

4th Sunday of Easter – Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne
Gospel: John 10:27-30 Live life

On this Fourth Sunday of Easter, we hear a few short verses from the Good Shepherd Discourse of St John's Gospel. It is a passage which describes Jesus as the *genuine* shepherd who knows his flock and cares for them. There is a beautiful line in this passage which reads: 'My sheep hear my voice. I know them and they follow me'. Jesus knows each of us. He knows our deepest desires and our worries, fears, insecurities and pain.

This should not disturb us; no, it should give us joy. Bring to mind our deepest friendships. What are the characteristics of such bonds? Usually, in order to know others really well, we must spend time with them, talking and sharing, listening to them. We become aware of their hopes and dreams, we find that we are extremely comfortable in their presence. These people are treasures in our lives, beloved soul friends, and we would do anything for them. Jesus too knows us intimately, and we are invited to listen out for his voice and to know that we belong to him. This is a voice which brings peace, not discomfort or shame. It is a voice which says to us: I want you to experience the fullness of life!

In Jesus' time, being a shepherd was not a pleasant job, and there were many dangers involved. At night, shepherds would wound up their sheep into a pen and lie across the entrance in case they were attacked or stolen – literally laying down their lives for their flock. When things are not going so well in our lives, we may feel distant from others and from Jesus. Let this Gospel be a reminder to us that Jesus is always very close to us, even when we feel abandoned. We can share our struggles with him, for 'no one will snatch [you] out of his hand'.

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

“The beginning of the path to finding God is awareness. Not simply awareness of the ways that you can find God, but an awareness that God desires to find you. – **James Martin SJ**

ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE

www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie/our-parish/webcam Radio 104.3 fm

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

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Registered Charity Number 20015848

Diocesan Website: 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

RADIO MARIA IRELAND – Streaming on our Website: www.radiomaria.ie

RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH
NEWSLETTER

**St. Brigid's
Talbotstown**

**St. Patrick's
Rathvilly**

**The Assumption
Tynock**

Sat/Sun, 10th & 11th May, 2025

4th Sunday of Easter

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 10th & 11th May

Agnes Corrigan, Monavothé – 1st Anniversary

Mick Connors, 13 St. Patrick's Park

Michael & Bridget Connors, Knockavagh & deceased family members

Mary & Thomas Humphries, Rathdaniel

Patrick, Peggy & Kay Humphries & Donna Walsh & deceased family members

Pat & Nancy O'Connor, Dublin

Patrick O'Connor, Dublin

Richard & Mary Canavan

Breda Brennan

Jim & Essie Byrne, Knocklishen

Leon Kelly, New Road Ballyoliver

Sat/Sun, 17th & 18th May

Stan Doyle, Bough

Thomas & Julia Byrne, New Road, Ballyoliver

Sat/Sun, 24th & 25th May

Terry Allen, Collins Park – 1st Anniversary

Bob & Kay Allen, Robinstown, Co. Meath

Jim Sibbald, Phelan Street and deceased family members

Robert & Sarah Molloy

Bridget & Edward Nolan

John McGuire, Kyle Beg, Lacken

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Sunday, 11th May – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader – Mary Kelly, Feddan.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

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

Reader – Conor O'Leary.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

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

Wednesday, 14th May – Mass at **10.00 a.m.**

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – Friday, 16th May 3-6 pm.

Friday, 23rd May – **2-5 p.m. please note time change.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to the boys and girls from the four Schools in the Parish who will receive their First Holy Communion:

Rathmore & Rathvilly NS on Saturday, 10th May in St. Patrick's Church.

Talbotstown & Tynock NS on Saturday, 17th May in Tynock Church.

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS NEXT WEEK

Monday & Tuesday, 12th & 13th May – 10 a.m. – 12 Noon.

Normal Office Hours from Monday, 19th May.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 3rd & 4th May

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €300.10

Envelopes €635.65

Kiltegan: Offertory €50.44

Envelopes €196.00

LOUGH DERG Retreat

Kildare & Leighlin Diocesan Jubilee of Hope 2025 1 Day Retreat Pilgrimage to Lough Derg on Sat 17th May, 2025. For further information or to book a seat on the bus travelling from Tullow & Carlow Contact 087 1302587

SHARING FROM THE TABLE OF THE LORD

Training for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: This diocesan programme will be led by Fr Tom O'Byrne and Julie Kavanagh on Saturday, 24 May from 10am to 4 pm in Carlow Cathedral Parish Centre. Attendees are asked to bring a lunch – tea/coffee will be provided. Suitable for people new to this ministry in the parish or for existing ministers who would like a refresher. If you would like to take part in this training please contact your local parish office/priest.

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

Results from 7th May, 2025 No Jackpot winner of €17,000

Numbers: 03-10-14-31. 11 Match 3 numbers get €91.00

One local match three winner this week.

Winner – Brenda Byrne. Promoter – Breda Reilly

Next draw on Wednesday, 14th May. **Jackpot €18,000.**

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.

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. 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.

VOCATION SUNDAY

'The Church needs pastors....capable of saying yes to the Lord with trust and hope'. Pope Francis This Vocations Sunday we find ourselves embarking on a new era in the life of the Church. Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood and religious life and that the Church will always have pastors who care for God's people with the heart of Christ himself.

Graigucullen Bingo - Sunday 6th May @ 8.30 p.m.

Jackpot on 44 numbers €1220 Double number €1370 Lotto €1000

DUFFY'S COACH HIRE

4 Night Tour to Galway – 30th June – 4th July

4 Night Tour to Belfast – 10th – 14th August

4 Night Tour to Cavan – 5th – 9th October

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

TOP TEN WAYS TO HELP POLLINATORS

Manage and plant native hedgerows for biodiversity

The more blossom your hedgerow has in Spring, the better it is for biodiversity. Allow hedges to grow into a natural A-shape profile rather than a neat box shape.

Why: Native hedgerow plants such as Hawthorn (also called Whitethorn), and Blackthorn flower early in Spring, providing vital food for wild bees when they emerge from hibernation. Birds and mammals eat their berries later in autumn.

pollinators.ie/top-ten-ways-to-help-pollinators/

RATHVILLY GAA CLUB

Lotto results. No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 2-10-14-17.

Match 3 win or share €150. 5 lucky dips

Tom O'Neill Carlow

On Line winner

Pat Deering Ballybit

On Line winner

Cheryl Donovan Collins Pk.

On Line winner

Paddy Fowler Slaney Bank

Helen Deering

Sue Molloy Rathvilly

Helen Deering

Next draw 13 May 2025 **Jackpot €2,600**

Drive in Bingo back 19 May at 8pm sharp

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 16-21-28-30

Brian O'Neill, Tullow 3-16-21-30

Online Winner

Promoter's prize €20 was won by Jenny Donegan, Michael Collins Park

Next draw 13th May 2025 Jackpot €14,500. Thank you for all your support.

GK PARISH NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

Our 20th Annual Parish Solemn Novena continues in St. Clare's Church, Graiguecullen each Monday until 23rd June. The rosary at 7.10pm and Mass at 7.30pm. **Guest**

Speakers 12th May - Peadar Tóibín - TD and Founder and Leader of Aontú Political Party, **19th May** – Niall Quinn former footballer, businessman & sports pundit.