

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time **Introduction to the Lenten Season**

In the past, Lent was often seen as a time to look down on oneself. Words such as temptation, evil, sin and guilt were often dominant, leaving some people in darkness and despair. This was extremely damaging for many. Thankfully, today we are trying to let go of such language and see Lent for what it really is, a time for transformation and encounter. Indeed, for some people today, it is one of their favourite Church seasons! New Year resolutions are probably well out the window by the time Lent comes around, so in a real sense it brings us the opportunity of a new beginning, a chance to start again. Lent offers us a time for deep reflection, and for those of us who hear and read the Gospel each week during this season, the texts offer a richness that can bring freshness to our lives.

Lent is a journey of preparation for Easter, a time to refresh our relationship with God, with those we love and cherish, with those we find difficult to love and with God's creation. Lent is like a time of stocktaking: what's here that shouldn't be? What do I need to let go of? Where do I need to spend more time? The intention is not to beat ourselves up; rather, it is to set out on a journey that will help us live our best lives with our hearts open. This is what Jesus wants for us.

We read on the First Sunday of Lent that our first stop is the wilderness. Here we embrace three tools to assist us: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. A suggestion for this season might be to spend more time with God's Word, to give up some luxury and to either donate what you can to your favourite charity or give your time to something or someone. These practices help us to focus and to grow in deeper awareness of what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

During this time, it is good for us to remove ourselves from the normal routines, to be still, and to stop and breathe. We need not be afraid of this, for the Gospel shows us that time spent in the wilderness is Spirit-led, and we are not alone. We hope that you can use the following reflections to spend more time this lent with God's Word, in prayer for transformation, renewal and encounter with the One who journeys with us.

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RATHVILLY G.A.A. CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 8-15-18-20

Match 3 win or share €150. 5 Lucky dips.

Brendan Flood London, Walter Hovenden Ballylinan and Carmel Gavin Knockavagh - Online winners. John Kehoe Station Rd & Gillian Curran Woodgrove - Helen Deering. Promoters Prize €20 - A. Doyle. Next draw 1 March 2022 **Jackpot €3,600**

THE HILL BAR AND LOUNGE, HACKETSTOWN.

Every Wednesday Night - Social Dancing commencing this Wednesday March 2nd from 9.30 p.m. Waltz, Swing and Jive the night away to our resident band.

Dust off those dancing shoes to what's guaranteed to be a great night of music and dance. Adm: €8 Every Monday night is Irish Night, Trad session from 9pm.

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

Email: office@rathvillykilteganparish.ie Website: www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie

Diocesan Director of Safeguarding: Ms. Kathleen Sherry - Email: safeguarding@kandle.ie

RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

**St. Brigid's
Talbotstown**

26th & 27th February, 2022

**St. Patrick's
Rathvilly**

**The Assumption
Tynock**

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Recent Death: Eithne Condon, Cnoc Mhuire, Rathvilly

Months Mind Mass for Teresa Heeney, Slaney Bank this Sunday, 27th February.

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Talbotstown Church – Saturday, 26th February

Larry Murphy, Talbotstown – 1st Anniversary Mary O'Toole, Kelsha
Pat & Frances O'Toole, Kelsha Bridie Farrell, Clough
Deceased members of the O'Toole Family, Kelsha

Rathvilly Church – 26th & 27th February

Hilda Nolan, Collins Park – 1st Anniversary Nan Sibbald, Phelan Street
James & Mary Ellen McNamara, Ballyoliver Willie Fox, Tullow
James & Elizabeth Byrne, Ballyoliver Elizabeth & James Byrne, Tobinstown
Donal & Betty McNamara, Ballyoliver

Rathvilly Church – 5th & 6th March

Months Mind Mass for Agnes Byrne, Garretstown on Saturday, 5th March at 7.30 pm.

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Baby Joseph Valentine O'Brien Joseph & Rose Byrne, Knockroe
James O'Toole, Bough Joseph Byrne, Jnr., Knockroe
Anne Byrne, Knocklishen Laurence (Chappie) Byrne, Knockroe
William Smith, Coole

Talbotstown Church – Sunday, 6th March

Sean Farrell, Englishtown Paddy Finn, Talbotstown

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

St. Patrick's Church, Rathvilly

Tuesday - Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Ash Wednesday – Mass in Rathvilly at **10.00 a.m.** and Talbotstown at 9.30 a.m.

Thursday – Mass at **9.15 a.m.** ADORATION – Thursday 9.45 – 10.45 a.m.

Friday – Mass at 10.00 a.m. Rosary before Mass each day.

Mass on Tuesday and Thursday will be celebrated in the Day Chapel.

St. Brigid's Church, Talbotstown

Mass on Saturday, 26th February at 6.00 p.m.

Mass on Sunday, 6th March at 9.30 a.m.

Reader – Breedh Murphy.

Reader – Mary Kelly, Feddan.

Church of the Assumption, Tynock

Mass on Sunday, 27th February at 9.30 a.m.

Mass on Saturday, 5th March at 6.00 p.m.

Reader – Lucilla Brophy.

Reader – Muireann Gartland.

HOUSEBOUND

The housebound will receive their March visit on Thursday/Friday, 3rd/4th March. Families will be contacted with the time of their visit.

