

Feast of the Ascension – Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne

Gospel: Luke 24:46-53

Easter People

Today we read the story of Jesus' Ascension from the final verses of Luke's Gospel. Luke also writes about this event in the Acts of the Apostles. In that account, the disciples are asked a question, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven?' (Acts 1:11). If we only look skywards for the Risen Christ, we lose sight of the reality of his presence all around us, in every person, in each created thing, in the web of life.

It is interesting that the disciples return to Jerusalem after the Ascension 'with great joy'. One might expect them to be full of sorrow, yet they do not. They know that nothing can be as it was before, and that they can no longer return to their former lives. The Resurrection has changed everything.

And so it is for us. The Easter story continues, because as Christians we live with the assurance that pain, grief and death will not have the last word. Christ has shown us that the story does not end here, and so we can dare to shine the light of hope and wholeness into the empty tomb, into the darkness of situations. Hope lives.

The disciples are sent out to carry Christ' message of love and forgiveness into the world. There will be many challenges for them. We are also called to be *Easter People*, carriers of this Easter message, active in the world. Easter brings a joy and hope that we can share, so that people are not left only 'looking upwards' for the Risen Christ but can also see Christ radiated in the world around them

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“God has given us the power to create beauty, to make another smile, to be a healing presence in someone's sorrow, to bring justice to the oppressed, to console those in difficulty, to bring peace and joy to others, to help those in need, to laugh and enjoy life, to do good and turn from evil, to forgive those who have hurt us, and, most of all, to love.

– *Iris Perez*

ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE

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

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Registered Charity Number 20015848

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

Local Safeguarding Reps: Mary Phelan Elizabeth Austin David Carton

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RADIO MARIA IRELAND – Streaming on our Website: www.radiomaria.ie

RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

**St. Brigid's
Talbotstown**

Sat/Sun, 31st May & 1st June, 2025

**St. Patrick's
Rathvilly**

**The Assumption
Tynock**

The Ascension of the Lord

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 31st May & 1st June

Kathleen Deery, Collins Park – 1st Anniversary

Michael & Kathleen Byrne, Barnhill

Bridget & John Kelly, New Road, Ballyoliver

George & Kathleen Faulkner, St. Patrick's Park

Sat/Sun, 7th & 8th June

Months Mind Mass for Joe McKnight on Saturday, 7th June at 7.30 p.m.

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Pat Condon, Cnoc Mhuire

George Byrne, Maplestown

Derek, Joe & Billy Faulkner, Bough

Philomena Whyte, Garretstown

William Osborne, Maplestown

Mai Osborne, Maplestown

Mickey Osborne, Maplestown

Winnie Osborne, Maplestown

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Sunday, 1st June – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader – Veronica Byrne.

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Sunday, 8th June – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader – Fiona Kane.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – each Friday 3-6 pm.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 24th & 25th May

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €384.13

Envelopes €575.30

Kiltegan: Offertory €51.06

Envelopes €179.90

PINS TO PIONEERS

If anyone would like to become a Pioneer or if any young person who took the pledge at Confirmation would like to receive an adult Pin please contact the Parish Office 059 9161114 and calling out to any Pioneer who feels they are due a Silver Pin for 25 years a Pioneer, Gold Pin for 50 years a Pioneer or Diamond Pin for 60 years a Pioneer please let us know.

Mass and blessing/presentation of Pins will take place on Friday, 27th June at 7.00pm

PARISH HOUSEBOUND VISIT FOR JUNE

Rathvilly Area on Friday, 6th June from 2 – 5 p.m.

Kiltegan Area on Wednesday, 11th June from 2 – 5 p.m.

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

Results from 28th May, 2025 No Jackpot winner of €11,000

Numbers: 21-25-29-31. 2 Match 3 numbers get €500.00

No local match three winner this week.

Next draw on Wednesday, 4th June. **Jackpot €12,000.**

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

Thank you to our parishioners for supporting the Lotto.

PILGRIMAGES: JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

Book a seat on bus to Knock for Corpus Christi for Sun 22nd June

Book a seat on bus to Croagh Patrick for Sat 12th July, for one day trip OR for an over-night stay (which will include Bus fare, B&B and Evening meal)

Contact - DUFFY'S COACH HIRE on 087 2543235 or 059 6471681 for full details

PARISHES ALIVE - MOVING FORWARD IN HOPE!

Bishop Denis, together with the Diocesan Pastoral Council, will host a day for lay people and clergy to explore the direction of the Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin and how it impacts on the day-to-day life of a parish. We are building on the work done previously by the DPC, the Council of Priests, Faith Development Services, and across parishes.

