ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER, 7th November 2021

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Thirty Second Sunday of the Year

The Bible tells us that God 'bends down' to hear his people. Let us take courage from this lovely image, as we begin this celebration of the Eucharist.

Theme of the Weekend Readings: The theme of today's readings is generosity of spirit.

First Reading: The widow in Sidon discovers that hospitality to a needy stranger is a blessing that brings blessings.

Second Reading: Christ has done what we are powerless to do: he has dealt with sin, giving us hope that we need not be defeated by our weaknesses.

Gospel: Today's Gospel tells us both how not to live a Christian life and how to live it.

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 13th November: 7.00pm Mass in Rosbercon Sunday 14th November: 9.30am Mass in Mullinarrigle 11.00am Mass in Rosbercon

Weekday Masses:

Wednesday 10th November:10.00am Mass in RosberconFriday 12th November:10.00am Mass in RosberconAll Masses will be streamed live through our webcam onwww.rosberconparish.ie

Anniversaries: Maura and Mikie Phelan, Tullogher. Paul Young, Cooleen and deceased members of the Young Family. John McDonald, Kilvinogue, Thomastown Thomas and Mary Maher, Derrylackey Richard and Alice Cody, Ballycurran Tom Murphy, Ballyfoyle Bridget and William Gaule, Anfield Lane, Rosbercon Maise and Frankie O' Neill, Charleton Hill Betty Walsh, Assumption Terrace, Rosbercon Phil Fortune, Shanbogh Carol Walsh, Garranbehy, Rosbercon Tom Bradley, New Ross Thomas Murphy, Tinneranny, Rosbercon Peggy, Mollie and Jack Cullen, Hoodsgrove, Rosbercon

The October Station and November Offering Envelopes have been delivered to the homes of the Parish. Envelopes may be handed in at the weekend Masses or to the Parochial House. We thank our parishioners for the continued loyalty and generosity. We appreciate the work of the envelope distributors. 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. We invite you to place the names of those you would like to have remembered in the boxes before the altars of Rosbercon, Mullinarrigle (Listerlin) or Tullogher Church. Masses will begin on Tuesday 2nd November, All Souls' Day.

A Special Remembrance Mass will be offered for those who died in the last year (Nov 2020 – Nov 2021). The Mass will be offered in Rosbercon Church on Friday 19th November at 7.30pm. The Mass is being organised by the Parish Pastoral Council who will be in touch with the families of the deceased. We emphasise that all parishioners are invited to this Mass.

A Message from Fr Dan: Praying for our Dead: What happens when a person dies? We have many consoling images and beautiful stories that shield us from the reality of death. But what is that reality. Beliefs and views vary. Many modern-day humanists believe and proclaim that we cease to exist at the moment of death. Nothing remains but our memory of our dead and perhaps some inspiration drawn from their lives. Many Jewish groups believed this in Jesus' day. Many world religions have some belief of the spirit being set free from the body to live on in some way.

Our church teaches that our bodies are a vital part of what we are. The body and soul become separated at death to await resurrection where they will be reunited and raised up to live eternally in an altogether new creation. For each individual, how they lived in this life, their goodness and their prayer together with God's mercy will have an impact on the life to come. Of course, at this point we are talking mystery.

Many people ridicule the idea of resurrection. They think in terms of the resurrection being merely a resuscitation, a mere return to bodily life as we experienced it on earth. But that's not the Catholic position. As Jesus points out, our risen bodies, like his risen body, will be different than they are now. Our bodies now are mortal, vulnerable and fragile liable to aging, illness, accidents and death. In the resurrection, we will be like the angels. Our bodies will no longer be mortal or vulnerable meaning that our own efforts at survival will no longer be necessary.

This weeks newsletter is kindly sponsored by Bennettsbridge Limestone In eternal life, we believe that we will be an altogether new creation. Our lives and the lives of all people will be perfected beyond our wildest dreams in the communion of saints. God makes all things new as the Scriptures tell us. Suffering, sin, pain and death will be no more. God will be all in all. When we die we do not cease to exist but we awake to the immortality of our souls and to the resurrection of the body and to eternal life in the world to come.

Where there is soul there is beauty; where there is soul there is love

Where there is soul there is life; where there is soul there is hope.

(From Ennis Parish Newsletter) Adapted.

Mass Intentions for the Saturday/Sunday, 13th/14th November 2021:

Rosbercon: Saturday 13th November at 7.00pm: Noel Banville, Shanbogh Luke Hennessy, Glensensaw Mullinarrigle: Sunday 14th November at 9. 30a.m: Stasia Lawlor, Glenpipe

A November Thought: One day.... One day, you will lose someone you can't live without, and your heart may be broken. You may never completely get over the loss of your beloved. However, our beloved dead live on in our hearts as also in God's kingdom. Even though your heart may not seal up, you will come through. Your heart may never heal completely and may still hurt from time to time. But you can learn to dance again even though you dance with the limp! (From Ennis Parish Newsletter) Adapted.

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.

Reflection:

We give but little when we give of our possessions.

It is when we give of ourselves that we truly give.

There are many who give so much, and do so continually, And their giving often goes unrecognised,

And there are those who give but little but for them it is a great sacrifice.

Those who give are the believers in the abundance of life, and their resources do not run dry.

Through the hands of such as these God speaks,

And from behind their eyes he smiles on the earth.

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

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: On the weekend of 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 <u>www.ossory.ie</u>.

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 successful this year also.

Taizé Youth Programme 2022: A youth trip to Taizé in France organised by Ossory Youth will take place from Sunday 26th June to Sunday 3rd July 2022. A week in the Taizé Community is an opportunity for reflection and contemplation and a little step back from daily life. But bringing people together is also the essence of Taizé and it is a week of meeting young people from different countries and cultures where new friendships are made. Tens of thousands of young people from around the world, including 25 from Kilkenny, will made the trip to Taizé next year. The programme, which runs from December 2021 to July 2022 is open to Transition year, 5th year and Leaving Cert students. Closing date is Friday 19th November. For additional information, including cost and application forms, contact Patrick Bookle, Ossory Youth at (056) 7761200, (087) 2129006 or <u>pbookle@ossoryyouth.com</u>

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