NOVENA TO ST PATRICK

Thank you to all who attended the Novena on Wednesday last and also to everyone who helped out on the night. You can view the Ceremony on our Parish Webcam.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 19th & 20th February, 2022

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €292.63 Envelopes €421.67

Kiltegan: Offertory €43.98 Envelopes €263.55

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

Results for 23rd February, 2022 Numbers: 03 – 25 – 28 - 31

5 Match 3s get €200.00. No local winners this week.

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

On **Wednesday, 2nd March the Jackpot is €15,000.** Tickets €2 each

RESULTS OF 'FREE DRAW' for local supporters from Nov 21 – Jan 22.

€50 – Frank Kelly – Promoter Post Office. €50 – Breda Reilly – Promoter Breda Reilly.

€25 – Brigid Reilly – Promoter Breda Reilly. €25 – Freda Nolan – Promoter Breda Reilly.

€25 – Gretta O'Brien – Promoter Josie Finn. €25 – Paul Doyle – Promoter Nora Coates.

€25 – Pat Tobin – Promoter Parish Office. €25 – Marie O'Brien – Promoter Post Office.

€25 – Promoters Prize – Post Office. **Thank you for supporting our Lotto.**

LISTENING LENT

The Kandle online synod survey will go live on www.kandle.ie/synod/ on Ash Wednesday. If you can't make it to a local in person listening session during Lent you might like to complete this survey instead, individually or as part of a group. You might also share it with those you think might not have a chance to attend in person. The Synod Committee wants to leave no voice out of this listening – the lived experience of every person matters and counts.

TRÓCAIRE LENTEN APPEAL

This Lent, Trócaire's Appeal highlights the impact that climate change and Covid-19 has on people's lives in Zimbabwe and how your love and generosity can give families a chance to build a better tomorrow.

A Prayer from the Trócaire Parish Lenten Resources 2022

Praise Be to You, Creator of All Things. Come to us, dear Lord and plant the seeds of compassion in our hearts and grant our leaders wisdom to make the changes we need to see, so that your earth and your people can thrive as you planned. Reach out your loving arms to all your brothers and sisters, and renew our love for you, our planet, and all living creatures. Grant us peace in our hearts as we remain hopeful for change. Guide us with presence as we continue to commit ourselves to work for climate justice. (Janet Twomey, Trócaire)

Eithne Condon 1936-2022

As we say our sad farewell to Eithne, who died on Wednesday last, we all marvel at her exceptional abilities to embrace life with whatever challenges it poses. A book could be written on her contribution to her family, her parish community, her wider civic community and her Church, all of which she dearly loved. The circles of friends who worked with her in a host of different settings deeply appreciated her wisdom and sterling qualities as a person of deep convictions and faith-based quality of life. She loved celebrations, she supported countless good causes, she was a leader in the youth movement (Macra na Tuaithe/ Foróige), founder of Rathvilly Tennis Club, member of the Irish Countrywomens' Association, a photographer, enjoyed card playing, a gifted organist and choir leader, organiser of activities for the Elderly, chair of various demanding committees both in County Carlow (Carlow Enterprise Board) and in her parish (School Board of Management and Parish Council). She supported every good development in her adopted area. In a time when voluntary agencies find it more difficult to attract leaders, her example of what is possible will shine out like a beacon. Thankfully, she lived to receive various recognitions of her life achievements: a *Bene Merenti* Medal (Papal Award for exceptional commitment in Church life), she was awarded Carlow Person of the Year for her Community Work. Her 80th Birthday was fittingly marked in December 2016. A person of great and deep prayer. May she now enjoy her reward with the Angels and Saints and all who have gone before her.

THE KISS OF CHRIST

From ancient times, both Christian and Jewish believers have developed the art of listening for, and responding to, God's word. In our Catholic tradition, this is called lectio divina, sacred reading. It is a way of hearing God's voice, seeking God's will, and discovering how we try to live it. The Kiss of Christ is a short hybrid course (online and at home/in parish) being offered by Rev Professor Seamus O'Connell from Saint Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth to introduce the way of lectio divina and to support those who would wish to practice it during Lent 2022. Please visit www.aspal.ie for registration and information.

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

LOTTO-No jackpot winner. Winning numbers were 4-6-9-10

Breda Keogh, Baltinglass 4-6-10-21 Breda Keogh

John Whyte, Garretstown 4-6-9-22 Rathvilly Post Office

Martin Timmons, Woodgrove Ave. 4-6-10-21 Brian Curran

Helen Byrne, 5 Collins Park, Rathvilly 3-4-6-9 Kevin Byrne

Gemma Doyle, Hacketstown 6-9-10-24 Laura Kavanagh

Ger Clarke, Rathvilly 6-9-10-12 Rathvilly Post Office

Promoter's prize €20 was won by Jenny Donegan, Rathvilly.

Next draw 28 February 2022 **Jackpot €18,400.** Thank you for all your support.

GRAIGUECULLEN MONSTER BINGO in St. Fiacc's Hall on Tuesday 1st March at 8.30 pm. Jackpot on 50 numbers €3430 White Sheet Double No. €670 Lotto €850