The day will comprise inputs from guest speakers, along with prayer, general discussion, and intentional listening. The keynote speaker will be Prof. Fr Michael Conway, Professor of Faith & Culture at St Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth. It takes place on Saturday, 21st June 2025 in Carlow College with registration at 9:30am, starting promptly at 10am and concluding at 4 pm. Lunch is included. Booking essential by email to parishdevelopment@Kandle.ie, providing your name and parish, 083-8305681.

SYNOD NEWS

Two free on-line opportunities to learn more about being a synodal church on mission together – that includes all of us! The School for Synodality Book Club webinar on the final document of the Synod continues each Wednesday evening, with international guest speakers each week. All sessions are recorded and are available for view afterwards. A great way to come to understand the practical implications of the synod for parishioners, parishes and the diocese. See www.schoolforsynodality.org.uk

'Synodal Hope: The Vision of Pope Francis and the future with Pope Leo:

A Conversation with Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe, Op'. Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe will be known to many from his talks and writings, but also as the retreat leader at the two universal synod assemblies. Liturgical Press in the US is hosting a free, live webinar with him on Thursday, June 5 at 4 pm Irish Time. See www.litpress.org/webinar to register.

RELICS OF ST. MARGARET MARY ALOCOQUE & ST CLAUDE

Two day visit of the relics from Paray le Monial, France to the Parishes of St. Fintan's Mountrath & Ballyfin, Co. Laois. Monday, 9th June Mass 7.30 p.m. in Ballyfin Church and Tuesday, 10th June at 10 a.m. in Mountrath Church.

For details contact Fr. Joe Brophy 087 2411594.

APPALLING SCENES IN GAZA

All parishes will ring Church Bells next Wednesday, 4th June at 1.05 pm on UN Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression, in response to a peace initiative of the Fórsa Trade Union inviting workers to take a moment at lunchtime and to observe Friday 6th June as a day of prayer and fasting in solidarity with all suffering in the Holy Land at this time. Full Statement from Bishops Conference on separate sheet.

On Wednesday, 4th June in Rathvilly Church we will pray the Lough Derg Stations at 7.30 – 8.30 p.m. All welcome.

JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE

During the 18th and 19th Century in the time of persecution and the penal laws, the Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin resided in Allen Parish. People attended Mass at the Priests Corner Mass Rock in Ballyteague. As part of the Jubilee year - Pilgrims of Hope - Bishop Denis Nulty will celebrate Mass at the Priests Corner Mass Rock in Ballyteague on Sunday 15th June at 2pm. For those who wish to walk the 2.5kms in pilgrimage, please assemble at 12.30pm at the GAA clubhouse in Ballyteague W91 VEW8. For those do not wish to walk, car parking will be available beside the Mass Rock which will be signposted on the day.

GK PARISH NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

Our 20th Annual Parish Solemn Novena continues in St. Clare's Church, Graiguecullen each Monday until 23rd June. The rosary at 7.10pm and Mass at 7.30pm. **Guest Speaker 2nd June**– Therese Dooley, former UNICEF Advisor with water, sanitation and hygiene.

RATHVILLY GAA CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 3-8-28-29.

Match 3 win or share €150

Alan Brennan Ballyoliver 3-8-29-30

Eithne Brennan

Next draw 3 June 2025 **Jackpot €2,900**

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 3 - 20 - 28 - 29

Valerie Whyte, Rathvilly 3-19-20-29

Post Office

Eithne O'Connor, Rathvilly 3-25-28-29

Mary Darcy

Promoter's prize €20 was won by Martin Curran, Fr. Cullen Terrace

Next draw 2ND. June 2025 Jackpot €14,800. Thank you for all your support.

COLUMBAN DAY CELEBRATIONS

All paths lead to Carlow this July when the town hosts the XXVI Columbanus Day celebration from 11th July to 13th July 2025. The three-day event promises a rich blend of cultural, spiritual and communal experiences. Highlights include the launch of the exhibition 'Ireland and the Birth of Europe,' a symposium exploring the relationship between creation and spirituality given by Columban missionary Fr Sean McDonagh, and a walk along the picturesque Columban Way. Visitors can also look forward to engaging talks, such as 'Columbanus, the Man from Myshall,' by former President Dr Mary McAleese, taking place in the Holy Cross Church in Myshall. The celebrations culminate with the XXVI Columbanus Day Mass at the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow on Sunday 13th July.