6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne Mark 1:40-45 "Of course I want to!"

In today's Gospel passage we read that Jesus is 'moved with pity' for the leper who approaches him. The Greek term used here is *esplanchnisthe*, which describes a very physical reaction – a 'turning over of the insides' with compassion. The common translation - 'felt sorry', 'moved with pity' – don't really capture the depth. We might compare it to our own attempts to describe an emotional reaction to suffering – our 'heart goes out' to someone, we find a situation 'gut wrenching'. When Jesus identifies with a hurting person, his entire being is affected, resulting in an outpouring of love. Hence his response: 'Of course I want to!' Jesus chooses enthusiastically and with all of his being, to help, heal, restore to wellness. But the healing comes at a cost – Jesus warns the man not to tell anyone but he swiftly ignores this. Word about Jesus is spreading rapidly and apparently against his wishes.

Throughout Mark's Gospel there is a theme of secrecy – the reader has been 'inthe-know' from the beginning about who Jesus is, but the disciples and other characters are playing catch-up. Perhaps it is too soon for Jesus to be understood, or he wants people to base their faith not on acts of healing or power but on something deeper. We must let it all unfold.

Jesus' healing of the leper breaks religious and cultural boundaries. 'Leper' and 'leprosy' can refer to a range of diseases. Leprosy was regarded as a contagious illness that rendered the sufferers ritually impure, and was curable only be divine power. This context explains why the man may have wanted to shout about it from the rooftops and 'proclaim it freely', despite the warning. Jesus' words 'I do choose' can also be translated 'of course I want to', emphasising Jesus' generosity of spirit. What if we were to live by this simple phrase?

You may have heard of people undertaking an experiment whereby they say 'yes' to everything on a particular day. Inspired by these words of Jesus, we might find ourselves responding more readily to the needs of others, reacting from our 'gut' to alleviate suffering, and spending more time playing with our children, listening to friends, visiting family. When we change how we look at things, the things we look at are changed too.

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ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE & RADIO www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie/our-parish/webcam Radio 104.3 fm

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

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: Mary Phelan Elizabeth Austin David Carton

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

RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

St. Brigid's Talbotstown

St. Patrick's Rathvilly

The Assumption Tynock

Sat/Sun, 10th & 11th February, 2024

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Recent Deaths: Noel Murphy, Portrition

Daryl Culbert, Kiltegan

Patrick Cullen, Sligo and formerly Rathvilly

Eta (Kathleen) Moore nee Healy, Funeral Mass on Friday, 16th Feb. at 12 Noon.

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 10th & 11th February

Bridie Doyle, Tankardstown Esther Woods, Birmingham & The Moate

Joe Curran, Collins Park
Mick & Mary Byrne, The Moate

Laurence & Mary Dowling, Rathmore Canice Donnelly, Broughillstown

Christy Gahan, Collins Park Andy Smith, Coole & London

Vena Doyle, Foxcover Mary Hanlon Ricketstown Paddy Hanlon, Bough

Kate Hanlon, Borris

Mai & Myles Carson, Rathmore & deceased family members Thomas & Helen Foley, Rathmore & deceased family members

Kathleen Faulkner, St. Patrick's Park

Months Mind Mass: Mary Faulkner, Raheen, Baltinglass on Saturday, 17th February

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 17th & 18th February

Martin Molloy, Rathvilly Helen Smith, formerly Rathvilly Thomas Cassells, Ricketstown Jim & Molly Nolan, Ballyhackett

Ellen Byrne, Maplestown

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

Monday – Healing Mass for the Sick with Sacrament of Anointing at 11.00 a.m. **HEALING MASS** - All the elderly and people with serious health conditions can present themselves for the Anointing of the Sick.

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

Ash Wednesday - Mass at 11.00 a.m. Blessed Ashes will be available.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION – Adoration each Friday from 3.00 – 6.00 p.m.

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Sunday, 11th February – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Siobhan Doyle.

Ash Wednesday, 14th February – Mass at 9.45 a.m. Blessed Ashes will be available.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Saturday, 17th February – Mass at 6.00 p.m.

SACRAMENTS 2024

Next Preparation Mass for First Holy Communion and Confirmation children and their families takes place next weekend.

