

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 19th March 2023

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Fourth Sunday of Lent

There is an amount of darkness in our country and in the world. But the Gospel of today's Mass contains the wonderful words of Christ: 'I am the light of the world.' Christ is indeed the light of the world and the light of his love brightens our lives.

Theme of the Weekend Readings: This weekend we celebrate Mother's Day while in the Gospel Jesus offers sight to the man born blind.

First Reading: Samuel chooses David to be King of Israel.

Second Reading: God's people live in the light.

Gospel: The cure of the man born blind.

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 25th March: 7.00pm Mass in Rosbercon

Sunday 26th March: 9.30am Mass in Mullinarrigle

11.00am Mass in Rosbercon

Weekday Masses:

Rosbercon:

Wednesday 22nd March: 10am Mass

Friday 24th March: 11am Mass Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

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

Recent Deaths:

John Aylward, Shanbough, Rosbercon

Jim Connors, Harvey Place, New Ross

Anniversaries:

Jim Brindley, Ballybeg and Tramore

Joe Molloy, Assumption Terrace

Peggy Irwin, Assumption Terrace

Elizabeth Hennessy, Tinneranny

This weekend we celebrate **Mother's Day**. We wish all mothers a joyful and wonderful day.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel every Wednesday morning from 10.30am to 12pm. All are welcome to attend.

We are all looking forward to the Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation in Rosbercon Church next Friday 24th March at 11.00 am. In preparation for Confirmation, we have the Ceremony of Light in Rosbercon Church for Parents, Children and Sponsors on Tuesday 21st March at 7.30 p.m.

Lenten Reconciliation Services: Fr Dan will hear Confessions for Lent after the weekend Masses beginning on the fourth weekend of Lent, Saturday/Sunday 18th/19th March 2023.

Lenten Station Envelopes together with Trocaire Boxes have been distributed to the homes of the Parish. Please return Lenten Station Envelopes at your convenience. The Trocaire Boxes should be returned to the Church on Holy Thursday.

The **Cemetery Committee** at their meeting on the 15th February 2023, expressed concern about the amount of peat moss being used in the middle portion of Rosbercon Cemetery. This causes problems with the ongoing maintenance of the Cemetery. We thank you for your cooperation.

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.

A Message from Fr Dan: A Blessing for Mother's Day: God of love, listen to our prayer for Mothers' Day. We celebrate all mothers and grandmothers on this day.

We remember the great mothers of salvation history: Sarah, mother of Isaac; Rebecca, mother of Jacob; Ruth, mother of King David; Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist, and especially Mary, Mother of Jesus whom we call Christ.

Bless all mothers with strength of spirit, and with love and laughter in the company of family and friends. Grant them happiness and joy at home. Help us to remember how our mothers helped us to stand and walk; to speak, to sing, and to pray.

Bless the mothers who have gone before us into eternity. May they enjoy the vision of God in heaven. We ask that this blessing and all graces may descend upon mothers and grandmothers: in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

From the Ennis Parish Newsletter – Adapted.

To Make you smile: Some modern thoughts on the parable of the Good Samaritan:

The Levite could not stop because he was on his way to a Conference on Caring.

The priest was worrying about the man who had committed the assault: 'He needs to be understood and welcomed back into the community'.

The Samaritan was in breach of Health and Safety Regulations by lifting the man, unaided, on to his donkey!

*This weeks newsletter is kindly sponsored by
A Kind and Loyal Parishioner*

Trócaire works for a just and peaceful world where:
People's dignity is ensured and rights are respected
Where basic needs are met and resources are shared equitably
Where people have control over their own lives.
Where those in power act for the common good
Trócaire supports people regardless of culture, gender or religion.
Once again, we ask you to be generous to the needs of the poorest of the poor. Your support is very much appreciated.

