

1st Sunday of Lent Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne

Mark 1:12-15 Into the wilderness

Lent is a time to respond to that hunger which lies at the core of our being, the hunger for a deeper connection with the Creator, the hunger to experience freshness in our lives, the hunger for what we truly long for. What better place to work all of this out than ‘the wilderness’? From time to time, we are landed in the wilderness. Sometimes it is an unpleasant experience and at other times we crave it, in response to a deep desire to step back from the day-to-day and make space in our lives for reflection. In the short passage we read from Mark today, we see that this is Spirit-led, the same Spirit that descended on Jesus at his baptism and ‘immediately drove him out into the wilderness’. Mark does not hang about; ‘immediately’ is one of his favorite words. The first part of the Gospel is fast paced and the sending out is forceful. In the wilderness we can become vulnerable, thoughts and feelings can attack us like ‘wild beasts’. But we should not be afraid; we also read that ‘angels ministered’ to Jesus; he was not alone.

There is a Zen proverb, ‘*Let go or be dragged*’, and no one wants to be dragged around the place. Lent invites us to embrace this wilderness time. As we fast from things that are not life-giving for us, we are also actively making space for God to breathe life and love into our hearth once more. We do this in the trust that God who loves us wants us to choose life and to clear out the blocks that stand in our way. This is ‘Good News’, a true *metanoia* (a change of heart). God’s Kingdom is being fulfilled in us and around us, not yet complete, but with every trip into the wilderness we edge closer to that reality. May this Lenten Season be a period of grace.

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“You have to leave the city of your comfort and go into the wilderness of your intuition. What you’ll discover will be wonderful. What you discover will be yourself.”
– Alan Alda

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

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

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

RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

St. Brigid’s
Talbotstown
Sat/Sun, 17th & 18th February, 2024

St. Patrick’s
Rathvilly

The Assumption
Tynock
First Sunday of Lent

Recent Deaths: Eta (Kathleen) Moore nee Healy, London & Ricketstown
Fr. Brendan McCarron, St. Patrick’s Missionary Society, Kiltegan

Months Mind Mass: Mary Faulkner, Raheen, Baltinglass this Saturday, 17th February

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 17th & 18th February

Martin Molloy, Rathvilly
Helen Smith, formerly Rathvilly
Ellen Byrne, Maplestown
Thomas Cassells, Ricketstown
Jim & Molly Nolan, Ballyhackett

Months Mind Mass: Timmy Kelly, Fr. Cullen Tce., on Saturday, 24th February

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 24th & 25th February

Eithne Condon, Cnoc Mhuire
James & Ellen McNamara, Ballyoliver and deceased family members
James & Elizabeth Byrne, Ballyoliver
Peter Reilly, Ballyoliver

ST. PATRICK’S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – Adoration each Friday from 3.00 – 6.00 p.m.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Saturday, 17th February – Mass at 6.00 p.m.

ST. BRIGID’S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Sunday, 25th February – Mass at 9.30 a.m. Reader: Breedh Murphy.

SACRAMENTS 2024

Preparation Mass for First Holy Communion and Confirmation children and their families takes place this weekend.

Saturday, 17th February in Tynock Church at 6.00 p.m.

Sunday, 18th February in Rathvilly Church at 11.00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS CRIB

Thank you to all who gave donations to the Crib. A total of €1,018.93 was raised for the homeless.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 10th & 11th February

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €352.26

Envelopes €549.50

Kiltegan: Offertory €245.67

Envelopes €575.00

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

Results for 14th February, 2024 No Jackpot winner of €10,000.

Numbers: 04 – 17 – 24 – 25. 14 Match 3 numbers and get €72.00 each.

No local match three winners this week.

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

On **Wednesday, 21st February the Jackpot is €11,000.** Tickets €2.

Thank you to all our parishioners who support the Lotto each week.

