

## **2nd Sunday of Easter – Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne**

**Gospel: John 20:19-31 A Saint for dark times**

Reading the news can be upsetting these days. It often seems that there is nothing but bad news. People are suffering across the world due to unjust economic systems and environmental degradation. Increasing numbers are homeless or living in poverty. Hateful rhetoric is becoming more widespread. We sometimes lose hope and go through shaky patches. We find ourselves asking: where is God in all this?

In today's Gospel we meet Thomas. As a disciple of Jesus, he has been through the mill. His friend has been brutally killed. The terrible suffering is still fresh in his mind. Now, the disciples' own lives are also in danger, so they are lying low. Traumatized and grieving, Thomas is not ready to hear the comforting words of his friends who say they have seen Jesus. His momentary wobble has earned him the nickname 'doubting Thomas', and it certainly makes it easy for us to relate to him. When, an agonising week later, he does finally encounter Jesus, we can sense relief when he exclaims, 'My Lord and my God!' The man labelled 'doubter' now gives us one of the greatest expressions of faith.

We know life can be painful and messy, even unbearable at times. It is hard to hang on to our faith when we are grieving or anxious. Like Thomas, our trust can be shaken. Like the disciples huddled in the room, we can be afraid of what the future will bring. It can be difficult for us to accept assurances that God is with us. We may struggle to pray. We can become closed and isolate ourselves. Yet, Jesus came among the disciples in their despair, calming their troubled hearts with these words, 'Peace be with you'. He came again to doubting Thomas, reassuring him with his presence. Thomas is a saint for those times of darkness. In our darkest days, may we encounter the healing presence of the Risen Christ.

© Triona Doherty & Jane Mellet, 2021. The Deep End: A Journey with the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Luke. (Dublin: Messenger Publications 2021).

"Life will always prevail, through all the layers of death in which we try to contain it"  
Margaret Silf

### **ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE**

**[www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie/our-parish/webcam](http://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](mailto:office@rathvillykilteganparish.ie) Website: [www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie](http://www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie)**

**Registered Charity Number 20015848**

**Diocesan Website: [www.kandle.ie](http://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](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)**

**RADIO MARIA IRELAND – Streaming on our Website: [www.radiomaria.ie](http://www.radiomaria.ie)**

## **RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH**

### **NEWSLETTER**

**St. Brigid's  
Talbotstown**

**St. Patrick's  
Rathvilly**

**The Assumption  
Tynock**

**Sat/Sun, 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2025**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

### **Recent Death** – Pope Francis 1936 – 2025

#### **ANNIVERSARY MASSES**

**Sat/Sun, 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> April**

Mai Foley, Bough – 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

Tom Sibbald, Ballyoliver

Mona & Rita Abbey, The Strand, Rosslare

Paddy & Mary Keogh, Tullowland

Thomas & Margaret Corcoran, Ballyhackett & deceased family members

The Keatley Family, Castledermot & deceased family members

Richard Bolger, Ballybit

Charlie Lawlor, St. Patrick's Park

Kate Lawlor, Phelan Street & deceased family members

Sean Corcoran, Rathvilly

Bridie Tobin, Rathmore

Patrick Donegan, Collins Park

**Sat/Sun, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> May**

Teresa O'Toole, Bough

Paddy O'Toole, Bough

Peg O'Toole Eccles, Bough

William Reilly, Collins Park

Bill Doyle, Tankardstown

Teresa & James McGuire, Kyle Beg Lacken

Eilish McGrath and deceased members of the Coady Family, Station Road

Rose & James Cummins Ballintrane

Mary & Peter Nolan, Baltinglass

Mary & Johnny Windley

Dr. Elizabeth Harpur

Dr Fergus Kirk

Margaret & Patricia Horne

### **ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN**

Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> April – Mass at 6.00 p.m.

Reader – Breedh Murphy.

### **CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK**

Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> May – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader – Muireann Gartland.

### **ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY**

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

**HEALING MASS with the Sacrament of Anointing takes place on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May at 11 a.m.** Hopefully drivers will offer lifts to the elderly who might like to attend this Celebration.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** – Adoration resumes on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 3-6 pm.

### **PARISH HOUSEBOUND VISIT FOR MAY**

Rathvilly Area on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May from 2 – 5 p.m.

Kiltegan Area on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> May from 2 – 5 p.m.

