

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER, 14th November 2021

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33rd Sunday of the Year

Gladness in the Lord is a sign of faith; it also strengthens our faith. Let us have the courage to be glad in God's presence.

Theme of the Weekend Readings: As we move towards the end of the year we are reminded of the end of time.

First Reading: The Word of God cautions us that the testing of humanity is part of God's plan. So too, is the vindication of those who have been faithful.

Second Reading: Christ offered not many sacrifices, but 'one single sacrifice for sin'. That saving sacrifice is made present and effective every time we celebrate the Eucharist.

Gospel: The word of the Lord is sombre; God's children will be tested. But hope prevails; God's promises are eternal.

Weekend Masses

Saturday 20th November: No Mass in Rosbercon

Sunday 21st November: 9:30 am Mass in Mullinarrigle
11:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 17th November: 10:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

Friday 19th November: 10:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

Friday 19th November: 7:30 pm Mass in Rosbercon
Remembrance Mass

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

A Special Remembrance Mass will be celebrated for those who died in the last year (Nov 2020 – Nov 2021), in Rosbercon Church on Friday 19th November at 7:30 pm. Our prayers will acknowledge those who have died and those who have been bereaved by the death of their loved ones. The Mass is being organised by the Parish Pastoral Council who will be in touch with the families of the deceased. Each family will be allocated one seat in the church for the Mass..

Recent Deaths:

Harry Byrne, Gowran

Deaths:

Edmond "Neddy" Murphy, Slieverue late of Ballinlammy, Glenmore

Kathleen Reddy, Dangan, Thomastown

Fr. John Duggan, Flemmingstown, Glenmore

Anniversaries:

Noel Banville, Shanbogh

Luke Hennessy, Glensensaw

Dolly Hennessy, Hoodsgrrove

Stasia Lawlor, Glenpipe

John Fripps, Mooncoin

Jerry and Mary Sinnott, Tinneranny

John Walsh, Waterford Road

Céad Mile Failte: We welcome into our Parish Community **Laurence Michael Connors**, son of Luke and Nan, Raheen, who was baptised in Rosbercon Church on Friday 5th November, 2021. We also welcome **Patrick Seán and Molly Alice O'Gorman**, son and daughter of Paul and Bridget, Listerlin, who were baptised in Listerlin Church on Saturday 6th November, 2021.

A Novena of Masses for the Holy Souls: It is good to remember that Jesus came to earth, but he did not stay. Rather "he went to prepare a place for us". November is the month when we remember our dead and pray that we will be ready to join them in peace when "God's bus finally makes that stop for us". Fr. Dan will offer masses during the month of November for all who are on the list of the dead in our parish.

Rosbercon Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Brid Vereker, Millbanks Close and Anne O' Sullivan, Ballykenna. If you have a Safeguarding concern, contact Brid or Anne.

Safeguarding Sunday: Today, Sunday 14th November, we celebrate Safeguarding Sunday. On this day we turn the spotlight on safeguarding and remind our communities and parish personnel that protecting vulnerable people is at the heart of the Christian message. Safeguarding Sunday is about creating an opportunity for parishes to find out all the positive work that has been happening in terms of safeguarding over the past year. Safeguarding in our parish could not happen without the commitment and work of those who take on extra responsibilities around safeguarding. We remember those who have experienced abuse in our Diocese and remind people of the Towards Healing confidential and free counselling service, Ph. 1800 303 416. They provide face to face counselling, structured phone counselling, family counselling and a counselling helpline. The Safeguarding Committee has produced a newsletter to mark this day, and this is available to view on www.ossory.ie.

There will be a **Special Mass with Anointing of the Sick** for the 'Over 55s' of the parish in the Church of the Assumption, Rosbercon on Sunday 12th December at 3:00 pm. Mass will be followed by the Parish Draw at 4:00 pm. All parishioners are invited to attend the Draw. Both the Mass and the Draw will be streamed live through our webcam on www.rosberconparish.ie

Rosbercon Parish Pastoral Council would like to send a Christmas Greeting Card for 2021 to parishioners who have emigrated from the parish down the years. Please let us have the names and addresses of any family members, friends or neighbours whom you wish to receive a card. The emigrants will also be remembered at our Parish Christmas Masses. Names may be handed in to the Parochial House or to the Parish Office. Names may be posted, texted or Emailed to Fr. Dan or Anne at danieljcavanagh49@gmail.com

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**Mass Intentions for the Saturday/Sunday, 20th/21st
November 2021**

Mullinarrigle: Sunday 21st November at 9:30 am
Tom Doherty, Listerlin

Rosbercon: Sunday 21st November at 11:00 am
Paddy and Winnie Barron, Tinneranny

Support for the Parish: I wish to thank you so much for your support of the Parish. These are particularly difficult times! The offerings for the support of the priest are very generous. However, the loss of the weekly Offertory Collection, during lockdown has had an effect on Church Funds which pay the bills. This year we will be asking you to support the Christmas Parish Draw in a special way. We are hoping that the draw will be particularly successful. If you are willing to sell tickets or to sponsor a prize, please contact Fr. Dan.

