

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne

The Baptism of Jesus *Mark 1:7-11* Beloved

Before Jesus ever makes an appearance in Mark's Gospel, we already know who he is. The writer of the Gospel has introduced him as 'Christ' (Messiah), 'Son of God' (1:1) and 'Lord' (1:3). John the Baptist has described him as 'more powerful than I' (1:7). This insider knowledge is given to readers to identify from the outset who Jesus is. Now, as Jesus makes his first appearance, God speaks, identifying him as 'my Son, the Beloved'. Mark reports in a brisk, matter-of-fact tone: just in case we missed it earlier, there is no doubting Jesus' identity, as he bears God's titles. The dramatic opening of the heavens and the Spirit descending 'like a dove' – a term used for the 'beloved' in the Song of Songs – brings John and any other witnesses face to face with Jesus' identity as God's Son and Beloved One. This 'insider' knowledge should give us readers an advantage. We know intellectually who Jesus is. There is no secret surrounding his identity. But this does not mean that we have the full picture, as we will see as we continue our journey through Mark's Gospel. Yes, the disciples can name Jesus' titles, but do they understand the implications of knowing and following him.

In contrast to these lofty introductions is the unassuming behaviour of Jesus in this passage. He comes from Nazareth to the desert, looking for John, joining the crowds to be baptised. This first appearance of Jesus is a powerful statement and summary of his ministry: the Messiah and Son of God identifying with ordinary people, one with humanity in its ordinariness and imperfections. Today, as we mark the end of the Christmas Season, we are confronted with Jesus in the fullness of His divinity and humanity. The baptism of Jesus is a reminder of our own identity and mission: we are beloved daughters and sons of God, sisters and brothers of Jesus, members of God's family. We are invited to the water, to that moment when we recognise who Jesus is, and who we are: made to love and called to love.

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“Our identity rests in God's relentless tenderness for us revealed in Jesus Christ.
--- Brennan Manning

ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE & RADIO
www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie/our-parish/webcam Radio 104.3 fm

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

**Email: office@rathvillykilteganparish.ie Website: www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie
Registered Charity Number 20015848**

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

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

RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

**St. Brigid's
Talbotstown**

**St. Patrick's
Rathvilly**

**The Assumption
Tynock**

Sat/Sun, 6th & 7th January, 2024

The Baptism of the Lord

Recent Death: Fr Brendan Howard former Parish Priest of Ballon/Rathoe Parish

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 6th & 7th January 2024

William Smith, Monavothe

Peter Smith, St. Patrick's Park

Paddy & Elizabeth Kelly, Ricketstown & deceased family members

Thomas & Therese Agar

Eileen & Christina Balfe, Rahill

Sinead & Bill Darcy, Phelan Street

Kate Murphy & Kathleen O'Toole

Alice Kelly, Ballyhackett

Sat/Sun, 13th & 14th January

Patrick & Mary McNevin, Raheendaw

Frances Faulkner, Collins Park

Tom & Maureen Flinter, Ballyraggan

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION –

Adoration will resume on Friday, 12th January from 4.00 – 7.00 p.m.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Sunday, 7th January – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Lucilla Brophy.

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Saturday, 13th January – Mass at 6.00 p.m.

Reader: Siobhan Doyle.

HOUSEBOUND VISIT FOR JANUARY Friday, 12th January 2.00 – 6.00 p.m.

WEEKLY ENVELOPES

Boxes of Envelopes were distributed to families recently. If you did not receive a box and would like to contribute to the Parish, there are boxes available in each Church or please contact the Parish Office. Please put your name on the envelope.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, Rathvilly/Kiltegan - 083 1494412

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 23rd & 24th December

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €606.22

Envelopes €1762.25

Kiltegan: Offertory €4.55

Envelopes €788.00

30th & 31st December

Rathvilly: Offertory €367.07

Envelopes €495.95

Kiltegan: Offertory €57.26

Envelopes €126.00

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the Christmas Station and Christmas Collection.

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

Results for 3rd January, 2024 No Jackpot winner of €13,000.

