

Feast of the Ascension Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne
Matthew 28:16-28 'Go therefore...'

As is common in Matthews Gospel, we find ourselves with Jesus on a mountain – an important setting for Matthew in moments of divine revelation. The eleven male disciples have been instructed by the female disciples, the two Mary's, to go to Galilee to see the Risen Jesus. In Matthew's account, the male disciples have not visited the tomb or seen Jesus up to this point. These women, the first witnesses to the Resurrection, pass the message on to the men. This 'passing on' is an important theme as it sets the scene for the 'Great Commission', Jesus handing over his mission to the disciples.

When they see Jesus, the group has a typical mixed response: as always, they are an imperfect bunch. Yet Jesus tasks them to 'make disciples of all nations'. We remember that early in Matthews Gospel, Galilee was referred to as 'Galilee of the Gentiles' (Mt 4:15), so it is fitting that the inclusive mission to all nations begins here. Matthew often thinks in terms of 'delegated powers': Jesus has authority to teach – as noted by the crowds (Mt 7:29) - and this authority is now passed on to the disciples. When he first sent the disciples out, he gave them authority over unclean spirits and illness (Mt 10:1) Now, the mission is extended outwards to all nations.

We are the extension of this commissioning. God's Kingdom is not limited to a particular place or set of people. Our communities are called to be alive not inside buildings but on the streets, constantly reaching out. Jesus' mission is all-encompassing, infinitely wide, infinitely open. His final message is a promise to us all: "I am with you always, to the end of age." We might recall here the promise in Jesus' name Emmanuel, 'God with us' (Mt 1:23). The Risen Jesus has not abandoned the world but is in this world, the divine presence in the community, and his followers are sent to carry this love to the world. Copyright © Triona Doherty & Jane Mellett, 2022. The Deep End, A Journey with the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Matthew.

"Christ opened the path to us. He is like a roped guide climbing a mountain who, on reaching the summit, pulls us up to him and leads us to God. If we entrust our life to him, if we let ourselves be guided by him, we are certain to be in safe hands. - *Pope Francis*.

ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE

www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie/our-parish/webcam Radio 108 FM

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

PLEASE NOTE: Rathvilly/Kiltegan – 051 350725

Parish Office – Mon-Fri: 10 am – 1 pm - 059 9161114

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Registered Charity Number 20015848

Diocesan Website: www.kandle.ie

Local Safeguarding Reps: Mary Phelan Elizabeth Austin David Carton

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

THE IRISH CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER – €3.50 Please put money in Shrine Box.

RATHVILLY KILTEAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

**St. Brigid's
Talbotstown**

**St. Patrick's
Rathvilly**

**The Assumption
Tynock**

Sat/Sun, 16th & 17th May The Ascension of The Lord

Recent Deaths: Brigid Carton, Baltinglass. Ann Doyle, The Dales, Ricketstown.

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 16th & 17th May

Michael & Mary Doyle, Ballyhackett

Ted & Bridie Foley, Graiguenamanagh

Stan Doyle, Bough

Andrew Joseph Whyte, Garretstown

Jack & Mary Nolan, Ballyoliver

Thomas & Julia Byrne, New Rd, Ballyoliver

Jim & Essie Byrne, Knocklishen

Seamus Just, Stillorgan

Charlie Lawlor, St. Patrick's Park

Mick Connors, St. Patrick's Park & deceased family members

Mary & Thomas Humphries, Rathdaniel & deceased family members

Sat/Sun, 23rd & 24th May

Michael & Kathleen Byrne, Barnhill

Phil Kavanagh, Mount Kelly

Mary Bolger, Rathvilly

John & Ellen Breen, Mount Kelly

Molly & Dan Kelly, Garretstown

Jack Keogh, Phelan Street

Stephen & Maura Murphy, Bough

Tom & Mary Coleman

Matt & Anastasia Murphy

The Clarke Family

Bill & Mary Doyle

Tom & Nancy O'Toole

Jack Doyle

Dermot Byrne

Mattie & Margaret Cowman

Gretta Carroll, Knocklishen and deceased family members

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Saturday, 16th May – Mass at 6.00 p.m.

Reader: Lucilla Brophy.

Memorial Mass for Peg Byrne, Killallesh followed by interment of her ashes in Tynaclash Cemetery.

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Sunday, 24th May – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Mary Kelly, Feddan.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

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

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION – Adoration each Friday 3 – 6 p.m.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to the children from Rathmore and Rathvilly NS who received their First Holy Communion on Saturday, 16th May in Rathvilly Church.

OUR LADY'S MONTH - The Rosary will be recited in Tynock Church each Wednesday during the month of May at 7.00 p.m. All are welcome.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS 9th & 10th May

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €245.77

Envelopes €510.00

Kiltegan: Offertory €140.02

Envelopes €291.50

RETIRED PRIESTS COLLECTION

This collection takes place at all Masses on the weekend of 24th May. The generosity of parishes and parishioners in supporting this collection is deeply appreciated.