We thank all who have contributed so generously to the October Stations and November Offerings. Outstanding envelopes may be handed in at Mass or to the Parochial House.

Rosbercon Parish Draw. It is Parish Draw Time of the year again! To help meet our financial commitments and to continue to maintain the Buildings of the Parish we will be holding our usual Parish Draw on Sunday 12th December 2021. Tickets will be distributed to the homes of the parish during the coming weeks at a cost €2.00 each or a book of 6 for €10.00. Each household and wage earner is asked to buy three books or as many as you can!! This Draw has been very successful over the years and Fr Dan is confident that it will be this year also.

The End of Time: When we hear of the end times, we naturally tend to be fearful. But because of our faith in the life, death and resurrection of Christ we are a spiritual people living in a sense beyond time. We are near the kingdom of God, Eternal Time. We live in a world of deadlines, schedules and time frames. Knowing Christ, our time is not the only time where we are at home. We are at home beyond time, in the eternity of God's kingdom which Christ has prepared.

Reflection

The Human Spirit.

Our spirit is our most precious possession.

It is our greatest source of energy.

However, while it can be very strong,

It can also be very brittle.

It can be an oak unmoved in a storm,

Or a frail reed swaying in the wind.

It can be a piece of granite or a piece of china.

What is it that enables the spirit to soar,

And what is it that causes it to sink?

Sadness weighs it down; joy lifts it up.

Criticism erodes it; praise builds it up.

Failure shrinks it; success enlarges it.

Despair causes it to wilt; hope breathes new life into it.

Rejection wounds it; acceptance heals it.

Hatred poisons it; love purifies it.

Fear cripples it; solitude calms it; prayer strengthens it.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.

Wisdom: 'Who does not thank for little will not thank for much'.

A Message from Fr Dan: The film Kramer V Kramer which I saw for the first time in 1980 made a deep impression on me. Made in 1979 the story of the film centres on a family with one child. The husband, Ted, is a very successful designer in a company where he is about to be made a partner. The price he has to pay for his success is that he must devote all his time, energy and resourcefulness to his work. Joanna, his wife and Billy, his son seldom see him. Even when he is at home Ted is preoccupied with his work. When Joanna complains, Ted offers her any money she wants to spend on herself and on their son.

One day Joanna can take it no longer and decides to leave Ted. She leaves their son with Ted until she can find a job and a place to stay. Ted cannot believe that Joanna really wants to go. Only after she has gone does the reality of what has happened really strike him. He tries to take care of Billy and at the same time devote as much time as he can to his work. Soon it becomes clear that both his work and Billy are being neglected. Billy, who is missing his mother, becomes troublesome and the company Ted works for start to give him a hard time as they notice that his work is deteriorating.

Ted is faced with a crisis. He must choose between his relationship with his son or his success in his job and the affluence it brings him. Ted chooses to make Billy his main concern and a charming relationship develops between father and son. Ted has to pay a great price for this relationship. He loses his job and then he has to carry a huge financial and emotional burden when Joanna seeks custody of their child in the courts.

We see a strange twist of fate when Ted, in the process of losing his claim to his child, re-establishes his relationship with Joanna. At the end of the film we are left with the feeling that Ted's crisis has been an invitation to make his relationship with Joanna and Billy a priority and we hope he can continue on down the road he has chosen.

Humour: Middle age is when you're sitting at home on a Saturday night and the telephone rings and you hope it isn't for you!

◆ **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Rosbercon CE Scheme has a vacancy in St. Vincent De Paul Shop for a Retail position. DEASP Community Employment terms and conditions apply. Please phone 086-3642592 for further details.

◆ **COMMUNITY GAMES**

COMMUNITY GAMES - are delighted to announce once again will be producing a Christmas Choir this year - on Zoom! It's open to children aged 6 to 16 from all over Ireland. National Community Games will be choosing 30 finalists to become part of the choir. Rehearsals and arrangements will be facilitated by renowned Musical Director Shane Farrell - you may recognise him from Operation Transformation! Entering is easy - just take a one minute (maximum) video of your child singing and upload it to www.communitygames.ie/choir - you can do it directly from your phone.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

The science of today is the technology of tomorrow.

Edward Teller

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