

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne
Gospel – Matthew 5:17-37 Love is the Key

The Sermon on the Mount continues and today's Gospel starts with Jesus' declaration that he has not come to 'abolish the Law or the Prophets' but to 'fulfil' them. This is an important theme for Matthew. It can be understood in different ways: Jesus is fulfilling, i.e. bringing about that which was promised by the Prophets and the Law, but also Jesus himself *is* the fulfillment. He reveals and is the true and deeper meaning of the Law. Later in the Gospel Jesus identifies love of God and of neighbor as the greatest commandment, saying 'On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets' (Mt 22:40).

Today, we hear several teachings beginning with the formula, 'You have heard that it was said ... but I say to you ...'. Jesus is not contradicting the Law but strengthening and intensifying it. Not only should we 'not murder' - as required by the Law - but we are also to avoid anger and insults, which are placed on the same spectrum. Jesus is talking about more than our actions. When we explore this teaching in the context of love, it involves everything from our inner attitude to the way we interact with others, in small situations as well as big. Reconciliation and harmonious relationships are to take priority over worship. In another example, the commandment to 'not commit adultery' reaches beyond outward faithfulness to our inner thoughts, what's in our hearts. Jesus' talk of the tearing out of eyes and cutting off of limbs seems to shock his audience, and these words are doubly shocking to the modern listener. We may be familiar with the commandments and rules of a life of faith, but have we engraved them in our hearts? If love is at the heart of the law, we will do more than simply obey but endeavor to act with compassion, respect and self-giving.

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"True love is delicate and kind, full of gentle perception and understanding, full of beauty and grace, full of joy unutterable ... With such a love one would see all things new; we would begin to see people as they really are, as God sees them.

– *Dorothy Day*

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

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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 St. Patrick's The Assumption
Talbotstown Rathvilly Tynock
Sat/Sun, 14th & 15th February, 2026 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 14th & 15th February

Martin Molloy, Rathvilly	Joe Curran, 12 Collins Park
Christy Gahan, Collins Park	Vena Doyle, Foxcover
Andy Smith, London & Coole	Laurence & Mary Dowling, Rathmore
Molly & Jim Nolan, Ballyhackett	

Sat/Sun, 21st & 22nd February

Margaret (Maggie) Byrne, Patrickswell – 1 st Anniversary	
Eithne Condon, Cnoc Mhuire	Mary Hanlon, Ricketstown
Laurence (Chappie) Byrne, Knockroe	Patrick Hanlon, Bough
Elizabeth & James Byrne, Tobinstown	Kate Hanlon, Borris

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Saturday, 14th February – Mass at 6.00 p.m.

Reader – Conor O'Leary.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Ash Wednesday, 18th February – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Sunday, 22nd February – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader – Mary Kelly, Feddan.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY MASSES

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

Ash Wednesday – Mass at 11.00 a.m. & 7.00 p.m.

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION SPECIAL MASSES

First Holy Communion & Confirmation – Talbotstown & Tynock NS on Sunday, 22nd February at 9.30 a.m. in Tynock Church.

BAPTISED AND SENT IN LENT 2026

In Rathvilly Parish Centre, beside GAA football field, starting on Ash Wednesday 18th Feb at 7.30 pm and continuing each Wednesday up to the 18th March.

Join a Lenten Journey of prayer and reflection. Renew your faith, pray, reflect, serve and grow in mission. This programme encourages people to rediscover their baptismal calling, listen to the Holy Spirit and take concrete steps to deepen their faith individually and as a community.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS each Friday evening at 6 pm after adoration, during lent in St Patrick's Church, Rathvilly.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS 7th & 8th February

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €650.81

Envelopes €578.50

Kiltegan: Offertory €192.11

Envelopes €239.80

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

Results from 11th February, 2026 No Jackpot winner of €11,000

Numbers: 04-05-22-24. 12 Match 3 numbers get €84.00 each.

No local match three winner this week.

Next draw on Wednesday, 18th February. **Jackpot €12,000.**

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

TWO CHURCHES TABLE QUIZ

Table Quiz in aid of St. Patrick's and St Mary Churches takes place on Friday, 20th February at 8 p.m. in the Harp Lounge. Team of 4 €40. Raffle prizes and refreshments.

