

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne
Matthew 16:21-27 *Selfless love*

The narrative today marks a turning point in Matthew's Gospel as we hear the first of three predictions in the Gospel concerning Jesus' death and resurrection (17:22-23; 17-19). Given the political climate at the time, and the fate of prophets and leaders before him, it is not a stretch to say that Jesus is fully aware of the consequences he faces. But this would be too much for the disciples, incomprehensible that the long-awaited Messiah could be crucified and die. Peter is understandably upset by this thought, he probably still had notions of a political Messiah who would reign as a mighty king and overthrow the Roman occupiers. Peter has gone in a few short verses from being the 'rock' with divinely inspired insights, to being a 'stumbling block' on Jesus' path. Following Jesus means following a path that world will not understand.

Jesus died because if you love in the way that Jesus loved and loves, the world will most certainly try to crush you. This is 'agape' love, a selfless love for people regardless of who they are or their circumstances. We remember today those who have followed Jesus' path, speaking out against oppressive systems, seeking justice for those on the margins, often when it is dangerous to do so. One example is St Oscar Romero, the former Archbishop of El Salvador, who was assassinated in 1980 for speaking out against the Human Rights violations in his country. He famously said, "I do not believe in death without resurrection. If they do kill me, I will rise again in the people of El Salvador." People like Archbishop Romero put on 'the mind of Christ', selflessly giving of themselves for their communities, pouring out love, demanding truth and justice for those who are helpless. The Cross is a symbol of much suffering in our world, but it is also a symbol of liberation, because it is through the Cross that restoration and healing comes. This is what Peter, and the disciples, and Matthew's readers will eventually learn.

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"[Jesus] crosses all boundaries and frontiers and is occupied by only the wisdom and freedom of those who have suffered and come out the other side – not destroyed, but larger and stronger and wiser.
- *Richard Rohr*

ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE
www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie/our-parish/webcam **Radio 104.3 FM**

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

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
PLEASE NOTE: Rathvilly/Kiltegan – 051 350725

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RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

**St. Brigid's
Talbotstown**

Sat/Sun, 29th & 30th August

**St. Patrick's
Rathvilly**

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**The Assumption
Tynock**

Recent Death: Evelyn Coady, Shroughawn, Tullow mother of Sharon Ward,
Rathmore National School Secretary.

Sat/Sun, 29th & 30th August

Months Mind Mass: Catherine (Chrissy) Deering, Patrickswell this Sat. 29th August

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Fr Bernard Ryan, former Parish Priest

Mary Hanlon, Rathvilly

Declan O'Toole, Bough

Rojanie Cortes, Sydney, Australia

Sat/Sun, 5th & 6th September

Pat & Margaret Osborne, The Green, Rathvilly

Peter Mullin, Rathdangan

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Sunday, 30th August – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Mary Kelly, Feddan.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Sunday, 6th September – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Fiona Kane.

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.

PARISH HOUSEBOUND VISIT FOR SEPTEMBER

Kiltegan Area Wednesday, 2nd September 2 - 5 pm

Rathvilly Area Friday, 4th September 2 – 5 pm

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 22nd & 23rd August

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €439.40

Envelopes €339.35

Kiltegan: Offertory €73.45

Envelopes €181.00

Congratulations to George & Mary O'Toole, Athy as they celebrate their
60th Wedding Anniversary.

Pastoral Letter – August 2026

Copies of the Pastoral Letter from Bishop Nulty to all parishioners is available in
each Church this weekend. He outlines the new reality that now faces us in Kildare
& Leighlin Diocese.

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

Results from 26th August, 2026 One Jackpot winner of 17,000

Numbers: 04-17-23-27. 24 Match 3 numbers get €42.00 each.

Congratulations to Lisa Hickey from Rhode Parish.

No local match three winner this week.

Next draw on Wednesday, 2nd September. **Jackpot €10,000.**

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

SEASON OF CREATION 2026 – 1st September – 4th October

Each year from September 1 to October 4, the Christian family unites for this world wide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. This year's theme is **"Living Water"**. See www.seasonofcreation.org to access all the materials and to link to a live worldwide online opening prayer at 2pm Irish time on Tuesday, September 1.

