

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne

Matthew 13:24-43

Let it be

In today's Gospel we have three 'Kingdom' parables, each beginning "The Kingdom of Heaven is like ..." The first of these, the parable of the weeds among the wheat, continues the theme of the different reactions to Jesus' message. When weeds are discovered among the healthy crop, the natural reaction is to extract the offending weeds. But the owner's response is clear: let them be. Leave them to grow, side by side.

The Kingdom grows and spreads as it will, gradually and unpredictably. It expands outside of our judgement and our narrow ways of thinking. Society might like to separate people into categories, to judge who is valuable or not, but Jesus is clear that this is not our place: leave the field as it is. This approach lines up with the peaceful principles of the Sermon on the Mount, where Jesus calls us not to judge, to be at peace with others, to love our enemies. The parable begs the question: which am I? The grain-bearing wheat or the weeds? But for any of us, the answer is unlikely to be clear-cut. Are we not a mixture of both? 'Belief and unbelief, like the wheat and the weeds in the parable, are mixed together in each one of us.' There is good and bad, and everything in between, in each of us, in society and in the Church. Fortunately, Jesus allows for growth and change.

The parable of the mustard seed and the yeast, too, speak of the mysterious and hidden growth of the Kingdom. These parables remind us that we don't yet fully understand; there is room for mystery. The smallest of seeds can grow into the most majestic of plants, far beyond our experience. It is not our place to judge or to place limits on the wild and immeasurable Kingdom of Heaven.

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"To see the world, to understand that the Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed, requires a people who refuse to be hurried ... The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed or yeast because to be drawn into the Kingdom of Heaven is to participate in God's patience towards creation. Jesus is teaching us to see the significance of the insignificant.

- *Stanley Hauerwas*

ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE

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

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

PLEASE NOTE: Rathvilly/Kiltegan – 051 350725

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, 18th & 19th July

St. Patrick's

Rathvilly

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Assumption

Tynock

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 18th & 19th July

Eileen Donoghue, Ballyoliver

James & Elizabeth Dowling, Knocklishen

Brian & Laura O'Donoghue, Williamstown

Jean Donegan, Collins Park

Sat/Sun, 25th & 26th July

Months Mind Mass: Ivy O'Brien, Collins Park on Saturday, 25th July

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Brid & Michael Moloney, Bough

James & Mary Smith, Coole

Tom Doyle, Kill

Jo Jo (Joseph) Dunne, Rathmore

Colm Coleman, The Green, Hacketstown

Harry & Elizabeth Donohoe, 2 St. Patrick's Park

Kathleen Burke, Bough & deceased family members

John & Sarah Doyle, Bough & deceased family members

Kitty Nolan, Rathmore

Pat Nolan, Rathmore

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Sunday, 19th July – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Conor O'Leary.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Sunday, 26th July – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Nigel Byrne.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

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

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION – Adoration each Friday at 4 – 6 p.m.

Rathvilly Cemetery Mass takes place on Sunday, 2nd August at 11 a.m.

FR JOHN BYRNE – GOLDEN JUBILEE

John Byrne of Maplestown was ordained in June 1976 for the archdiocese of Westminster. He is also marking his Golden Jubilee.

He will celebrate the Morning Mass in Rathvilly on Wed 22 July at 9.30 a.m. Hopefully those who knew him will attend.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 11th & 12th July

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €365.35 Envelopes €392.15

Kiltegan: Offertory €22.30 Envelopes €368.00

Tinneclash Cemetery Collection €1151.39

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

Results from 15th July, 2026 No Jackpot winner of 11,000

Numbers: 06-09-19-25. 24 Match 3 numbers get €42.00 each.

Two local match three winners this week.

Winner – Stephen Finn. Promoter – Josie Finn.

Winner – Mary Kelly. Promoter – Mary Kelly.

