

## **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent – Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne**

**Luke 15:1-3,11-32      The Elder Son**

Sometimes we can be so familiar with a particular Gospel passage that we switch off after the first few sentences. That would be a shame, especially when listening to today's parable, which is unique to Luke, and is one of the great blockbuster parables. The parable of things lost and found emphasise the unending forgiveness of God and God's rejoicing for those who return. Parables always have something to teach us. They enable us to engage at a deeper level with tough questions, inviting us to reflect on similar situations in our own lives. The main topic here is forgiveness, and the real challenge in the story is what happens after the lost son returns.

The Father's welcome for the younger son would have been considered extremely foolish by those listening to this story, and their viewpoint is mirrored in the reaction of the elder brother. After all, he has 'worked like a slave' for years and is understandably upset at the lavish party that has been thrown for his delinquent sibling. The Father, however, reassures the disgruntled brother that his welcome for the younger brother does not change his love for him or diminish the inheritance he will receive.

This Gospel shows us that God returns those who are lost to the community, regardless of the obstacles that we might put in place. Jesus teaches a lesson here in radical hospitality. No matter how far one wanders from home, God still loves us, waits for us and is calling us back with open arms. The elder brother has a choice: he can come to the party or feel sorry for himself. It will cost him nothing to reach out to his younger brother, but his ego is in the way. What does he do? Significantly, Luke does not finish the story; rather he leaves it up to us to continue the narrative. We have nothing to lose in welcoming home the lost. © Triona Doherty & Jane Mellet, 2021. *The Deep End: A Journey with the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Luke*. (Dublin: Messenger Publications 2021).

“To forgive is to set a prisoner free and realise that the prisoner was you.” - **Lewis B. Smedes**.

### **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)**

**TRÓCAIRE BOXES AVAILABLE IN EACH CHURCH – please take one home**

## **RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH**

### **NEWSLETTER**

**St. Brigid's**

**Talbotstown**

**Sat/Sun, 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**St. Patrick's**

**Rathvilly**

**The Assumption**

**Tynock**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**Wishing all mothers a blessed day this Sunday. May our deceased mothers be in the peace of God's kingdom. May we all let our mothers know how much we love them.**

**Recent Deaths:** Áine Carberry, Kilranelagh Lodge,    Mary Harmon, Kiltegan

### **ANNIVERSARY MASSES**

#### **Sat/Sun, 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> March**

Don Heenan, Williamstown – 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

Rita Conway, Straboe

Daniel Lawlor, Fr. Cullen Tce

Alan (Stick) Keogh, Fr. Cullen Tce – 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

#### **Sat/Sun, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> April**

**Months Mind Mass** for Margaret (Maggie) Byrne, Patrickswell on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> April

### **ANNIVERSARY MASSES**

Kathleen Smith, 6 St. Patrick's Park

Paddy Byrne, Garretstown

David & Mary Byrne, Patrickswell

Ned & Mary Balfe, Rahill

Mick & Chrissie Byrne, Ballyhackett

Susan Kavanagh, Ballybit

Patrick, Lizzie & Jim Haberin, Ballyhackett

Paudie Doyle, Raheendaw

Myles, Elizabeth & Ann Keating, Ballyhackett

Patrick Doyle, The Dales, Ricketstown

James & Elizabeth Byrne, Ballyhackett

Catherine & Thomas Faulkner, Garretstown

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

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

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS – each Friday of Lent at 6.00 p.m.**

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** – Adoration each Friday 3 – 6 p.m.

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

Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> March – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader – Siobhan Doyle.

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

Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> April – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader – Nigel Byrne.

### **PARISH HOUSEBOUND VISIT FOR APRIL**

Kiltegan Area on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April from 2 – 5 p.m.

Rathvilly Area on Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> April from 2 – 4 p.m.

### **CONFIRMATION 2025**

Rehearsal for Confirmation takes place on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.30 p.m.

Sacrament of Confirmation takes place on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> April at 11 a.m. for children attending Rathmore and Rathvilly National Schools.