PRAYER FOR THE SEASON OF CREATION 2026

Holy God, whose Spirit hovered over the waters at the beginning, we gather as part of your community of all creation, thirsty for your grace. We give thanks for the gift of water, the veins of our common home, that sustains the cedar and the whale, the pasture and the city. We are grateful for the local waters that nourish our homelands and our fellow creatures. We give thanks that in your well-watered garden, every drop is a sacred testament to your love.

Yet, we confess that we have treated this gift as a mere commodity. We have choked the seas with our waste and watched the warming tides rise in judgment. We lament the cracked earth of the drought-stricken and the salty tears of the climate refugee. Melt our frozen hearts, O God, and let the waters of repentance flow.

Lord of all Life, you promised that wherever the river flows, everything shall live. Stir in us a calling to care for the waters — to protect the watershed, defend the rights of water, and honor the dignity of the thirsty. May your Word be a spring within us, gushing forth for the healing of the nations.

May God our Father who brought water from the rock sustain us in the desert. May Christ our Lord who is Living Water refresh us for the work of restoration. And may the Holy Spirit carry us on currents of grace until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amen.

SCHOOLHOUSE AND RATHVILLY GAA

Together we will host a 24hr Walkathon from 4pm on Friday the 4th September. All proceeds raised will go towards schoolhouse building and the proposed sports facility. Sponsorship Cards are in circulation. Please support.

Fr McEvoy is a Leader and would like if people could Sponsor him and join him walking from 12 Midnight to 1 a.m. – thank you.

SUPPORT RATHVILLY TIDY TOWNS

Donations can be made ****any Thursday**** to the Rathvilly Tidy Towns account at Rathvilly Credit Union. Every donation, large or small, makes a difference. Thank you for supporting Rathvilly Tidy Towns and helping to keep our village looking beautiful!

Slí an Chroí, St Patrick's Kiltegan – Autumn Grace Retreat

This weekend retreat offers an opportunity to look back on the year and on the journey of our lives, in the gentle light of God's grace. Through guided reflection, prayer, silence, time nature and shared conversation.

Friday 18th September to Sunday 20th September, price €315 including accommodation and meals. Enquires to Michele Sinnott, slianchroi@spms.ie or phone 089 4690508.

MUSIC SESSION

Jasper & Colette are hosting a Music Session in Lawlor's Pub, Rathvilly on Friday, 4th September at 9 p.m. with a fundraising raffle on the night for Dogs for the Disabled. Your support would be very welcome and appreciated on the night. Thank you in advance – Colette & DFD Jasper & Martin and DFD Pepsi music.

RECOVERY COLLEGE SOUTHEAST

You are invited to join us in our new Recovery Education Programme for Autumn/Winter 2026. All our courses and workshops are co-produced and co-delivered by those who have lived experience in partnership with professional expertise, *"the expert by experience working alongside the expert by profession"*. Courses and workshops at the Recovery College South East are for everyone and are free. For more detailed information on the workshops, please go to the Workshop Section of our Website – www.recoverycollegesoutheast.com Email info@recoverycollegesoutheast.com or Phone us on 086 1746330 to enrol or to ask questions – we would love to hear from you! Courses available in Carlow.

RATHVILLY HERITAGE INTEREST GROUP

'The Slaney Sessions' – for Culture Night on Friday, 18th September in Lawlor's Function Room from 7.30 – 9.30 p.m. Featuring 3 talented local acts – Katie Phelan singer/songwriter; Paige Fox singer/songwriter; Ivor Rampersaud and Anthony Burrows; plus Art Exhibition. This evening will include a mixed media Art Exhibition by six local artists. Live Music – Local Art – Community. Adm Free.

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto numbers drawn on Tuesday 25th. August were 10-13-15-30

Peg Kehoe, St. Patrick's Park 9-10-13-30 Peg Kehoe

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

Next draw 1st. September 2026. Jackpot €3,200. Thank you for all your support

RATHVILLY GAA CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 11-21-25-29

Match 3 win or share €150

Msgr. John McEvoy Rathvilly 4-11-25-29

On Line winner

Next draw 1 Sept. 2026 **Jackpot € 9,400**

CLEANER AVAILABLE – MORNINGS ONLY Phone Kate 086 8671926.