### **WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> April**

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €424.63

Envelopes €617.30

Kiltegan: Offertory €147.45

Envelopes €502.50

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Easter Clergy Collection.

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

Results from 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2025 No Jackpot winner of €15,000

Numbers: 22-23-24-28. 4 Match 3 numbers get €250 each.

No local match three winner this week.

Next draw on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April. **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.

### **THE IRISH CATHOLIC – Rest in Peace Pope Francis 1936 - 2025**

This week the Irish Catholic pays tribute to Pope Francis –

Pope Francis in his own words; Pope Francis championed women to key Church leadership roles; Francis was the unpredictable pope who emphasised mercy and Pope Francis visit to Ireland.

### **GK PARISH NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP**

Our 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Solemn Novena will take place in St. Clare's Church, Graiguecullen commencing on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April and will run for nine consecutive Monday nights until 23<sup>rd</sup> June. We invite people to place their petitions in the petition boxes in St Clare's Church or send them by email to [gkparish@gmail.com](mailto:gkparish@gmail.com). Through the prayers of our faith community and the intercession of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, we ask Jesus to relieve whatever burdens we carry. The rosary will be recited at 7.10pm and Mass begins at 7.30pm.

Our first Guest Speaker will be: Dana Rosemary Scallon – Irish singer, songwriter, and former politician.

### **RATHVILLY COMMUNITY/TEXT ALERT**

We are holding our Annual General Meeting on MONDAY 12th May 2025 at 8pm in The Harp Bar and everyone is welcome to attend. We are hoping for a good attendance and we have several speakers on the night. Light refreshments will be available. It is important to remind people out walking or cycling the necessity to wear hi-viz clothing so that you are visible to traffic. Our rural roads are quite narrow and heavy vehicles and tractors are in use on a daily basis. If you are not wearing bright clothing you cannot be seen.

**TRÓCAIRE BOXES** can be returned to the Church or the Parish Office.

**FOUND** – Ladies Reading Glasses found in the Church last weekend. Owner can collect them from the Sacristy after Mass.

### **LOUGH DERG** 2025 Pilgrimage Season – Pilgrims of Hope

Three Day Pilgrimage – Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> May until Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> August. Admission €85.

Booking advised. Concessions available for students, seniors and groups.

One Day Retreat – May 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>

August 19<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>. September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>.

Admission €50 booking essential.

Quiet Day - €40 per person - booking essential. A Self-directed day in the peaceful setting of Station Island – Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> May & Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> September.

For bookings contact 071 9861518 or [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org) or [www.loughderg.org](http://www.loughderg.org)

### **DUFFY'S COACH HIRE**

Day Pilgrimage to Knock – Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> May

4 Night Tour to Galway – 30<sup>th</sup> June – 4<sup>th</sup> July

4 Night Tour to Belfast – 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> August

4 Night Tour to Cavan – 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> October

For further details on any of these trips please contact 087 2543235 or 059 6471681

### **RATHVILLY GAA CLUB**

Lotto Results. No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 1-2-13-17.

Match 3 win or share €150. 5 Lucky dips

Jude Kehoe Ladystown

On Line winner

Shirley O'Neill Rathmore

On Line winner

Michael Byrne Carlow

On Line winner

Wm Burgess Lisnavagh

Post Office

Irene Smith Fr. Flood Ave.

Post Office

Next draw 29 April 2025 **Jackpot €3,600**

**Drive in Bingo back 19 May 2025. €3,000 in prizes.**

### **SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.**

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 4-20-22-28

Michael Conroy - 4-20-22-24

Online Winner

Ruairi Conroy, Baltinglass 4-20-22-24

Breda Keogh

Martin Molloy, Rathvilly 4-20-22-25

Molloy's Bar

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

Next draw 29<sup>th</sup>. April 2025 Jackpot €14,300. Thank you for all your support.

### **Graiguecullen Bingo - Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April @ 8.30 p.m.**

Jackpot on 40 numbers €960 Double number €1230 Lotto €900

### **CARLOW LIBRARY**

There will be a Creativity for Wellbeing Connect Café with Mental Health Ireland at Carlow Library on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 11am, this workshop uses creative tools to guide you on your journey of self discovery and wellbeing.

Email [library@carlowcoco.ie](mailto:library@carlowcoco.ie) or phone 059 9129705 to book!