

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER, 16th May 2021

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Feast of the Ascension of the Lord

On this day we celebrate the glorification of Jesus, our Brother, when the Father raised him up in glory. Jesus wants to share his glory with us. Let us reflect for a moment on the glory to which we are called.

Theme of the Weekend Readings:

Christ ascends into Heaven.

First Reading: Saint Luke describes the Ascension in the Acts of the Apostles.

Second Reading:

St Paul appeals to Christians to live in peace and unity.

Gospel: Saint Mark's Ascension story.

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 22nd May: 7:00 pm Mass in Rosbercon

Sunday 23rd May: 9:30 am Mass in Mullinarrigle
11:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

Weekday Masses:

Rosbercon:

Wednesday & Friday: 10:00 am

All Masses will be streamed live through our webcam on www.rosberconparish.ie

Anniversaries:

Gerry Hennessy, Marshmeadows and Glensensaw
Thomas and Teresa Hendrick, Flower Hill
Eily Rockett, Slieverue

Céad Míle Failte: We welcome into our Parish Community **Billy Edward Mullally**, son of Tomás and Anne Marie, née Ryan, Ballyeden, who was baptised in Rosbercon Church on Saturday 8th May 2021.

Following on from **Taoiseach Micheál Martin's** address on 30th April 2021, **Public Masses** have now resumed in Rosbercon Church. It is very good news that we are now able to pray together and celebrate Mass and the Sacrament of Baptism. Because of a Government Directive we are not in a position to decide the dates of Confirmation or First Holy Communion.

The Weekly Programme of Masses for the month of May

will be: Rosbercon Church: Wednesday & Friday at 10:00 am, Saturday at 7:00 pm except the 1st Saturday of the month (from June). Sunday at 11:00 am. Listerlin Church: Sunday at 9:30 am, Tullogher Church: First Saturday of the month at 7:00 pm (beginning in June).

What preparations are needed for the resumption of Mass?

Because of the two-meter social distancing regulation, the calculated capacity of the Churches is as follows: Rosbercon—72, (using the side aisles as separate pods) Listerlin—72 (two galleries) Tullogher—50.

Entering the Church: Enter the Church through the main door only. Leave the Church by the side doors and main door. Be aware of the need to keep social distancing outside the Church after Mass.

Holy Communion: People come to Communion in single file maintaining the two-metre distance. Communion will be dropped in the hand of those receiving, without hands touching. Communion will be taken in the hand only.

Church Collections: Collection Boxes will be left at the doors of the Church for your offerings.

Please Note: The challenge we face is to accommodate the people who wish to come to Mass. The numbers allowed into the Church are relatively small. We have to respect the regulations. Our first obligation is not to facilitate in any way the spread of Covid. The Sunday obligation has been lifted so Fr. Dan asks that as many as can would attend Mass on Wednesday and Friday leaving the Saturday and Sunday Masses for those who can only come on weekends.

Many thanks: Fr Dan wishes to thank those who supported us through their prayers and special thanks to those who visited the Churches faithfully and lit candles. Thanks to those who have sent generous donations over the last months. These donations have been very important because parish and priest's income have decreased for obvious reasons. We thank God for bringing us safely through this very uncertain time.

Sincere thanks to all who contributed so generously to the **Easter Offering and to Trocaire**. Our parishioners have been very generous.

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2021: To mark the days when our diocese would be on pilgrimage in Lourdes from 22nd to the 27th May, Bishop Denis Nulty will celebrate a Lourdes themed Mass on Saturday 22nd May at 6:00 pm in St. Senan's Parish Church Kilmacow. The mass will be live streamed and can be accessed through the parish of Kilmacow.

The website is www.Kilmacowparish.com. It is proper that we should turn to Our Lady of Lourdes for help in the present circumstances, as many have done in the past and hopefully will have the opportunity to do so in the future.

This weeks newsletter is sponsored by a loyal and kind parishioner.

Mass Intentions for the Saturday/Sunday, 22nd/23rd May 2021

Rosbercon: Saturday 22nd May at 7:00 pm
Matt and Nan Flynn, School House Road, Rosbercon
Con Ryan, School House Road
Michael Wall and Philip Wall, Assumption Terrace
Baby Jack Kelly, Assumption Terrace

Webcam Donations as of 12th May 2021:

GoFundMe:	€2,925.00
Cheques and Cash Received:	€2,830.00
Total:	€5,755.00

Many, many thanks for your generosity.