Saturday, 17th February in Tynock Church at 6.00 p.m.

Sunday, 18th February in Rathvilly Church at 11.00 a.m.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS - 3rd & 4th February

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €449.24 Envelopes €622.00 Kiltegan: Offertory €114.72 Envelopes €296.50

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

Results for 7th February, 2024 One Jackpot winner of €10,000.

Congratulations to Breda Reilly, Rathvilly Kiltegan Parish.

Promoter – Breda Reilly.

Numbers: 07 - 09 - 14 - 17. 20 Match 3 numbers and get €50.00 each.

No local match three winners this week.

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

On Wednesday, 14th February the Jackpot is €10,000. Tickets €2.

Thank you to all our parishioners who support the Lotto each week.

RATHVILLY G.A.A. CLUB

Lotto results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 1-14-15-24

Match 3 win or share €150. 5 Lucky dips

Paula Deering Ballybit On Line winner
Carmel Doyle Knockavagh On Line winner
Robbie Molloy Ricketstown On Line winner
Eithne O' Connor Waterstown Mick Kehoe
Emmit Doyle Collins Pk. Ed. Brennan

Next draw 13 Feb. 2024 **Jackpot €6,600**

SCOIL PHÁDRAIG NAOFA, RATHVILLY

6 Week Draw – Results Week 3

Prize	Winner	Promoter
€100	Kitty Kennedy	Riley Kennedy
€50	Danny Healy	Ted Healy
€20	Paul Condron	Sean Condron
€20	Marie Coleman	Will Darcy
Promoters	Prize €20 – Evie Farrell	•

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDUGORJE 23rd March for 7 nights.

Further details from Duffy Coach Hire on 087 2543235 or 059 6471681.

VOLUNTEERS INVITED TO HELP IN THE PARISH

If you feel that you can help, please contact the Parish Office – 059 9161114.

ASH WEDNESDAY – Fasting and Abstinence

Ash Wednesday is a day of Penance. It sets our hearts on the journey we are undertaking in Lent – a journey back to God and to the joy of Easter.

PRAYER FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

A Prayer to begin my Lenten journey

Lord Jesus,

as I receive on my forehead the sign of your saving cross you say to me, repent and believe in the Gospel.

Walking into Lent my heart is set on you.

May my **fasting** fill me with hunger for you.

May my **prayer** draw me deeper into your presence.

May my acts of charity bring your love to my home and community.

Lord of life, grant that by turning back to your in these 40 days I will re-awaken the joy of my Easter faith; for you raise me up from fear and despair and call me to hope and trust in God who is with me always.

With you, I will rise again. Amen.

World Day of Prayer for Survivors & Victims of Sexual Abuse

This year's Worldwide Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Sexual Abuse will take place on 16 February, the first Friday of Lent. The Day of Prayer is an initiative of Pope Francis and was first marked in Irish dioceses in 2017. Blessed candles will be lit in parishes across the country as a reminder to the faithful of the need for atonement and to symbolise repentance; light in the darkness and hope. These 'Candles of Atonement' will be lit in diocesan Cathedrals and Churches on the Day of Prayer, and thereafter during the celebration of Mass and other liturgies.

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 2 - 10 - 13 - 14			
Avril Wynne, Ballinroan, Kiltegan 2-10-14-20	Online Winner		
Kathy Keogh, Baltinglass 8-10-13-14	Brian Curran		
Mary Darcy, Knocklishen 2-10-13-24	Mary Darcy		
Majella Gahan, Fr. Cullen Terrace 2-10-14-20	Martin Curran		
Promoter's prize €20 was won by Martin Curran, Fr. Cullen Terrace, Rathvilly			
Next draw 13 th . February 2024 Jackpot €20,000. Thank y	you for all your support.		

CARLOW UNION OF PARISHES

Are holding a series of talks from 22nd February to 20th March in St Mary's Church, Haymarket, Carlow. All are welcome to attend.

TULLOW RFC FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

Join us for a Full House, Full of Fun with Spot Prizes Galore on 17th February at Tullow RFC. Doors open 6.30 pm. Start 7 pm. Tuck Shop & Bar open on the night.

TRÓCAIRE BOXES AVAILABLE IN EACH CHURCH – please take one home