Next draw on Wednesday, 22nd July. **Jackpot €12,000.**

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

Catholic Grandparents Association – National Pilgrimage to Knock

Takes place on the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly on Sunday 26th July. Commencing at 2.30pm with the Anointing of the Sick, chief celebrant is Archbishop Eamon Martin. Celebrate the 25th National Grandparents Pilgrimage and the Golden Jubilee of the Knock Basilica with a memorable, faith filled day of prayer, thanksgiving and blessing for grandparents, the elderly and all families.

RATHVILLY TENNIS CLUB

Membership now due. Family (2 adults & 2 children) €30

Single Adult over 18 yrs €10 Junior Membership 6 yrs – 16 €5.

Open Evening – Come play tennis each Wednesday in July 7.30 – 9 p.m.

Try the game – meet some members – no experience needed

RATHVILLY GAA CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 2-7-26-30

Match 3 win or share €150

Tracey Kelly The Orchard 2-7-19-30

On Line winner

Next draw 21 July 2026 **Jackpot €8,800**

Drive in Bingo every Monday night @ 8pm sharp. € 3,400 in prizes

Youth 2000 Summer Festival | 13th–16th August

Calling all young people aged 16–35! Join us at the Youth 2000 Summer Festival in Newbridge College, Co. Kildare. This is a donation-only event, with free buses available across the country and all meals included.

Expect inspiring talks and workshops, Youth Mass, music, prayer, and plenty of opportunities to chill out and meet other young Catholics. Whether you are new to the faith or looking to be refreshed, all are welcome.

To register or find out more, visit youth2000.ie or follow @Youth2000Ireland.

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

CHURCH RADIO – Tune in at 104.3 FM

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 7-11-16-24

Mary Keogh, Kiltegan 7-11-21-24

Online Winner

Gerard Doyle, Hacketstown 3-7-11-16

Online Winner

Patrick Smith, Tullow 7-11-23-24

Online Winner

Karen Kelly, Ballyoliver 7-16-24-27

Online Winner

Valerie Whyte, Garretstown 1-7-11-24

Post Office

Meghan Byrne, Woodgrove Ave. 7-11-17-24

Martin Timmons

Hazel Burgess, Lisnavagh 7-9-11-24

Post Office

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

Next draw 21st July, 2026 Jackpot €2,600. Thank you for all your support.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is a Catholic movement, now formally recognised by the Holy See — its Statutes were approved by the Vatican on 11 March 2026 in the presence of Cardinal Kevin Farrell. For over fifty years, Marriage Encounter Weekends have helped thousands of couples across Ireland and the world to deepen their relationship with each other and with God, through the gift of communication, renewed commitment, and shared faith. This is truly a weekend like no other.

Weekend Details: Venue: Focolare Centre, Curryhills, Prosperous, Co. Kildare

Dates: Friday 2nd – Sunday 4th October 2026

Arrival: Friday from 7:00 p.m., programme concludes Sunday approx. 4:30 p.m.

Register at: www.marriageencounter.ie

LOUGH DERG

A day of guided prayer & reflection

August: Tuesday 18th, Saturday 22nd, Sunday 23rd, Saturday 29th & Monday 31st

September: Saturday 5th, Sunday 6th, Wednesday 9th, Saturday 12th, Tuesday 15th, Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th

****Special Themed Retreat Days***

Saturday 5th September - Pioneer National Pilgrimage

Sunday 6th September - Saint Carlo Acutis

The Traditional Three Day Pilgrimage will **run until Saturday 15th August.**

You can begin your pilgrimage on any day of the week until Thursday 13th August.

TENNIS CAMP RATHVILLY TENNIS CLUB

Ages 5 to 15yr 4th - 7th Aug Cost €45

Contact Helen 0861675663 All equipment provided

Register on link tinyurl.com/carlowparkstennis

CALL FOR FLOWER WATERING VOLUNTEERS

Rathvilly Village is looking splendid thanks to the hard work and dedication of the Rathvilly Tidy Towns volunteers, who have been busy planting and watering our beautiful flowers. To help with the displays looking their best throughout the summer, we are looking for additional flower watering volunteers. Even a small amount of your time can make a big difference. If you can help, please phone 087 9896665. Thank you for supporting your local community.