

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 10th September 2023

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TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY OF YEAR A

Jesus says, 'Where two or three meet in my name I will be there with them' – words we hear in today's Gospel. We are meeting in the Lord's name. So we know that he is with us.

Theme of the Weekend Readings

In our dealings with others we aim to show trust, forgiveness and love.

First Reading

The prophet is held accountable for his message.

Second Reading—What is done in love cannot hurt.

Gospel—Love can sometimes include confrontation.

Weekend Masses

Saturday 16th September No Mass in Rosbercon

Sunday 17th September 9:30 am Mass in Mullinarrigle
11:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

Weekday Masses

Rosbercon

Wednesday 13th September No Mass

Friday 15th 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 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Anniversaries

Thomas Dowling, Shanbogh
Dora and Richie Power, Ballybeg
Biddy and Ned Roche, Listerlin
Jo and Agnes Malone, Hoodsgrove
James Forristal, Shanbough
John Hayes, Fethard On Sea

We wish every blessing to **Anita Prendergast, Shanbogh and Dean Prendergast, New Ross**, who were married in the Church of the Assumption, Rosbercon on Saturday 2nd September 2023. May they enjoy a long and rewarding married life.

September: We welcome September, month of fruitfulness, month of harvesting, month of returning to school and college. Summer holidays are over. Teachers, pupils and students have again focused on learning. A good start is half the work. Let us pray for our teachers and educators who help young people achieve their full potential. The ancient Irish believed that there were 'three things you can never get back: a day absent from school, a Sunday without Mass and a day away from one's trade'. Learning is no burden! **Be with us Lord during the month of September.**

A Message from Fr Dan: The Season of Creation: It began in the most unlikely of places: with a teenager refusing to go to school. But over the last four years, a remarkable wave of climate activism has spread across the globe, inspired by the Swedish teenage, Greta Thunberg, who caught the imagination of teenagers around the world, including here in Ireland.

Their 'climate strike' gave many older people hope, when it brought thousands of teenagers out on to the streets of towns and cities around Ireland, as they demanded a different ecological future. We know that the Lord often uses the wisdom and energy of youth to bring about change. Certainly, our young people are our leaders on this most important issue. The Government, which admits that it has been slow on the issue of climate declared a climate emergency in May, 2019 making Ireland only the second country in the world to do so.

This growing grassroots appetite for change has come at just the right time. The summer brought no comfort from scientists, whose investigations continue to suggest the problems we face are far and more serious than we had thought. Heat and flood records were broken across the world. The Arctic ice shelf has melted this year at an alarming rate. Pope Francis' document on climate, *Laudato Si'* is an illuminating work. The pope's thinking is impressive, imaginative, and robust. Francis's account of the many factors at play in climate breakdown and the many ways in which it will devastate lives is evidence-based, intricately argued, and motivated by a vision that is *pro-life* in the fullest meaning of the term. As a Papal encyclical *Laudato Si'* is an authoritative text within the Catholic Social tradition.

In the summer of 2019 Pope Francis met with Greta Thunberg. He encouraged her to continue her work and assured her that the climate strikes had his support. Many in the Irish church recognise that in recent decades there has been a failure to connect the faith with the younger generations. Yet here, there is a clear and direct overlap between the mission of the church and the passion of the young. The Pope sees that care for our world is not just one more good deed that we might choose to take up, but is integral to Christian faith. He insists that as 'we come together to take charge of this home which has been entrusted to us,' we are not responding to some temporarily 'hot' topic in the culture, nor are we motivated by selfish self-interest, because of the threat we face. Rather, we care for the earth because we know 'that all the good which exists here finds an echo in God's kingdom.

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 by never giving up and recognising that God is always with us.

*This weeks newsletter is kindly sponsored by
Moffitt Vets, Irishtown*

Mass Intentions for the Saturday/Sunday

16th/17th September 2023

Rosbercon: Sunday 17th September at 11:00 am

Michael Molloy, Tinneranny

Envelopes for the **Summer Collection** for the support of Fr. Dan have been distributed to the homes of the Parish. Envelopes may be handed in at the Parochial House or returned at the weekend Masses. Many thanks to our parishioners for your generosity and support.

The **2024 Ossory Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes** led by our Bishop Most Reverend Niall Coll DD will take place from Tuesday May 21st to Sunday May 26th inc. The organising committee are confident in offering places to pilgrims in need of assistance, youth helpers, support staff and able-bodied pilgrims. The youth section is organised through the head of RE in Secondary Schools and places are limited. A follow up announcement and posters on Church Notice Boards will carry further details. (Prices have yet to be established but the 2023 cost was € 899.00 PPS).

St. Mary's Cathedral, Kilkenny Restoration Fund 2022/2023

The August draw for St Mary's Cathedral Restoration Fund took place Wednesday 30th August in the Chapter Room at St. Mary's Cathedral. Please check the Church Noticeboards for the full results of the draw.

Reflection

All of us can experience moments of great joy
Because in his goodness God allows us to taste on earth
the joys of the world to come.

However, moments of joy, no matter how wonderful,
will never satisfy the human heart.

What we long for is a permanent state of happiness.

But that is unattainable here.

So, what must we do?

Like desert travellers we must go forward
from one oasis to another
with the conviction that God has a homeland
prepared for us at the end of our journey.

This conviction will make it possible for us
to travel onwards with love in our hearts
and an unquenchable longing in our souls

Wisdom: The best preacher is the heart; the best teacher is time; the best book is the world; the best friend is God.

Humour: 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?'

Reflection

'O that today you would listen to his voice, harden not your hearts'

To adopt a hard heart-hearted attitude is to maim oneself.

A hard heart is a closed heart, so it can't receive.

A hard heart inevitably becomes a barren heart.

A soft heart, on the other hand, is a blessing.

A soft heart can receive and can respond.

Lord, grant that softened by the rain of your grace,

and warmed by the sun of your love,

Our hearts may be turned from a desert into a garden.

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.

◆ **CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**

From the 1st of September the first day of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and the Light Up Gold Campaign.

Why do we "Go Gold" each September?

Because every year approximately 370 families are devastated when their child, adolescent or young adult is diagnosed.

Because countless more children and young people are living with the physical and emotional side effects of the treatments they had to endure to survive.

Because too many families have lost their beloved child to this disease.

We Light It Up Gold to honour all these children and their families.

To donate or fundraise for this worthy cause please visit <https://childhoodcancer.ie/get-involved/donate/>

◆ **ST. CANICE'S NATIONAL SCHOOL**

St. Canice's National School, Rosbercon is now taking applications for enrolment for Junior Infants 2024. An application form for enrolment is available by phoning the school at 051-422813 or by emailing info@stcanicesns.com

◆ **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.

◆ **RICHIE YOUNG MEMORIAL RUN 5K RUN OR 3K WALK**

St. Joseph's Athletic Club are holding the Richie Young Memorial Run on Sunday 10th September at the Pink Rock at 12:00 noon.

Guess your pace to win the race based on approx. a 3k or 5k distance. Please register for free on Eventbrite. On the day donations are kindly accepted for Meals On Wheels and St. Joseph's Athletic Club.

◆ **TULLOGHER ROSBERCON VINTAGE CLUB**

Tullagher Rosbercon Vintage Club will hold their annual road run on Sunday 17th September. Registration at 11:30 am run will start at 1:00 pm from Rosbercon Parish Centre refreshments after the race back in the hall.

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