

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne

Matthew 20:1-16

Unequal opportunities

The parables of Jesus challenge our certainties about the world. Today, we hear the story of the landowner who pays the same wages to all the workers. Although they receive the promised wage, the 'early birds' feel hard done by. Perhaps we can relate. Our individualistic culture tells us that only some people deserve a decent standard of living. But this narrative ignores the reality that people do not have equal opportunities or privileges in life. In this Season of Creation, we are mindful in particular of those who suffer as a result of environmental damage caused by the comfortable lifestyle of others. One example of this is the palm oil industry. A popular ingredient in foods and cosmetic products, the production of palm oil contributes to the large-scale destruction of tropical forests, loss of habitat for endangered species, soil erosion and loss of livelihood.

Earth is our common home. Like the labourers, every person on Earth deserves equal dignity and the means to flourish. It is deeply unjust that a large percentage of the world's population suffers from poverty, simply by virtue of being born in a particular place. In today's parable, Jesus subverts expectations: everyone is to be treated equally, regardless of their opportunities or productivity. Instead of self-interest, we are called to deep concern for the Common Good. Jesus concludes with the refrain: "the last will be first, and the first will be last". Not only is there no discrimination in the Kingdom, but we are to go beyond what might appear fair and give preferential treatment to those who are without privilege. In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis summons us to a "preferential option for the poor" referring to the trend throughout the Scriptures of God siding with the most vulnerable and powerless people. Solidarity with the world's poorest involves an honest examination of our attitudes and lifestyles, making choices that propel us forward into a world where "the last will be first". Copyright © Triona Doherty & Jane Mellett, 2022. The Deep End. A Journey with the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Matthew.

"The rejection of every form of self-centeredness and self-absorption are essential if we truly wish to care for our brothers and sisters and for the natural environment. These attitudes also attune us to the moral imperative of assessing the impact of our every action and personal decision on the world around us.

- Pope Francis

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

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, 19th & 20th September

**St. Patrick's
Rathvilly**

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**The Assumption
Tynock**

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 19th & 20th September

Agnes & James Byrne, Ballybit

Tom O'Grady, Rathmore & Australia

Tony Reilly, Kevin Barry Road

Sat/Sun, 26th & 27th September

Deirdre & Gordon Riddiford

Harry Byrne, Slaney view

Mollie Byrne, Slaney View

Harry Byrne, Jr., New Road, Ballyoliver

James Byrne, Slaney View & London

Maureen Quinn, nee Byrne, Leeds

Gerald & Annie Cullen, Knockavagh

Jenny Curran, St. Patrick's Park

John Byrne, 22 Fr Cullen Tce.

Siobhan Farrell, Haroldstown

Patrick & Ellen Keegan, Ballyoliver

James O'Leary, Bray

Edward Drea, Rathmore

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Saturday, 19th September– Mass at 6.00 p.m.

Reader: Fiona Kane.

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Sunday, 27th September – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Fiona Kane.

Mass for all interred in Kilranalagh Cemetery takes place in Talbotstown Church on Sunday, 27th September at 9.30 a.m.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

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

Wednesday – Rathvilly School Mass at 10.15 a.m.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – Adoration each Friday at 3 – 6 p.m.

SACRAMENTS 2027

First Holy Communion – Enrolment Ceremony for all Schools takes place on Sunday, 27th September in St. Patrick's Church, Rathvilly at 11.00 a.m.

Confirmation – Enrolment for Rathvilly School takes place on Sunday, 4th October at 11.00 a.m.

THE IRISH CATHOLIC

From 1st October the price of The Irish Catholic will rise by 30cent to €3.80.

PARISH TAX RECLAIM FORMS

Thank you to the parishioners who have returned their signed Tax Reclaim Form. If you have overlooked it we would appreciate it if you could return it as soon as you can. By returning the signed form it means the Parish can claim a refund from the Revenue Commissioners which is a great help for our finances. Thank you for your continued support.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 12th & 13th September

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

Rathvilly: Offertory €318.87 Envelopes €614.55

Kiltegan: Offertory €182.94 Envelopes €295.80

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

Results from 16th September, 2026 No Jackpot winner of 12,000

Numbers: 04-12-23-27. 27 Match 3 numbers get €38.00 each.

