

Saints Peter & Paul Apostles– Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne

St. Peter & St. Paul Gospel: Matthew 16:13-19 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 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 build 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 individuals 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 he can talk easily to you, where you and he, along together, can laugh and be silent and be delighted with one another. *- Caryl Houselander*

ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE

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

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RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

**St. Brigid's
Talbotstown**

Sat/Sun, 28th & 29th June, 2025

**St. Patrick's
Rathvilly**

**The Assumption
Tynock**

Ss Peter & Paul, Apostles

Recent Deaths: Dick Hanly, Raheendaw Bernard Jordan, Carlow

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 28th & 29th June

Elizabeth Deering, Ballybit
Brian & Laura O'Donoghue, Williamstown
Bridget Keegan, Ballyoliver
Noel Lyttle & deceased family members
Margaret Meegan, Castleblaney

Sat/Sun, 5th & 6th July

Months Mind Mass: Elizabeth Kavanagh, Broughillstown on 5/6 July

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

John Nolan, Knockboy – 1st Anniversary
Oliver Byrne, New Road, Ballyoliver – 1st Anniversary
Mary Doyle, Lisnavagh
Peter Byrne, Knocklishen
Eamon Byrne, 16 Ml. Collins Park
Cicely Hanford, Ballyolvier
Margaret & Michael Walsh, Tobinstown

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Sunday, 29th June – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader – Conor O'Leary.

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Saturday, 6th July – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader – Mary Kelly.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday - Mass at 9.30 a.m.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – each Friday 3-6 pm.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 21st & 22nd June

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €254.11

Envelopes €342.15

Kiltegan: Offertory €112.56

Envelopes €169.10

PARISH HOUSEBOUND VISIT FOR JULY

Rathvilly Area on Wednesday, 11th July from 2 – 5 p.m.

Kiltegan Area on Wednesday, 16th July from 2 – 5 p.m.

EVENING PRAYER FOR PEACE

Can you spare a half an hour on Tuesday, 1st July at 7.30 p.m. in St. Patrick's Church, Rathvilly to continue to pray for appalling situation in Gaza.

Gaza: 'Words are not enough!' – Irish Bishops call for solidarity.

PARISH CEMETERY MASSES

Tynaclash Cemetery – Sunday, 13th July at 7.00 p.m.

Rathvilly Cemetery – Sunday, 3rd August at 11.00 a.m.

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

Results from 25th June, 2025 No Jackpot winner of €15,000

Numbers: 10-20-22-24. 13 Match 3 numbers get €77.00 each.

One local match three winner this week.

Winner – Anne Dunne. Promoter – Breda Reilly.

Next draw on Wednesday, 2nd July. **Jackpot €16,000.**

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

Thank you to our parishioners for supporting the Lotto.

Tickets available in the Post Office, Parish Office, Lotto promoters and also in Rathvilly,

Tynock & Talbotstown Churches after Mass in the Sacristy.

COME AND SEE DAY

A day to explore priesthood: talks, time for prayer, answering your questions, discerning a vocation, Knock House Hotel F12 R6Y5, Sunday 13th July 11.00am to 4.30pm. Bookings only through Vocations.ie. For more information contact: carol.king@vocations.ie

RATHVILLY TIDY TOWNS

Help needed - The Green, Rathvilly every Tuesday at 7 p.m. All welcome and needed!

RATHVILLY GAA CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 1-20-29-30

Match 3 win or share €150

Ross Donovan Tullow 1-2-29-30 On Line winner

Tom McCall Bough 1-7-29-30 On line winner

Next draw 1 July 2025 **Jackpot €3,300**

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 14- 17 - 18 - 29

Mary Keogh, Kiltegan 14-18-19-29 Online Winner

Promoter's prize €20 was won by Rathvilly Post Office

Next draw 1st. July 2025 Jackpot €15,200. Thank you for all your support

JOHN BYRNE MEMORIAL SHIELD on Saturday, 12th July –

The Byrne Family -V- Slaney Mixed Team at 5 p.m. @ Slaney Rovers AFC.

Graigucullen MONSTER Bingo Tuesday 1st July 2025 St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm

Jackpot on 50 numbers € 2130 Double number € 390 Lotto € 1350

POPE FRANCIS - Souvenir photo and Prayer Card available in each Church.

COLUMBANUS 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. This significant occasion honours St Columbanus, one of Ireland's most influential early missionaries, recognised for his contributions to the spiritual and cultural foundation of Europe. St Columbanus, patron saint of the Missionary Society of St Columban, was born in Myshall. 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. We very much look forward to hosting the International Columbanus Weekend, when pilgrims from all over Europe will gather here in our diocese to honour this great Saint. Bookings for various events now open on www.kandle.ie

Would you like to help us mark the Season of Creation locally?

The Season of Creation is a world wide ecumenical event that takes place every year from 1 September to 4 October. It begins with the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and concludes on the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. The late Pope Francis chose the theme 'Seeds of Peace and Hope' for the world day of prayer while the theme of the whole season is 'Peace with Creation'. Both themes offer powerful reminders to us of the strong link between war and the degradation of our planet. The seed indicates the need for a long-term commitment to peace while expressing hope that the seeds of peace may emerge across all continents. *Maybe you would like to join with a few others to take a lead in how we will mark this season locally in the parish and/or pastoral area.* Resources can be found on www.seasonofcreation.org Please contact the parish office if you are interested in being part of this initiative.

Summerstars Reading Challenge for Primary School Children has commenced in all Carlow Library branches, call in and get your goodie bag, enter the weekly prize draws & enter the mega prize at the end of the Summer! There's nothing to lose only lots of books to choose!

Little Library Bags

There are free Little Library bags for all children starting school in September, The bags are available in both Irish and English, they contain books and resources to support the transition from pre-school to primary education, My Little Library Book Bags are available in all Carlow Library Branches, families not already registered as library members are welcome to join when collecting their bags.