

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne

Matthew 13:44-52 *Hidden treasure*

“Have you understood all this?” Jesus asks his disciples. Over the past few Sundays, we have heard Jesus speaking in parables to the crowds and explaining them privately to the disciples. The disciples are confident they understand everything he has said about the mysteries of the Kingdom. We, the readers, are also privy to this ‘insider’ view. Do we understand?

The three short parables in today’s Gospel – comparing the Kingdom of Heaven to treasure, a pearl and a fishing net – are unique to Matthew’s Gospel, and they are addressed only to the disciples. So, what does Matthew want followers of Jesus to know about the Kingdom? It is precious – so precious that its discovery requires us to put aside everything else in order to immerse ourselves wholeheartedly in it. We are called to set aside all selfishness and self-interest, all judgement, all our certainties and superior attitudes, and to live the Kingdom values of humility, openness and compassion. Jesus emphasizes that ‘Kingdom people’ “bring out of their treasure what is new and what is old”. This would have resonated with Matthew’s community, a melting pot of Jew and Gentiles who were discerning the parameters of this ‘new’ movement.

Perhaps the fishing parable, the last in this series of parables, holds the key. It echoes the tone of the parable of the weeds among the wheat – everything is gathered in, a variety, ‘good’ and ‘bad’ alike. As he addresses his disciples, Jesus is aware that they are not perfect. Like us all, they have flaws and weaknesses. Yet we are called to this wide-open vision of Jesus, where all are gathered and none are excluded, and the hidden treasure of the Kingdom are revealed. Copyright © Triona Doherty & Jane Mellett, 2022. The Deep End, A Journey with the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Matthew.

“God’s dragnet gathers all kinds. The diversity of the in-gathering is borne out in the unlikely swirl of peoples around Jesus: sinners and tax collectors, a Roman centurion, people with leprosy and all kinds of diseases, a Gentile woman, people possessed by demons, a little child, a disciple who betrays Jesus, a disciple who denies him, Pharisees who plot his death. All are drawn in. - Anna Case-Winters

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

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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
Talbotstown**

Sat/Sun, 25th & 26th July

**St. Patrick’s
Rathvilly**

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**The Assumption
Tynock**

Sat/Sun, 25th & 26th July

Months Mind Mass: Ivy O’Brien, Collins Park this 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

Morgan Family, Ballyoliver

Months Mind Mass: P.J. Kelly, Ricketstown on Sat/Sun, 1st & 2nd August

Sat/Sun, 1st & 2nd August

Jim Byrne, Rathvilly & Askea – 1st Anniversary

Sean & Marie Doyle, The Moate

Rose & Hugh Foley, St. Patrick’s Park

Kevin & Margaret Curry, New Road, Ballyoliver

Bridget & John Joe Keogh, St. Patrick’s Park

Brendan O’Grady, Rathmore

James Doyle, Rathdaniel

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Sunday, 26th July – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Nigel Byrne.

ST. BRIGID’S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Sunday, 2nd August – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Breedh Murphy.

ST. PATRICK’S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

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

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

RATHVILLY CEMETERY MASS - Sunday, 2nd August at 11 a.m.

FR JOHN BYRNE – GOLDEN JUBILEE – 1976 - 2026

Relatives and neighbours and many other parishioners and visitors were delighted to join in our parish celebration with Fr John Byrne on Wed 22 July 2026. His seminary studies were in Carlow College - Saint Patrick's. Fr John was ordained on 19 June 1976 in St Clare's Church Graiguecullen so that his sister Sr Rosario Byrne and the Poor Clare community could be part of the celebration. His first Mass was celebrated in Saint Patrick's Church in Rathvilly on 20 June 1976. He was ordained to serve in the Archdiocese of Westminster. Having served in several different parishes, he is since 2024 Parish Priest of Corpus Christi Parish, Tring, Herts, UK. We wish Fr John and his Carlow College classmates (including Fr Tom Little, our former curate in Kiltegan) a very happy reunion this week for the Golden Jubilee of their priestly ordination.

In Rathvilly Fr John was celebrant of a memorable Mass today where he had his first Mass over 50 years ago. There was a very significant attendance, mostly made up of his cousins, neighbours, school classmates, fellow footballers and many others. The choir was in great voice. Liam Murphy's singing of the Rathvilly song (composed by his late father Stephen) was very popular. Thanks to Rita and Joe Golding for their lovely musicianship. Afterwards, those who attended were treated to tea and cakes in the parish meeting room. Sincere thanks to Trish, to Breda and to all who helped with cooking, catering and making the morning very memorable.

World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly, Sunday 26th July 2026

'I will never forget you' (Is 49:15) is the theme chosen by the Holy Father for the Sixth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly which aims to emphasise how God's love for each person never fails, even in the fragility of old age.

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.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 18th & 19th July

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €240.78 Envelopes €247.70

Kiltegan: Offertory €90.83 Envelopes €270.10

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

Results from 22nd July, 2026 No Jackpot winner of 12,000

Numbers: 05-12-13-20. 24 Match 3 numbers get €42.00 each.

No local match three winner this week.

Next draw on Wednesday, 29th July. **Jackpot €32,000.**

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

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

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.

RATHVILLY GAA CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 6-11-17-25

Match 3 win or share €150

James Cosgrove 3-11-17-25

Bingo winner

Next draw 28 July 2026 **Jackpot €8,900**

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

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 2-21-28-30

Bridget Cassells c/o Seller 2-19-28-30

Breda Keogh

Jack Tobin c/o Breda Keogh 2-7-21-28

Breda Keogh

Joe Curran, Woodgrove Avenue 2-21-25-28

Anthony Byrne

Promoter's prize €20 was won by Martin Curran, Rathvilly.

Next draw 28th. July 2026 **Jackpot €2,700.** 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

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

CLEANER AVAILABLE – MORNINGS ONLY Phone Kate 086 8671926

GRAIGUECULLEN BINGO - Tuesday 28th July 2026 St. Fiacc's Hall @ 8.30pm
Jackpot on 48 numbers €6,810 Double number €390 Lotto €2,750 Bonus Ball €2,050