

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne
Gospel – Matthew 4:12-23 Gathering

Jesus begins his ministry with the first of many ‘gatherings’. Hearing that John had been arrested, he ‘withdraws’ to Galilee. He is shaken and perhaps he too in under threat. Nevertheless, he preaches the same bold message as John: ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’ This is the message the disciples will later be sent to preach (Mt 10:7). Matthew interprets Jesus’ arrival in Galilee as fulfilment of the prophet Isaiah’s declaration that a ‘great light’ would shine in the darkness. The reference to ‘Galilee of the Gentiles’ offer a clue as to who will be gathered and included in Jesus’ mission.

Fishing metaphors features heavily throughout Matthew’s Gospel. Jesus starts his ministry in the fishing village of Capernaum by gathering a crew of disciples – two sets of brothers, all fishermen. In terms of social status, fishermen were low down in the pecking order. Their occupation was precarious at best, leaving them economically vulnerable, and they had to pay taxes to the Roman Empire, which made them unpopular. They might seem an unlikely choice for a Messiah starting his mission. Simon (Peter) and Andrew are casting their nets out when Jesus calls them, quipping them ‘Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.’ Similarly, James and John abandon their net-mending ‘immediately’ to follow him. They are ‘all in’. The mission has momentum; these fishfolk are needed as the sea is ripe for fishing. Their task will be to draw others in, and the net will be cast indiscriminately, far and wide. Later, Jesus will compare the kingdom of heaven to a ‘dragnet’, catching fish of every kind (Mt 13:47).

When we join together for liturgy we often begin by acknowledging our ‘gathering’, indicating that we are being called out of our ordinary, everyday lives to gather as community, aware of God’s presence among us. We are also called every day into God’s service, invited to repentance, a change of heart. Like the disciples, we are called, and we call; we are gathered, and we gather. When we are drawn in by Jesus, we extend the same open welcome to others. The kingdom is at hand, and Jesus’ net gathers indiscriminately, regardless of social or economic status.

© Triona Doherty & Jane Mellet, 2022. *A Journey with the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Matthew.* (Dublin: Messenger Publications 2022).

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.
– Anne Frank

ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE
www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie/our-parish/webcam **Radio 108 FM**

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

PLEASE NOTE: Rathvilly/Kiltegan - 083 4888149

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

Local Safeguarding Reps: Mary Phelan Elizabeth Austin David Carton

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

RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

**St. Brigid's
Talbotstown**

Sat/Sun, 24th & 25th January 2026

**St. Patrick's
Rathvilly**

**The Assumption
Tynock**
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat/Sun, 24th & 25th January

Months Mind Mass: Marie Steward, Woodgrove Ave. on Sat/Sun, 24/25 January

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Timmy Kelly, Fr. Cullen Tce.

Martha & Billy Leonard, Collins Park

Noel Smith, Coole

Billy Keegan, 8 Ballyoliver & deceased family members The Fox Family, Castlemore Fergus Coleman, Tobinstown

Thomas & Natalie Kelly, Williamstown & deceased family members

Matthew O’Toole, Slaney View
Bridget O’Toole, Slaney View
Olive Leddy

The Fox Family, Castlemore
The Ayres Family, Kellistown

Sat/Sun, 31st Jan/1st Feb

Ned Byrne, Knockavagh – 1st Anniversary

Sean Bolger, Rathvilly

Brendan Paisley, Rathvilly & deceased family members

Kathleen Eta Moore nee Healy

Thomas Keegan, Ballyoliver & deceased family members

Philip Kavanagh, Broughillstown

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Sunday, 25th January – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader – Veronica Byrne.

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Sunday, 1st February – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader – Joe O’Brien.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY MASSES

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday – 9.30 a.m.

Thursday – Grandparents Day – Mass at 12.15 p.m. School children will attend. All welcome.

Monday, 2nd February – Presentation of the Lord -Candlemas Day. Mass 11a.m. with the Blessing of Candles. Donation of Candles for Church use is very welcome or Blessed Candles can be taken home or you might like to receive a Blessed Candle.

Tuesday, 3rd February – Feast of St Blaise. Blessing of Throats at 9.30 am Mass. Evening Prayer with Blessing of Throats at 7.30 p.m.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SPECIAL MASS

Talbotstown/Tynock NS Sunday, 25th January in Tynock Church at 9.30a.m.

EUCARISTIC ADORATION – each Friday 3 – 6 p.m.