WHY SUNDAY MATTERS

CHRIST'S PRESENCE AMONG US: AN EXCERPT FROM THE LETTER OF THE IRISH BISHOPS

'Sunday has always been the day of the Lord: the day of resurrection, the day of rest, the day of Eucharist. From the very beginning of our Christian faith, Sunday has been central to the life of the Church and remains the heart of Christian practice. It is on this day that we gather as a community, united in our love for Christ, to encounter the risen Lord and be nourished in body and soul.

The Mass is not just a ritual; it is the source and summit of our faith. It is where we encounter Christ in His living presence, and it is through the Eucharist that we are strengthened to live as true disciples. Attending Mass on Sundays, or its vigil on Saturday evening, is not just an obligation; it is a profound privilege and a chance to experience God's love in a deeply personal way. As we come to this sacred celebration let us do so with hearts full of gratitude for the precious gift of Christ's presence among us.' *What does Sunday and Sunday Mass mean to you?*

See <https://www.kandle.ie/resources/liturgy-pastoral/> for more on the importance of Sunday and the Sunday Mass. Visit the Kandle Facebook page and/or X account.

Pioneer Total Abstinence Association Invitation to Consultative Meetings during May and June 2026

For over 125 years, members of the PTAA have been praying daily for temperance and sobriety. In late 2025, the new constitution was passed, making way for the PTAA to move to a Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG). As this new phase of the Association starts, we are keen to meet with members throughout Ireland to consult, to listen and to take action. For information please visit <https://www.pioneers.ie/consultation> for details of meetings in your area and an online Zoom meeting if unable to attend in person.

KILDARE AND LEIGHLIN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK

Pilgrimage to Knock takes place on Sunday 7th June led by Bishop Denis Nulty.

We would like to see as many people as possible join with others from around the diocese for this pilgrimage which takes place every second year. A bus will leave the Village at 7.00 a.m. Bus €35. To book your seat please phone 059 9161114.

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

Results from 13th May, 2026 No Jackpot winner of €17,000

Numbers: 14-16-24-25. 8 Match 3 numbers get €125.00 each.

No local match three winner this week.

Next draw on Wednesday, 20th May. **Jackpot €18,000.**

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

Thank you for supporting the Lotto.

RATHVILLY COMMUNITY ALERT

We are holding our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 2nd June 2026 at 8pm in The Harp Bar and everyone is welcome to attend. We are hoping for a good attendance & we have several speakers on the night. Refreshments will be available.

CARLOW CHORAL SOCIETY

MENDELSSOHN ELIJAH - Friday, 12th June at 7.30 p.m. in Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow. RTE Concert orchestra – Soloists: Katy Kelly, Raphaela Mangan, Conor Prendiville, Benjamin Russell. Conductor Blánaid Murphy. Suggested patronage for people over 16 years is €25. Tickets available in Rathvilly Parish Office or Eventbrite.ie

GK Parish Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Our Annual Parish Solemn Novena in St. Clare's Church, Graiguecullen continues each Monday until 8th of June. The rosary will be recited at 7p.m.

This week's Speaker is: Br. Richard Hendrick. Capuchin Franciscan priest-friar, mindfulness teacher, poet and author.

RATHVILLY GAA CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 5-6-18-29

Match 3 win or share €150. 5 Lucky dips

Caroline Kehoe Mount Lucas

On Line winner

Fiona Corcoran Monavothe

On Line winner

Natalie Walshe De Lacey Abbey

On Line winner

A, C, L, C c/o Helen

Helen Deering

Irene Smith Fr. Flood Ave.

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Next Draw 19 May 2026 **Jackpot €7,900**

Drive in Bingo starts back Monday 18 May at 8pm sharp €3,400 in prize money.

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 1-5-22-25

William Bunbury, Lisnavagh House 1-18-22-25

Online Winner

Geraldine Doyle, Monovothe 1-5-19-22

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

Next draw 19th May, 2026 Jackpot €5,900. Thank you for all your support.

FR LIAM LAWTON CONCERT

On 15 February 2026, Fr Liam received a papal award for his distinguished service to the Church as a composer and performer of sacred music. The award was presented by Bishop Denis Nulty on behalf of Pope Leo XIV in the Gunn Chapel, Maynooth College, during a special evening celebrating his music, attended by Archbishop Eamon Martin, bishops, and choir members from across the country. As many supporters could not attend, a second celebration with the same programme and performers will take place on Sunday, May 24, at 8pm in St Mary's Church, Edenderry. Following recent renovations of the church, the concert will raise funds to continue this work. Tickets will be available via Facebook, Instagram, the Parish website - [Celebration of Liam Lawton Music Concert Tickets](#)