Living Lent 2026

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent -a special and sacred time of renewal of our identity as baptised Christians.

Lent is a time to rediscover what it means to say, 'I am baptised'. What difference does this make to who I am and how I am? What changes do I need to make in my life to live my baptism more deeply?

With its disciplines of prayer, fasting and charity, the season gives us many opportunities for personal renewal. If we grasp these opportunities, we can arrive at Easter ready to truly commit to our baptism, to be renewed and ready to celebrate the joy at the centre of our faith – the life, death and resurrection of Christ. ***How will you choose to live Lent this year?***

Lenten Morning of Prayer and Reflection will be held in Teach Bhride, Tullow on **Saturday, February 21st, 2026**--beginning at 10:00am – finishing with lunch at 1:00pm. Facilitators: Brigidine Sisters--- Teresa Phelan & Teresa Carter. **RSVP** by calling 089 970 5761 or 083 392 8708 by **Thursday, February 19th**. 15.00 fee.

RATHVILLY NATIONAL SCHOOL – Draw Results – Week 5

€100 – Keith Curran.

Promoter – Aoife Cunningham.

€50 – Fiona Amond.

Promoter – Alex Amond.

€20 – Aoibheann Bolger.

Promoter – Aoibheann Bolger.

€20 – Kelly Simpson.

Promoter – Annabelle Simpson.

Promoters Prize €20 – David Dalton.

Draw Results – Week 6

€100 – Henry Murphy.

Promoter – Henry Murphy.

€50 – Christy Connors.

Promoter – Jake Donegan.

€20 – Elaine O'Brien.

Promoter – Rian O'Brien.

€20 – Theo Quinn.

Promoter – Alex Quinn.

Promoters Prize €20 – Jake Donegan.

Launch of Trócaire Campaign 2026 – Please remember to support and use the **Trócaire Box** in your home.

TEMPERANCE SUNDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 2026

Parishioners who wish to take a short-term pledge for Lent are invited to visit www.pioneers.ie or to speak to a Pioneer in the parish. "*Off the drink for Lent*" is a reminder that "the bonds of friendship and affection do not unravel with death" ... or with addiction or sickness.

Prayer and penance have been part of the response by many Irish families to the challenges which they have met across the centuries.

The short-term Pioneer pledge for Lent is a gesture of solidarity with people who are living "one day at a time" according to the 12 Step AA programme.

THE MOTHER AND BABY INSTITUTIONS PAYMENT SCHEME

The Mother and Baby Institutions Payment Scheme launched in March 2024 following the Government agreed actions arising from the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby homes and certain related matters. The Payment scheme provides financial payments, and health supports to eligible people who spent time in Mother and Baby and County Home Institutions in Ireland. Eligibility criteria can be found online, and applications can be made via an online portal (website below) or by post Visit: www.gov.ie/en/department-of-children-disability-and-equality/campaigns/mother-and-baby-institutions-payment-scheme/

Contact Helpline: 01 522 9922 (call to request application pack)

All applications are handled with care, dignity and full confidentiality.

RATHVILLY GAA CLUB

Lotto results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 3-8-9-19

Match 3 win or share €150

Brendan Flood London 8-9-11-19

On Line winner

Michelle Moore Carlow 3-4-8-19

On Line winner

Mary Byrne Knocklishen 3-9-19-20

On Line winner

Next draw 17 Feb. 2026 **Jackpot €6,600**

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 5-21-26-29

Eireann Sibbald Nolan, Ballyoliver

Post Office

Mrs. Elliot, Monavothé

Post Office

Mag Hughes, Baltinglass

Breda Keogh

Breda Keogh

Breda Keogh

Nuala Byrne, Rathvilly

Jenny Donegan

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

Next draw 17th.Feb. 2026. Jackpot €4,600. Thank you for all your support.

EPILEPSY AWARENESS DAY

In Ireland today, over 45,000 people live with epilepsy. For further information, please visit www.epilepsy.ie. Purple Day (or Epilepsy Awareness Day) will take place on Thursday 26th March.