

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne
Gospel – Matthew 5:13-16 People of Light

The hymn “This Little Light of Mine” was written as a Gospel song for children in the 1920s. It later became an anthem for the civil rights movement in the US in the 1960s. It's associated in particular with Fannie Lou Hamer, a civil rights activist who dedicated her life to the struggle for Black voting rights and against racial segregation and injustice. Hamer was threatened, arrested, beaten and shot at, yet not deterred from her cause. Her most famous saying – ‘I'm sick and tired of being sick and tired’ – shone a light on the plight of the Black community. Hamer was a powerful singer whose favorite song was, “This Little Light of Mine”. The song came to signify hope in the fight for equal rights and freedom.

The lyrics are based on the Sermon on the Mount, in which Jesus instructs his disciples, ‘You are the salt of the earth ... You are the light of the world.’ The ‘salt and light’ saying point outwards to their mission in the world. Salt must hold its taste in order to season, and a lamp must be lit in order to shine. Jesus is preparing the disciples to go out, to shine brightly and so to glorify God. What is this light? Some might call it the ‘divine spark’, God’s presence in us. We recognise this light in the shining example of how one person or group can change the world. Without the efforts of Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr., and all who were part of the Civil Rights Movement, our world would be a different place. These ‘salt of the earth’ people brought light to many. Their fight for justice continues today in those who lift up their voices to ensure people are treated fairly. People of light sit with those in darkness, in pain or who are persecuted. They challenge unfair systems. It can be tempting for people of light to become disheartened. But they carry on, bringing about change, however slowly, shining light in the darkness.

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“Sometimes it seems like to tell the truth today is to run the risk of being killed. But if I fall, I'll fall five feet four inches forward in the fight for freedom. I'm not falling back.

- Fannie Lou Hamer

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

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Local Safeguarding Reps: Mary Phelan Elizabeth Austin David Carton
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RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

St. Brigid's

Talbotstown

Sat/Sun, 7th & 8th February, 2026

St. Patrick's

Rathvilly

Sat/Sun, 7th & 8th February

The Assumption

Tynock

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat/Sun, 7th & 8th February

Months Mind Mass: Jim Doyle, Knockavagh this Saturday, 7th February

Months Mind Mass: Tony Ryan, Monavoe this Sunday, 8th February

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Michael Ryan, Drimnagh

Agnes Byrne, Garretstown

Kathleen & George Faulkner, St. Patrick's Park

Willian, Kieran, Thomas & Michael Byrne, 16 Ballyoliver

Canice Donnelly, Broughillstown & deceased family members

Adrian Byrne, Fr. Cullen Tce.

Bridie Doyle, Tankardstown

Sat/Sun, 14th & 15th February

Martin Molloy, Rathvilly

Christy Gahan, Collins Park

Andy Smith, London & Coole

Joe Curran, 12 Collins Park

Vena Doyle, Foxcover

Laurence & Mary Dowling, Rathmore

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Sunday, 8th February – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader – Fiona Kane.

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

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

Reader – Conor O’Leary.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY MASSES

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

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

ANOINTING OF THE SICK in conjunction with the Feast of our Lady of Lourdes takes place on Saturday, 14th February at 11 a.m. in St. Patrick's Church, Rathvilly. All elderly and those suffering from a serious ailment can receive the Sacrament of Anointing.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION SPECIAL MASSES

First Holy Communion - Rathmore & Rathvilly NS - Sunday, 8th February at 11 a.m.

Confirmation – Rathmore & Rathvilly NS – Saturday, 7th February at 7.30 p.m.

Baptised and Sent in Lent - Exploring the Lenten Sunday Gospels

Can you give one hour a week, for five weeks, to join with others to reflect on the Sunday Gospel and its links to what it means to be baptised, as well as its links to some of the pastoral priorities that have emerged in synod conversations in our diocese and beyond? Full details next week.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Sheila Doyle wife of the late Jim Doyle, Knockevagh, would like to thank most sincerely our extended families, close friends and everyone who expressed their sympathy on the sudden and sad passing of Jim. Thank you to the members of An Garda Siochana who attended to Jim, to John & David Halligan Undertakers for providing such a compassionate and professional service.