Numbers: 03 – 19 – 20 – 27. 22 Match 3 numbers and get €46.00 each.

No local winner this week.

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

On **Wednesday, 10th January the Jackpot is €14,000.** Tickets €2.

This is our only fundraiser for the year and we would appreciate it if you could join the Lotto. New promoters welcome.

RATHMORE NS

Enrolment for new pupils into Junior Infants in Rathmore NS will open on January

8th 2024 and be accepted until January 26th 2024. The Admissions Notice,

Enrolment Policy and Application Forms are available from the school website

(<https://rathmorens.webador.ie>) or by contacting the school office on 0599161375

or rathmorens.ias@gmail.com

RATHVILLY G.A.A. CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 2-5-23-26

Match 3 win or share €150. 5 Lucky dips

Cathy Purdy Fitzgerald Kevin Barry Rd.

On Line winner

Paul Balfe Rahill

On Line winner

Ryan Watchorn Tullow

On Line winner

Robyn & Ruby Kelly Tullow

Paul Kelly

Anthony Byrne Woodgrove

Tom Whyte

Next draw 9 Jan. 2024 **Jackpot €6,100**

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 7 – 8 – 27 – 29

Philip Hughes, Baltinglass

Breda Keogh

Mick O'Neill, Lathaleer, Baltinglass

Breda Keogh

Declan Clarke, Waterstown, Rathvilly

Declan Clarke

Eliz and PJ, Hacketstown

Laura Kavanagh

Jimmy Byrne, Coolkenno

Anthony Byrne

Promoter's prize €20 was won by Mary Darcy, Knocklishen, Rathvilly.

Next draw 9th. January 2024 **Jackpot €20,000.** Thank you for all your support

BAPTISMS – FEBRUARY – JUNE 2024

Please contact the Parish Office to arrange a Baptism - 059 9161114

Saturday, 10th February – Tynock Church at 12 Noon

Sunday, 11th February – Rathvilly Church at 12 Noon

Saturday, 9th March – Talbotstown Church at 12 Noon

Sunday, 10th March – Rathvilly Church at 12 Noon

Saturday, 13th April – Tynock Church at 3 p.m.

Sunday, 14th April – Rathvilly Church at 12 Noon

Saturday, 11th May – Talbotstown Church at 3 p.m.

Sunday, 12th May – Rathvilly Church at 12 Noon

Saturday, 8th June – Tynock Church at 3 p.m.

Sunday, 9th June – Rathvilly Church at 12 Noon

RATHVILLY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Rathvilly Community Centre Committee will hold its AGM on the 8th January 2024 in Lawlor's Bar at 7.30pm. Open invite to all interested in seeing the future plans for the School House Community and Enterprise Centre, please come & show your support.

VOLUNTEERS INVITED TO HELP IN THE PARISH

Church Readers, Ministers of Holy Communion, Baptism Team, etc.

If you feel that you can help, please contact the Parish Office – 059 9161114.

ST BRIGID'S CAMINO WALK, MONASTEREVIN PARISH

This year a new Bank Holiday to honour St Brigid takes place on Monday, 5th February. Monasterevin have organised a Camino walk in her honour on Monday 5th February starting at St Brigid's Shrine, Mountrice at 11am, led by Bishop Denis. The walk will journey to Umeras, reputed birthplace of St Brigid, continue along the new canal Blueway and finish in Sts Peter & Paul Church, Monasterevin with a service of light at 12.30pm. For more details please contact Monasterevin Parish Office 045-525346

NEW YEAR RESOLUTION – ACT NOW!

Introductory Course on Philosophy & Meditation

A 10-week course, focusing on how to live our lives more truly and happily will commence in The Rathaskar Room, McAuley Place, Naas, at 7.30pm on Thursday 18th January 2024. Full details of the Course and Registration via the website, www.practicalphilosophy.ie or phone 01 660 3788 or email info@practicalphilosophy.ie Only €10 for Term!

No previous knowledge of the subject is necessary and all are welcome.