

**14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time** Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne  
**Matthew 11:25-30** 'Come to me'

Matthew's Gospel is written in the context of a patriarchal society where men counted, and women and children did not. The social reality was that children had no voice. They were invisible. Yet, children are given high visibility in Matthew, and in today's text Jesus puts 'infants' center stage as the ones who are great examples of humility and wisdom (18:3-5; 19:13-15; 21:15). Jesus praises God for the grace of openness and humility he sees around him, for revealing 'these things' to 'infants'. There is a satisfying reversal of expectations here. You can search online for nuggets of wisdom from children, and the results will warm your heart: • 'I like wind because it makes everything dance.'

• 'As we walked on the beach for the first time my four-year-old yelled: "I love being in this world."'

• 'I asked my five-year-old how his day was, and he said, "It was awesome". I asked him why, and he replied, "Because I wanted it to be!"

The challenge for each of us today is to rekindle a childlike sense of awe and wonder for our world, not to let our hearts become hardened like those of the 'wise' in the Gospel.

For Jesus, God's grace is found in the humble, in those who are open to new possibilities, in those whose hearts are open. We are invited to grow in greater awareness by seeing through the eyes of a child, rather than through the eyes of those who claim to have all the answers. Jesus desires freedom for each of us so that we can find rest in his love and tenderness and a wisdom for which the soul yearns. In times when we feel exhausted or in despair the final lines of today's Gospel is worth spending time with: "Come to me, all you that are weary ... I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

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"Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I will not lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."  
– *The Message*

**ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE**

**[www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie/our-parish/webcam](http://www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie/our-parish/webcam) Radio 108 FM**

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

**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](mailto:office@rathvillykilteganparish.ie) Website: [www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie](http://www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie)**

**Registered Charity Number 20015848**

**Diocesan Website: [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)**

**Local Safeguarding Reps: Mary Phelan Elizabeth Austin David Carton**

**Diocesan Director of Safeguarding: Ms Ailish Higgins Email: [safeguarding@kandle.ie](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)**

## **RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH**

### **NEWSLETTER**

**St. Brigid's  
Talbotstown**

**Sat/Sun, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> July**

**St. Patrick's  
Rathvilly**

**14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**The Assumption  
Tynock**

### **ANNIVERSARY MASSES**

**Sat/Sun, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> July**

Elizabeth Deering, Ballybit

Mary Doyle, Lisnavagh

Eamon Byrne, 16 Collins Park

Gretta Osborne, Garretstown

Michael Osborne, Garretstown & Deceased family members

Margaret & Michael Walsh, Knocknagan

Peter Byrne, Knocklishen

Oliver Byrne, New Rd, Ballyoliver

Martin Folan

Michael O'Neill, Slaney View

John Nolan, Knockboy

**Sat/Sun, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> July**

Eithne Molloy, Rathvilly

Jim Haberlin, Ballybit Big

Cicely Hanford, Ballyoliver

Bernadette & James Fanning, Williamstown

### **ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN**

Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> July – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Mary Kelly, Feddan.

### **CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK**

Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> July – Mass at 6.00 p.m.

Reader: Fiona Kane.

### **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.**

### **CEMETERY MASSES 2026**

Tynaclash Cemetery on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> July at 7 p.m.

Rathvilly Cemetery on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 11 a.m.

### **WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> June**

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €710.38

Envelopes €431.00

Kiltegan: Offertory €45.30

Envelopes €157.20

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

Results from 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2026 One Jackpot winner of €20,000

**Congratulations to Freda Nolan – winner of €20,000. Promoter – Breda Reilly.**

Numbers: 14-21-23-30. 8 Match 3 numbers get €125.00 each.

One local match three winner this week.

Winner – Philip Kirwan.

Promoter – Philip Kirwan.

Next draw on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> July. **Jackpot €10,000.**

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

## **A huge Thank You, Rathvilly and Kiltegan parishioners!**

A 'secret' meeting was called during early May with the objective of forming a group to co-ordinate the wonderful event which took place in Rathvilly Church and Saint Tegan's Hall on Sat 27 June. Our parish secretary let me know early on that Bishop Denis Nulty had been 'booked' for the evening. My reaction was to insist that whatever was arranged should be of a simple nature. Everyone can judge to what extent that happened!