### **PLANNING MEETINGS TO ARRANGE EASTER CEREMONIES**

We ask all Church Readers, Ministers of Holy Communion, Choir and volunteers who would like to help in any way to attend a Meeting on: Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30 p.m. in Tynock Church for Tynock & Talbotstown Ceremonies.

Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> April at 7 p.m. in the Parish Meeting Room for Rathvilly Ceremonies.

### **CHRISM MASS**

You are invited to join with Bishop Denis and the priests of the diocese for the annual celebration of the Chrism Mass on Monday, 14 April at 7:30 pm. Please come early to ensure a seat. Refreshments afterwards in Carlow College, St Patrick's. Music led by Fr Liam Lawton and the diocesan choir.

### **WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €334.85

Envelopes €423.90

Kiltegan: Offertory €60.82

Envelopes €129.50

### **4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

Happy Mother's Day from Trócaire. We wish all mothers throughout the world well on this day. Women, and in particular mothers, often bare the huge burdens of the impacts of the climate crisis. We ask you to stand in solidarity with these women by becoming campaigners with Trócaire see more trocaire.org

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

Results from 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 No Jackpot winner of €11,000

Numbers: 06-23-24-25. 11 Match 3 numbers get €91 each.

No local match three winners this week.

Next draw on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April. **Jackpot €12,000.**

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.

### **Do you think that God may be calling you to the priesthood?**

Would you like to meet with others who are exploring a call?

Would you like to discover how to discover God's will for your life?

Then the Samuel Circle is for you! The Circle is a group of guys who meet regularly to try and discern God's plan for them in life.

If you are interested contact Fr. Ruairi [ruairiodomhnaill@gmail.com](mailto:ruairiodomhnaill@gmail.com)

### **PILGRIMAGE TO MEDUGORJE – 12<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> April**

Further details from Duffy's Coach Hire 087 2543235 or 059 6471681

**MAKING A WOODEN CROSS FOR YOUR HOME** The parish are organising a cross making work-shop for Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 8 pm in St. Tegan's Hall, Kiltegan. All materials for making the cross will be supplied, it is essential to book a place with Parish office 059 9161114 before 31<sup>st</sup> March.

### **SYNOD NEWS: Be Part of the Conversation**

#### ***What are the priorities for us as members of the Church in Ireland?***

In 2022 Church members across Ireland identified key themes

In 2023-2024 the Universal Synod addressed these themes

Now in 2025 you are invited to name the priorities for action arising from them for the Irish Church

**HOW:** Watch a series of short videos or the compilation video outlining the themes on [www.synod.ie/resources-for-spring-gatherings-2025/](http://www.synod.ie/resources-for-spring-gatherings-2025/) (less than 10 mins)

- Consider the question: **What themes are emerging for you?**

- **REGISTER-** Come to a meeting to share your feedback and to listen to others

**WHEN AND WHERE: Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> April, 7:00 pm Tea/Coffee 7:30-9:30** Listening Session in Mount St Anne's Retreat and Conference Centre, Killenard, Co. Laois.

**REGISTER: Book your place at [fds@kandle.ie](mailto:fds@kandle.ie) /0599164084**

***Hosted by the Kildare and Leighlin Diocesan Synod Team***

### **RATHVILLY TENNIS CLUB**

Having carried out refurbishment works to the courts last year, the Club is looking forward to a good season in the coming months. An invitation is extended to everyone who would like to play or help out in any way. The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2025 at 8p.m. in the Harp Function Room. All welcome.

### **RATHVILLY GAA CLUB**

Lotto Results; No Jackpot Winner. Numbers drawn 3-24-28-30

Match 3 win or share €150 5 Lucky dips

Pat Deering Ballybit

On Line winner

John Colgan Tullow

On Line winner

Martha Keogh Talbotstown

On Line winner

Tracey Kelly The Orchard

Paul Kelly

Maria Doyle Knockavagh

A. Doyle

Next draw 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 **Jackpot €3,200**

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

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 2 - 14 - 23 - 26

Mary McNamara, Monavoth 5-14-23-26

Post Office

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

Next draw 1<sup>st</sup>. April 2025 Jackpot €13,900. Thank you for all your support.

**Graiguecullen MONSTER Bingo** Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm.

Jackpot on 50 numbers €2390 Double number €880 Lotto €650