Rosbercon Parish Webcam and Website Fundraiser:

We thank so many who have donated so generously to the above Fundraiser. As of the 12th May 2021 we have received the following Donations: **GoFundMe:** €2,925.00; **Cheque and Cash Donations:** €2,830.00 giving us a total of: €5,755.00. Many, many thanks for your gifts. To donate please click on this link: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/rosbercon-parish-webcam-and-website-fundraiser>

Reflection

“Always trust your fellow man.
And always cut the cards.
Always trust God.
And always build your house on high ground.
Always love your neighbour.
And always pick a good neighbourhood to live in.
The race is not always to the swift, nor the battle
to the strong, but you’d better bet that way.
Place your bet somewhere between turning-the-other
cheek and enough-is-enough-already.
Place your bet somewhere between haste-makes-waste
and he-who-hesitates-is-lost.
About winning; it isn’t important.
What really counts is how you play the game.
About losing; it isn’t important
What really counts is how you play the game.
About playing the game; Play to win.”

Wisdom: “Our greatest experiences are our quietest moments”.

Humour: Marriage is like a deck of cards. In the beginning you need two hearts and one diamond. By the end you wish you had a club and a spade!

Rosbercon Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Brid Vereker, Millbanks Close and Anne O’ Sullivan, Ballykenna. If you have a Safeguarding concern, contact Brid or Anne. Please note Safeguarding Statements are displayed in the porches of the Churches of the Parish.

◆ QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“HOPE IS BEING ABLE TO SEE THAT THERE IS LIGHT DESPITE ALL OF THE DARKNESS”.

Desmond Tutu

A Message from Fr Dan: The Ascension of the Lord: This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension, when Jesus Christ in the presence of his followers, ascended into Heaven. People often ask the question, “but where is Heaven?”. In the past we had a rather simplistic idea, that earth was here and heaven was somewhere up there in the clouds. We thought of heaven as almost a physical place and people often asked how so many people could fit there?

We are now more aware that the size of the Universe is beyond what the human mind can grasp or even imagine. Like God the Universe is total mystery. No amount of travel will bring us to Heaven! Christ, our God, came among us in human form to teach us the way to live and in this way to find Heaven. He asked his followers to bring his message to the ends of the earth. After two thousand years of Christianity, we still struggle to live from day to day and to remain healthy. We can achieve little on our own.

God recognizes our limitations and our helplessness. So, he sent Jesus to guide and help us. Jesus came as one like us to show us the way to God and to lead us to God. After his life, death and resurrection he ascended to the Father. He assures us that he is not leaving us alone. Where he has gone, we hope to follow. He has gone ‘to prepare a place for us.’ So, we are not to be troubled. As Jesus said, ‘there are many rooms in my Father’s house’.

It’s a question of faith. Jesus tells us that we now possess the glory of God as his gift and when our earthly life is over, he will come to meet us and welcome us home to God’s kingdom. In the meantime, we live in hope.

For our earthly life, we live under the power of the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. We are Christ’s presence in the world, tending the garden of the Lord. We enjoy his gifts of nature, the Eucharist, the Scriptures and the love of our family and our community. Where two or three of us gather in his name he is with us in a special way.

◆ EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Tullagher Rosbercon CE Scheme has an opening for a job opportunity in the New Houghton Hospital for an Activities Assistant. For more information please contact 086-3642592 or via email: rosberconparish@gmail.com

◆ LISTERLIN TIDY TOWNS SPRING CLEAN

As part of An Taisce’s annual National Spring Clean, Listerlin Tidy Towns group, along with dozens of local volunteers, spent the months of March and April doing a litter pick of roads in the Listerlin and Tullagher area. With social distancing measures in place most volunteers worked individually or with their families, covering the approach roads to their homes. In total 20 km of road were travelled by our litter pickers, gathering enough rubbish to fill almost 150 bags. Listerlin Tidy Towns group wishes to thank all the individuals who volunteered in this trojan litter picking effort, which has greatly improved the appearance of roadsides throughout the parish.

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