

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 27th August 2023

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TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Christ chose Peter to be the chief shepherd of his flock. Peter had many strengths but he also had weaknesses. We too have weaknesses. When those weaknesses cause us to fall, Christ forgives us and helps us to go forward again.

Theme of the Weekend Readings

Peter professes faith in Jesus as Saviour.

First Reading

God replaces one leader of the people with another.

Second Reading—A beautiful hymn in praise of God.

Gospel—Peter's act of faith.

Weekend Masses

Saturday 2nd September 7:00 pm Mass in Tullagher

Sunday 3rd September 9:30 am Mass in Mullinarrigle
11:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

Weekday Masses

Rosbercon

Wednesday 30th August No Mass

Friday 1st September No Mass

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel every Wednesday morning from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon. All are welcome to attend.

Recent Death

Mai Purcell, Kilbrahan, Rosbercon

Anniversaries

Kathleen Brennan, Waterford

Paddy and Nellie Brennan, England

Pat O'Neill, Slievecorragh

Phil Rogers, St. Canice's Terrace

Roseanne Dollard, Smithstown

Jim and Nora Cody, Smithstown

He Wishes for the Cloths of Heaven

Had I the heavens' embroidered cloths,

Enwrought with golden and silver light,

The blue and the dim and the dark cloths

Of night and light and the half-light,

I would spread the cloths under your feet:

But I, being poor, have only my dreams;

I have spread my dreams under your feet;

Tread softly for you because you tread on my dreams.

W. B. Yeats

A Message from Fr. Dan: Attending the Weekend Mass: The Covid pandemic and the closure of Churches for public worship in March 2020 removed the practice of regular 'church going' and broke the cycle of weekly Mass attendance.

Even before Covid, church attendance had ceased for many or more likely been reduced to a number of occasions during the year, such as funerals, weddings, baptisms anniversaries, and the great feasts like Christmas and Easter.

Does this mean that people are losing their faith in God and in Jesus Christ? Apparently not! Sometimes in conversation when the topic of faith crops up, people will say, 'oh I talk to God or I pray in my own way'. If the question is asked, 'when or where or how do you talk to God?', the answer is often very hesitant and uncertain or there is a telling silence. For all that, people reassure us that the faith is there, just not practiced weekly by Mass attendance.

Today's adults have the advantage of being raised in an atmosphere of faith. We have a rich faith heritage going back many generations. We have memories of our parents' and grandparents' faith and prayer. We grew up in communities where faith was important and the Church was the centre of parish life. We have the language of faith so can carry on a reasonable conversation about our memories of belief and practice.

The question arises what about the children, the next generation? They do not have a full cupboard of remembered belief and practice. The concern is, that as they journey through life, things will happen which will test their beliefs and the values they live by. This may well be undramatic and happen quietly. At that point they may find their faith again or lose it altogether. For others a painful illness, a bereavement or an addiction may transform their lives and reveal God to them.

Faith is a living experience. We find God in our daily lives or we lose God altogether. For faith to give meaning to our lives, we need a personal relationship with God and Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. Sadly, it will not happen automatically and cannot be taken for granted. It requires time and discipline if the Lord is to be given the opportunity to confirm our faith and help us to be a support to one another.

Our presence as part of the community at the weekend Mass deepens our faith and supports others in their faith. As Jesus says, 'where two or three are gathered in my name I am with them'. When the followers of Jesus began to drift away, Jesus said to the Apostles, 'And what about you, do you want to go away too?'. It was Peter who responded, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life'.

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Mass Intentions for the Saturday/Sunday

2nd/3rd September 2023

Tullagher: Saturday, 2nd September at 7:00 pm

Tim Roche, Curragh Lane—Months Mind

Michael Phelan, Tullagher

Andy Murphy, Brownsford

Sincere thanks to all who contributed so generously to the **Annual Summer Collection Envelopes**. Outstanding envelopes may be handed in at the weekend Masses or to the Parish Office.

Harvest Prayer

Loving Father, you have given us many things

All good things come from your hands.

We often take your goodness for granted

And often fail to say thanks.

Help us to realise that we do not own the earth

But are its custodians.

Thank you for the richness of our soil

And the opportunity to work the land.

May we harvest abundantly

And in gratitude share the fruits of our labour.

We give you glory and thanks

Through Christ Our Lord

Prayer by Cardinal Newman:

May Our Lord support us all the day long,

till the shadows lengthen,

and evening comes,

and the busy world is hushed,

and the fever of life is over,

and our work is done!

Then in his mercy

may He give us a safe lodging,

a holy rest,

and peace at the last!

Amen

The Thunderstorm: A little girl walked to and from school daily. One day, though, the weather that morning was okay, but by the afternoon the winds had whipped up, bringing thunder and lightning. The little girl's mother was worried and got into her car and drove to meet her. As she did, she saw the little girl walking along the sidewalk. At each flash of lightning, the child would stop, look up and smile. The mother pulled up next to her daughter, opened the door and asked 'what are you doing honey? Why are you stopping and smiling every time there is a flash of lightning? 'God keeps taking pictures of me' the little girl said. 'Don't you think he wants me to smile?'

Wisdom: "Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgement that something else is more important than fear".

To make you Smile: 'It's not that I'm afraid to die. I just don't want to be there when it happens'.

Woody Allen

A Bit of Humour: A deaf man heard that a great doctor had come to the city with a cure for deafness. He made an appointment with the doctor and took the new treatment. To his amazement his hearing came back. When he went for his check up the doctor said to him, 'Your family must be thrilled that you can hear again'. The man said, 'I haven't told them. I love listening to what they are saying about me'.

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 porches of the Churches of the Parish.

Just a Thought: Sometimes we struggle with persistence. We can give up when things become difficult. We can lose hope when things don't turn out as we planned. We can even stop praying when we don't get what we ask for. Whatever our situation let us be persistent in our efforts and never giving up and recognising God is always with us.

◆ ST. CANICE'S NATIONAL SCHOOL

St. Canice's National School will re-open on Wednesday, August 30th.

◆ FAMILY FUN DAY

A family fun day will be held on Sunday 9th October from 2:00 pm—5:00 pm, The Auxiliary Building, Wolf Tone Street, Kilkenny. On the day there will be story telling, apple pressing, music, treasure hunt, exhibition, face painting and refreshments. This event is to celebrate Mental Health Week.

◆ LIVING WELL PROGRAMME – BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!

Living Well is a free group Self-Management programme for adults living with long-term health conditions. The Programme runs for 2,5 hours once a week for six weeks and is available in person and online. Two trained leaders deliver the workshops. At least one of the leaders lives with a long-term health condition. **See poster above for programmes available in the South East.**

People taking part in the workshops may or may not have the same health condition(s). Examples of long-term health conditions include (but are not limited to): Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), Asthma, Diabetes, Heart conditions, Stroke, Multiple Sclerosis (MS), Arthritis, Cancer, Crohn's Disease, chronic pain and depression.

The workshops are delivered in a relaxed and friendly way so that all participants can learn from each other. Each person who takes part gets a book about Self-Management. For the online programmes, you will receive support to get online, if required. More info on www.hse.ie/LivingWell

For bookings and inquiries email LivingWellSE@hse.ie or phone 056 778 49 44 / 056 778 49 45.

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