I wish to now use this opportunity to express a heartfelt gratitude to one and all involved in any way in the preparation. While certainly somewhat shy in nature and a bit embarrassed to be at the heart of what was organised, I recalled I was much more shy fifty years earlier when I was ordained in a wonderful ceremony in Ballyroan in Laois. Then my ordination card had the simple text 'The Lord is my Shepherd (Psalm 23). I placed my trust absolutely in the Lord Jesus.

I was 'allowed' a little input into the commemorative bookmark produced for my 50<sup>th</sup>. For most of the last five decades, I have been influenced strongly by the spirituality of Brother Charles de Foucauld (a French priest who devoted his life to working among the most abandoned). His spirituality was focused on Jesus. That has to be the priest's guiding principle too. [I was fortunate to attend in Rome in 2005 when he became Blessed Charles and in 2022 when he became Saint Charles].

I am most thankful to God for the good health I have enjoyed for the last half century. I am very grateful I grew up in a family and place where my sense of being called to priesthood was sustained and supported. I am grateful for all the settings in which I got to exercise priesthood: nearly half of the time in Carlow College and since 2002 in three different parishes, each of which I have enjoyed. I mostly on this occasion wish to extend my gratitude to the parish jubilee committee, to the effective communicators, liturgists, planners, home cooks, singers, decorators, cleaners, the choir, the musicians in Kiltegan Hall, the photographers, Bishop Nulty, visiting priests, deacons and other clergy, the printers, the various clubs, schools, organisations who came together to make the occasion wonderful and most memorable for myself, my relations, friends, colleagues in the diocese, and the population of the Parish itself. May God continue to bless you all as we journey together in building the Kingdom of God in our part of the vineyard. Fr John

## **TRACTOR RUN**

Tractors and Vintage Cars – in aid of St Mary's Church, Rathvilly, The Lalor, Centre Baltinglass & The Baltinglass Rectory Fund takes place on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> July at 2 p.m. at Hamilton Farm, Ballykillduff, Tobinstown R93 X012 Registration 1 p.m.

## **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 on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> July 7 – 9 p.m.  
Try the game – meet some members – no experience needed  
Coaching session available.

## **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](http://youth2000.ie) or follow @Youth2000Ireland.

## **RATHVILLY GAA CLUB**

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 1-14-20-28  
Match 3 win or share €150  
Murt & Jean Hennessey Carlow 1-13-14-20  
Mary Donegan Mountneill 1-15-20-28  
Eireann Sibbald Nolan Ballyoliver 1-2-14-20  
Next draw 7 July 2026 **Jackpot €8,600**

On Line winner  
Post Office  
Post Office

## **RATHVILLY HERITAGE INTEREST GROUP – FUNDRAISER**

Social Dance & Jive with The Davitt Brothers Band on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> July in Germaines, Baltinglass 9pm – 12 am. Tickets €10 available from Centre Rathvilly, at the door and on Eventbrite. All welcome – Bring your friends. Please support.

## **SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.**

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 7-11-19-20  
Fiona Brennan, Rathvilly 11-15-19-20 Online Winner  
Robert Phelan, Tynock, Rathvilly 3-11-19-20 Online Winner  
The Byrne Family, Woodgrove Avenue 3-7-11-20 Anthony Byrne  
Promoter's prize €20 was won by Martin Curran, Fr. Cullen Terrace.  
Next draw 7th. July, 2026 Jackpot €6,600. Thank you for all your support.

## **RECOVERY COLLEGE SOUTHEAST**

Are running four short, practical workshops every Tuesday in July, 10:30am – 12:30pm via Zoom:  
7th July – Challenging Unhelpful Thinking Patterns  
14th July – Dealing With Worry  
21st July – Creating Healthy Habits  
28th July – Let's Talk Procrastination  
All workshops are free, open to everyone, can be attended individually or as a series. To enrol, contact us at [info@recoverycollegesoutheast.com](mailto:info@recoverycollegesoutheast.com) or call 086 1746330.