straw and Order" in Bigstone Community Hall on Thursday 7th December at 7pm. There will be calendars featuring artwork by our talented school pupils for sale and a raffle on the night. We are also expecting a visit from Santa! All welcome!

VOLUNTEERS INVITED TO HELP IN THE PARISH

If you feel that you can help, there are forms available in each Church – Thank you.

The Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin are seeking to recruit a secretarial assistant to work in our Diocesan Offices based in Bishop's House in Carlow Town.

The Diocesan Offices at Bishop's House are the administrative arm of the diocese and receive correspondence and queries from all parishes as well as members of the wider public. Our aim is to provide the smooth and efficient operation of our diocese through exceptional administration.

As a secretarial assistant you will support the Bishop and other staff in Bishop's House through a variety of tasks related to administration, organisation and communication.

How to Apply: Applications must take the form of a letter of application along with a Curriculum Vitae. These should be emailed to aisling@kandle.ie or posted to Aisling Brennan, Bishop's House, Old Dublin Road, Carlow, R93 F6D5.

Full details on www.kandle.ie also our Website: www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie
Closing Date 5pm, Friday 8th December.

RATHVILLY G.A.A. CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 1-21-28-29

Match 3 win or share €150. 5 Lucky dips

Florrie Gibbons Station Rd.

On Line winner

Fiona Corcoran Coole

On Line winner

Ann Rooney Tullow

On Line winner

Eugene Brennan New Rd.

Eithne Brennan

Pat Doyle Slaney Bank

Helen Deering

Next draw 5 Dec. 2023 **Jackpot €5,600**

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 1 – 12 – 19 – 28

Kelsey Purcell, Tuckmill, Baltinglass 1-12-18-19

Online Winner

Declan Clarke, Waterstown 1-6-12-28

Declan Clarke

Kallie Kavanagh c/o Carole McGrath 1-6-12-19

Carole McGrath

Patrick Fenton, Glen of Imaal 1-9-12-19

Breda Keogh

Geraldine O Boyle, 12 Kevin Barry Rd., 1-12-19-26

Michael Kehoe

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

Next draw 5th. December 2023 **Jackpot €20,000**. Thank you for all your support

CARLOW CHORAL SOCIETY – Christmas Celebration Concert

Carlow Choral Society presents a Christmas Celebration concert in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow, on Saturday 09 December at 8pm. The programme includes Handel's Messiah part one plus the rousing Hallelujah chorus, Monteverdi's Beatus Vir, as well as many favourite Christmas carols for the audience to sing along with. The concert will feature the Marlborough Baroque Orchestra, soprano Eva Waters, organist Yvonne Collier and conductor Blanaid Murphy. Admission is €25.00 and the concert is free for under 16s accompanied by an adult. Tickets are available on www.eventbrite.ie and from choir members.