Diocese of Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023: Our Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes makes a welcome return. Package details are 5 nights, May 23rd to 28th inclusive, fares from €879pps Anyone wishing to travel, bookings for our Pilgrimage, can be now made directly with Niamh in Joe Walsh Tours Tel: 01-6852244 Email: niamh@jwtravel.ie

Mass Intentions for the Saturday/Sunday, 25th/26th March, 2023:

Rosbercon: Saturday 25th March at 7.00pm
Joe Lawlor, School House Road
Johnny, Cissie and Noel Furlong, Brownstown

Mullinarrigle: Sunday 26th March at 9.30am
Tom Lawlor, Glenpipe and Dublin
Margaret Long, Ballyveria

Rosbercon: Sunday 26th March at 11.00am
Michael O Neill, Tinneranny **Months Mind**
Micéal Kavanagh, Mountgarrett, New Ross
Moses Murphy, Assumption Terrace
Bridie and Bobby Richardson, Assumption Terrace
Derek Lewis, Assumption Terrace
Mary O Neill, Ballyknock
Paddy Murphy, Brownsford

Reflection - For Mother:

Mother,
Your voice learned to soothe
Your new child
Your voice was the first sound
I heard before even I could see
Mother,
Your young eyes gazed on me.
Your eyes were the first mirror
Where I glimpsed
My image in your face
Mother,
Your nearness filled the air,
You eased and calmed
The longing that stirred in my infant heart
Mother,
You nurtured and fostered me
With a love and care
That could come from nowhere else
Mother,
I was formed from the depths beneath your heart,
You know me inside out
No deeds or no seas, nothing
Could ever erase your love for me.

Wisdom: Mother's hold their children's hands for a while but their hearts forever.

Humour: In school, little Johnny was asked about saying prayers at home. The teacher asked, "do you say prayers before eating?". "No Miss", said Johnny, "I don't have to, my mum's a good cook!"

◆ **Historic Discovery in Rosbercon**

Recent Renovation works being carried out within the grounds of Jamie's Doyle's Funeral Home led to the unearthing of three cannon balls, two of which were of solid iron and the third ball of perfectly rounded carved stone. The larger ball of iron weighed in the region of three stone and six inches in diameter. The question as to their origin thus arises which brings us back to the period of 1641 to 1649 in particular when the walled town of Ross came under attack on occasions by Loyalist forces in which Rosbercon was involved. In 1643 an intense five day siege ensued in which the defending Catholic Confederate forces stood firm whilst the Royalists soon ran short of cannon powder and other necessary supplies resulting in their defeat and withdrawal. In a final attempt to rescue their faltering attack two small Royalist heavily armed battle ships were brought up the river from Duncannon with orders to prevent Confederate reinforcements from being boated across the river from Rosbercon into Ross which were then camped on the high grounds overlooking the river.

The two ships named Barque and Loves Increase on their arrival in the harbour initially lay off the Rosbercon river bank from where they commenced to fire on the town. The town Confederate forces retaliated resulting in the ships receiving orders to retreat out of range down river which they did to a point opposite Raheen. The Rosbercon based Confederates acquired two cannons and based them within range of the ships on the Raheen river bank and commenced to fire imposing very considerable damage to both ships which were now on fire and stranded unable to escape down river because of low tide with the result being the Barque drifting ashore onto the Raheen bank. The Confederates quenched the fires and relieved the wreck of its guns and supplies whilst the other ship was scuttled and sunk close to the opposite river bank. It is most likely the three cannon balls discovered are of the Confederate camp origin having being found in the same small land area rather than originating from incoming cannon fire.

◆ **New Ross Singers**

The New Ross Singers will perform The Gounod St. Cecilia Mass in Rosbercon Church on Saturday 1st April at 7.30pm with Musica Ireland Orchestra and 3 soloists Jade Phoenix, Soprano, William Pearson, Tenor and Eoin Foran Bass. Connie Tantrum Conductor. Tickets €20 available from choir members and at the door.

◆ **South Kilkenny Historical Society**

The Annual General Meeting of the South Kilkenny Historical Society will take place on Thursday next, March 23rd in Mullinavat Parish Hall (opposite St. Beacon's Church) at 7.30pm. The AGM will be followed, at 8pm, by a night of remembrance for the late Mary O'Shea RIP, Raheen, Piltown.

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