Thank you to Msgr John McEvoy PP, Fr. Sean Kelly, Deacon Rev. Liam Dunne, the Choir and everyone who helped out in any way. A special thanks to all my great neighbours for their wonderful support and the continued help they have given to me at this most difficult time. As a token of my appreciation the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

PASTORAL LETTER FROM BISHOP DENIS

Bishop Denis has issued a pastoral letter for February 2026 – **‘A Time to Pull in our Nets and take stock’** - copies are available in the Church and on the website.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS 31st January & 1st February

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €305.36	Envelopes €408.50
Kiltegan: Offertory €123.48	Envelopes €180.00

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

Results from 4th February, 2026 No Jackpot winner of €10,000

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

No local match three winner this week.

Next draw on Wednesday, 11th February. **Jackpot €11,000.**

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

SLÍ AN CHROI, KILTEGAN

Healing Mass in St. Brigid's Chapel, Sli an Chroi St. Patrick's Missionary Society on Monday 9th February 2026 @ 3pm followed by refreshments.

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.

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.

CARLOW INSTITUTE OPEN DAY: Thursday 12th February 2026, 10.00 am – 2.30 pm. Visit our webpage for details: <https://carlowinstitute.ie/> This popular annual event is ideal for students, parents, and adult learners who are considering a return to education or exploring new study options.

CHURCH RADIO The frequency on the Church Radio has changed to **108 FM**.

CHRISTMAS CRIB

Thank you to everyone for your donations to the Christmas Crib appeal. €1,000 was sent to the Irish Cancer Society Children's Christmas Appeal.

RATHVILLY NATIONAL SCHOOL – Draw Results – Week 3

€100 – Ely Nolan.	Promoter – James Nolan.
€50 – Ciara Finnegan.	Promoter – Ciarán Donovan.
€20 – Daisy-Mae Simpson.	Promoter – Annabelle Simpson.
€20 – Nuala Byrne.	Promoter – Cameron Doyle.
Promoters Prize €20 – Alannah Byrne.	

RATHVILLY NATIONAL SCHOOL – Draw Results – Week 4

€100 – Sinead Tallon.	Promoter – Caoimhe Tallon.
€50 – Sophie Kelly.	Promoter – Rosie Bowes.
€20 – Lorraine Donegan.	Promoter – Jake Donegn.
€20 – Kaleim Corcoran.	Promoter – Kian Corcoran.
Promoters Prize €20 – Cooper O'Brien.	

RATHVILLY GAA CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 4-6-10-24

Match 3 win or share €150

Lorraine Kelly Woodgrove 4-6-10-21	On Line winner
Carol Corcoran Slaney Bank 3-6-10-24	On Line winner
Gillian Curran Woodgrove 4-6-8-10	Helen Deering
Next draw 10 Feb. 2026 Jackpot €6,500	

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 4-22-25-27

Rachel Curran, Rathvilly 4-13-22-25 Joe Curran

Promoter's prize €20 was won by Anthony Byrne, Woodgrove Avenue, Rathvilly. Next draw 10th.Feb. 2026. Jackpot €4,500. Thank you for all your support

THE IRISH CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER – €3.50 Please put money in Shrine Box

Graiguecullen Bingo Tuesday 10th February 2026 St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm

Jackpot on 48 numbers €3690 Double number €670 Lotto €1550 Bonus Ball €850

STORY STREETS

A magical place for families where every book opens a new world of adventure! Group reading sessions, activities, family time and library membership at Forward Steps Tullow and Tullow Town Library 4 – 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 18th February for 6 weeks. for parents and children aged 4 – 10 years.

Contact Gemma 083 1489587 or reception 059 9152776.

RAINBOWS CARLOW

Carlow Rainbows - rainbows.carlowtown@gmail.com and 087 1256199

The Spring term of peer support groups commences on Mon 23rd Feb, at 4.30pm in Askea Parish Centre. New facilitators to help with facilitating groups are welcome.