No local match three winner this week.

Next draw on Wednesday, 23rd September. **Jackpot €13,000.**

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

SEASON OF CREATION 2026

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.

See www.seasonofcreation.org

SYNOD NEWS

The National Synodal Assembly takes place on 17 October in The City North Hotel in County Meath. Over a dozen people from our diocese will be present, along with Bishop Denis, as either diocesan delegates, as a member of a working group of the synod, or as a member of the National Synodal Team. Over the next number of weeks K&L attendees will have the opportunity to meet twice to help prepare for the assembly. In their preparations they will be prayerfully considering if the proposals being presented at the assembly are orientating the Irish Church towards where God wants us to be. Please keep them and the work of the synodal pathway in Ireland in your prayers.

DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Diocesan Pastoral Council met for two hours last Wednesday night for a third training and formation session as they begin their new term of work together with Bishop Denis. Please remember them and all the Parish Pastoral Councils across the diocese in your prayers.

KEVIN BARRY ASSOCIATION

Country Dance in Germaine's, Baltinglass on Saturday, 26th September. Dancing 9 p.m. – 12 Midnight. Admission €10. Music by Colin Harley from Armagh.

RAMPERE RECYCLING CENTRE

Free Mattress Collection on 24/25 September.

Please book online: Rampere Recycling Centre, Baltinglass.

800TH JUBILEE OF ST FRANCIS – PARISH CELEBRATIONS

Graigucullen/Killeslin Parish warmly invites everyone to join us as we celebrate the **800th Jubilee of St Francis (1226–2026)** with four days of prayer, music & celebration.

Thursday 1st October – St Clare's Church, 7.30pm

Mass with Benediction, with music by the **Men's Choir**. Celebrant: **Fr Bryan Shortall OFM Cap., National Director of Padre Pio Ministry.**

Friday 2nd October – St Clare's Church, 7.30pm

Mass with Benediction, with music by our **Youth & Children's Choirs**. Celebrant: **Fr Bernardino Soukup CFM, The Franciscan Friars of the Renewal.**

Saturday 3rd October – St Clare's Church, 6.30pm

Mass celebrated by Fr. John Dunphy. We will be joined by the **Secular Franciscan Order, Carlow**, with music by the **Ladies Choir**.

The celebrations conclude on the **Feast of St Francis, Sunday 4th October**, with Mass in St Clare's Church at **11.30am**, celebrated by **Fr John Dunphy**, with music from our **Combined Parish Choirs**. We extend a special invitation to **all who bear the name Francis** to come along and receive a special blessing during this Mass.

At **3pm on Sunday**, everyone is invited to bring their pets along for our **Blessing of Pets**, taking place outside the Parish Centre. **All are very welcome to join us as we mark this special Franciscan Jubilee together.**

OPEN EVENING & BOOK FAIR

Bigstone National School will hold their Open Evening and Book Fair on Tuesday 29th September from 7:00 to 8:00pm. Prospective parents and their children are warmly welcome to come along and visit our school and browse the shelves!

Further information may be found on: **www.bigstonens.ie**. or by phoning the school on 059 9161171 or by email to office@bigstonens.ie.

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 11-16-25-27

Dawn Keogh, Fr. Cullen Terrace 5-11-16-27 Post Office

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

Next draw September 22nd. Jackpot €3,500. Thank you for all your support.

RATHVILLY GAA CLUB

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 6-12-21-28

Match 3 win or share €150

Rebecca Carass Rathvilly

On Line winner

Ann Rooney Rathoe

On Line winner

Toirdhealbach Deering Navan

Helen Deering

Next draw 22 Sept. 2026 **Jackpot €9,700**

CLEANER AVAILABLE – MORNINGS ONLY Phone Kate 086 8671926.

TULLOW DAY CARE CENTRE CLG

2 Assistant Chefs required – fulltime position and temporary position. Apply with your CV to Wendysinnott@tullowdaycare.ie before Friday, 2nd October.

Contact Wendy Sinnott 059 9151833 for full details.