EVANGELIUM IRELAND

Will host its next Apologetics Conference for young Catholics at St Patrick's College,

Maynooth on Saturday, 16 March. Talks & workshops include: The Gift of the

Priesthood, Intro to the Theology of Joseph Ratzinger, Christian Marriage, Female

Authors of the Catholic Revival, Christian Metaphysics, St Patrick.

Mass will also be celebrated. Cost: €38 including lunch, refreshments and evening

social. For to view the full programme and to register visit www.evangelium.ie or

search 'Evangelium Ireland' on Eventbrite. Don't miss this great opportunity to learn

and pray with other young Catholics!

UPCOMING PRE-MARRIAGE COURSES

There are only 3 places left on the June course which is on Friday night 7th June and all-day Saturday June 8th.

We will be running more courses in Sept, Oct and November. The dates for these

courses have yet to be decided and will be up published in May on the Accord

website www.accord.ie

ACCORD CATHOLIC MARRIAGE CARE SERVICE CLG SEEKING MARRIAGE PREPARATION FACILITATORS

ACCORD Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators.

- If you have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church
- If you have the enthusiasm to be part of the Accord team in supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage

Accord wants to hear from you!

Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team

delivering marriage preparation programmes locally. Contact Aisling on

01 505 3112 or by email to marriagepreparation@accord.ie

CARLOW UNION OF PARISHES

Are holding a series of talks from 22nd February to 20th March in St Mary's Church,

Haymarket, Carlow. All are welcome to attend.

TRÓCAIRE BOXES AVAILABLE IN EACH CHURCH – please take one home

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDUGORJE 23rd March for 7 nights.

Further details from Duffy Coach Hire on 087 2543235 or 059 6471681.

RATHVILLY COMMUNITY/TEXT ALERT

We will be holding our Annual General Meeting on Monday 29th April in the Harp

Bar at 8pm. We would appreciate a good attendance as we have speakers arranged

and we can take questions if anyone wishes to have information about our

group. Light refreshments will be served.

We now have an email address rathvillycommunityalert@gmail.com for anyone

wishing to contact us for any information.

GRAIGUECULLEN BINGO Tuesday 20th February - St. Fiacc's Hall @ 8.30pm.

Jackpot on 50 numbers €2130 Double number €1020 Lotto €550

RATHVILLY G.A.A. CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 19-22-26-29

Match 3 win or share €150

Eithne Brennan New Rd. Ballyoliver 9-19-22-29

Next draw 20 Feb. 2024 **Jackpot €6,700**

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto numbers drawn on Tuesday 13 February were 5,12,19 and 27 and the jackpot

of €20,000 was not won. There were two match three winners who shared €150:

Mick O Sullivan Online Winner (8-12-19-27) and Claire Delmar Online Winner

(5-11-12-27). Promoter's prize €20 was won by Laura Kavanagh.

Next draw 20th February. Jackpot €20,000.

NOURISHING OUR COMMUNITIES

You are invited to an evening on Tuesday, 20th February about growing food in our

communities, for our communities. The event kicks off with a screening of

"Together We Grow" (40 mins), the true story of a community enriched by growing

food for their neighbours. A panel discussion, refreshments and chat will follow.

Organised by Co. Carlow Environmental Network (CCEN), please contact

info@ccen.ie for information. Venue: Presentation de la Salle School,

Bagenalstown, R21 X096 at 7:15pm – 9:30pm. FREE admission, book a seat on the

CCEN Eventbrite page: www.ccen.ie/together-we-grow/

THE IRISH CATHOLIC

Some of the articles covered in this week's Irish Catholic Newspaper –

Veritas a 'huge loss': Publishers and authors have described the announcement

that Veritas, the publishing arm of the Irish bishops' conference, is to wind down

this year with the loss of 80 jobs as a "huge loss". . . .

Parishes tackle 'significant challenge' identifying Catholic foster carers . . .

Step up' NI politicians and promote Catholics joining police says Supt . . .

VOLUNTEERS INVITED TO HELP IN THE PARISH

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