

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 25th February 2024

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SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

On Mount Tabor Jesus' disciples got a glimpse of the glory that was his as the Son of God. It was a wonderful experience for them, so much so that Peter exclaimed, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here.' And it is good for us to be here this morning (evening), because here we get a glimpse of our own glory, for we too are children of God.

Theme of the Weekend Readings

Easter and its joy follow the Lenten Season of Penance.

First Reading—Abraham is willing to offer his son to God.

Second Reading—God wishes us all to be saved.

Gospel—The transfiguration of Jesus.

Weekend Masses

Saturday 2nd March 7:00 pm Mass in Tullaghan

Sunday 3rd March 9:30 am in Mullinarrigle

11:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

Weekday Masses

Rosbercon

Wednesday 28th February 10:00 am Mass

Friday 1st March 10:00 am 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.

Anniversaries

Michael Lawlor, Berkley, New Ross—Months Mind

Jim Phelan, Listerlin

Patrick and Margaret Forristal, Shanbogh

Michael O'Neill, Tinneranny

Denis "Dinny" Walsh, Ballyconnaught

Catherine Maher, Tinneranny

Prayer for my Future

Lord, there are many things in my life that I do not understand,

So many questions about the future that I need to ask.

What is your plan for me?

What is the work You want me to do?

All I really know is that You love me.

Show me the road you want me to walk- to

Fulfilment, to happiness, to holiness.

And because You are calling me to a life of service,

Give me the strength to say 'Yes'

And the grace to begin even now to prepare myself

For the challenge of a life spent in Your service.

Help me to care for people.

I ask this in Jesus' name

Amen

Read at the Confirmation Enrolment Mass on Friday 9th February, 2024

A Message from Fr. Dan: The Priest in the Parish

This summer will mark my 19th anniversary as the priest in Rosbercon Parish. Being in the parish for nineteen years is a gift. Now, when I celebrate a funeral Mass, I know the person whose funeral I am celebrating. I know the family, and who is related to the deceased. This pastoral knowledge is a true gift, the fruit of nothing but time. People also speak more freely. It's the result of building up relationships over the years. Working with parishioners is a privilege, all the more so when I know the people personally.

So, I am wondering what the future holds for the parishes of Ireland. Every diocese has its own way of coping with the reducing number of priests. Some cluster parishes, others create pastoral areas or families of parishes. The end result is the same: fewer priests serving people whom they do not know personally. The opinion offered by the Independent TD Michael Healy-REA contains a grain of truth: once a parish loses its resident priest, as his local parish of Kilgarvan did, the Church loses its "hold" on the parish. A vital link is broken.

And the priest suffers too. He needs to be part of a community: being part of several communities is not the same thing. We ask if lay people could do much of the work that priests do, when priests are no longer available? Could lay people be formed and trained to run parishes? The number of priests is declining. We have prayed for vocations and have not received a positive answer: so maybe God has other plans for parishes?

Some dioceses provide an opportunity for priests from other countries to work here. This can lead to complications. Foreign dioceses need their own priests. Also, there are cultural differences between countries that are sometimes hard to resolve. Some priests succeed, for others the result is frustration.

Irish Catholic priests provide a unique service to those parishes in which they serve; they get to know their people and the people get to know them. In the future, when those close relationships are no longer available, will other relationships take their place? Surely God has more surprises for us!

From the Irish Catholic – Adapted.

We wish every blessing to Julie Ward, Mullinavat and David McDonagh, Dundalk, who were married in the Church of the Assumption, Rosbercon on Friday 16th February 2024. May they enjoy a long and rewarding married life.

Saint Paul wrote

'Rejoice in Hope,

Be patient in Tribulation

Be constant in prayer'.

*This weeks newsletter is kindly sponsored by
NitroFert, New Ross*

**Mass Intentions for the Saturday/Sunday
2nd/3rd March 2024**

Mullinarrigle: Sunday 3rd March at 9:30 am
Margaret "Peggy" Burke, Thomastown—Months Mind

Rosbercon: Sunday 3rd March at 11:00 am
Josie and Tom Cashin, Shanbogh
Joan Molloy, Tinneranny

Lenten Station and Easter Offering Envelopes together with Trocaire Boxes will be distributed to the homes of the Parish during the coming week. The usual distributors are asked to oblige.

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.

Trócaire boxes have been delivered to the homes of the parish. Once again, we ask you to be generous to the needs of the poorest of the poor. Your support is very much appreciated.

Saint Teresa of Avila who suffered a lot of sickness once said, 'I never realized how well I was until I gave up thinking how ill I was.'

Reflection

Jesus went up into the hills to pray.
The hills were special to Jesus.
He preached his most famous sermon from a hilltop.
He was transfigured on Mount Tabor,
And he died on Mount Calvary,
He ascended to heaven from Mount Olivet.
He loved hills and mountains. Why was this?
Was it because he grew up among the hills of Galilee?
Or was it because heights enlarge our vision
And cause our spirit to soar?
Lift us up, Lord, that we may see further.
Strengthen our faith that we may see beyond the horizon.
And when the valley closes us in
Help us to remember the view from the hilltop.

To Make you smile: 'Bagpipes sound exactly the same when you have finished learning them as when you start'.
Sir Thomas Beecham (1879-1961)

Wisdom: "God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy".

Pope Francis

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.

◆ **LINE DANCING**

Line Dancing Classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday evening in Rosbercon Hall at 7:00 pm. Beginners always welcome. For more information please contact Sarah on 087-9792483.

BRAND NEW Day Time Line Dancing Classes are starting on Tuesdays in February at 11:00 am until 12:00 noon in Rosbercon Parish Hall. Beginners always welcome. For more information please contact Sarah on 087-9792483.

◆ **LISTERLIN NATIONAL SCHOOL ENROLMENT**

Scoil Mholaingne Listerlin N.S. are now accepting enrolments for Junior Infants for September 2024. Enrolment Forms can be obtained by contacting the school by phoning 051 427305 or by emailing office@listerlinns.com

◆ **ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE**

Preparations have started for New Ross St. Patrick's Day Parade 2024. The parade will begin in the Irishtown and follow the same route as last year. The Theme this year is "Community Togetherness". We want to get our groups together, our floats ready, shop windows decorated and our own windows ready and make this year amazing.

The committee welcomes anyone interested in volunteering to help out on the day.

For more information or an application form check out our Facebook page "St. Patricks Day – New Ross" or phone Anthony 087-2338350 or Ollie 087-2571841

◆ **NEW ROSS ACTIVE RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION**

The New Ross Active Retirement will have their general meeting on Friday the 1st March at the Youth Centre, Nunnery Lane, New Ross at 11:00 am. All Welcome to attend.

◆ **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Rosbercon Community Employment Scheme has the following vacancies

1. 2 x Activities Assistant in New Houghton Hospital
2. 1 x Groundsman/Caretaker in Tullogher GAA

For further information please contact: 051-425093 or 086-3642592. Email: rosberconparish@gmail.com. **Department of Social Protection, Community Employment Terms and Conditions Apply. See (<http://www.welfare.ie>)**

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