

# ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 25th August 2024

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## Twenty First Sunday of the Year

In the Gospel we read how many people left Jesus and walked no more with him. Many still leave him. But by the grace of God, we are here. Each Sunday gives us an opportunity to confirm our faith in him who alone has the words of eternal life.

Theme of the Weekend Readings: We have chosen to serve the Lord. We ask for strength to continue along the Christian way.

**First Reading:** The people of Israel decide to serve the Lord.

**Second Reading:** The love of husband and wife is like Christ's love for his people.

**Gospel:** When Jesus described himself as the bread of life, some stopped following. Others remained loyal.

### Weekend Masses:

Saturday 31st August: No Mass in Rosbercon

Sunday 1st September: 9.30am Mass in Mullinarrigle  
11.00am Mass in Rosbercon

### Weekday Masses:

Rosbercon:

Wednesday 28th August: 10.00am Mass

Friday 30th August: 10.00am Mass

All Masses from Rosbercon Church will be streamed live through our webcam on [www.rosberconparish.ie](http://www.rosberconparish.ie)

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.

### Anniversaries:

Jimmy Hanrahan, North St. **Months Mind**

Jim Vereker (Jnr), Assumption Terrace

Many thanks to all who have contributed to the Summer Collection for the support of Fr Dan Outstanding envelopes may be brought to the weekend Masses or dropped into the Parochial House. We thank our parishioners for their generosity and support.

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: The Holy Well Part 2:** What will be the significance of Holy Wells like that of Saint Moling into the future? What will be the place of Holy Wells in future catholic devotion?

At Saint Moling's well, the people are able to worship God through the mediation of Saint Moling who lived his life in Mullinakill, leaving a mark of his saintly activities on the landscape in the form of a well that he called up. Blessing oneself with water from the well or bringing water home connects a person with God himself. God cannot be identified with the well water nor is the well water itself divine, but through the action of Saint Moling a person can contact God through their devotion to the well. The consecration of the well at Mullinakill by Saint Moling is celebrated each August by the pattern that takes place at the well. The pattern day is one of the major feast days in the life of the parish. Saint Moling is our local saint, one of us, who first brought the faith to our community.

The continued existence of holy wells and their use for devotional purposes is one of the many signs that Christian practices are far from dead in Ireland. We hope and pray that for many years to come Saint Moling's well will continue to attract pilgrims seeking healing of body and soul. As we advance into the twenty first century, we are very happy to have a shrine of such beauty and tranquillity in our parish.

### Just Some Thoughts:

"Religions are not for separating people from one another. They are meant to unite" *Gandhi*

"In the most surprising way, I discovered God in the solitude of a prison cell" *Nelson Mandela*

"Pope Francis is creating a new energy in a disturbed world" *Angela Merkel*

"Don't worry about anything but in your prayers ask God for what you want, always asking with a grateful heart" *Saint Paul*

**To make you Smile:** -After a meeting attended by the late Denis Healy, Deputy Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, his wife Edna said to him, 'We can go now, Denis. I don't think there's anyone else you haven't insulted.'

The **Kilkenny Bereavement Support Service** is a voluntary organisation offering free one to one support to people of all ages who have been bereaved. The service is provided by volunteers who have been trained in bereavement support. This is a free and confidential service. To contact the service please contact 080670566 [www.kilkennybereavementsupport.com](http://www.kilkennybereavementsupport.com)

*This weeks newsletter is kindly sponsored by  
St Moling's Well Committee*

The Diocese of Ossory will host a visit of the **Relics of Saint Bernadette of Lourdes** on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 in St. Mary's Cathedral, Kilkenny. This is an initiative to bring a small piece of Lourdes to Ireland and make it possible for more people to experience something of what is close to the hearts of those who travel on our diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes each year.

**Collection of Parish Funds 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> August 2024:**  
Figures to follow.

#### **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

#### **Reflection**

##### **Forgiveness:**

'When we forgive, we free ourselves from the burden of bitterness  
and we free the other person from the burden of guilt.

But our forgiveness must come from the heart  
which means it must be true, sincere and warm.

A cold forgiveness is not much use.  
Forgiveness should start now.

Putting it off only deepens the wound,  
prolongs bitterness and postpones happiness

Life is so short, time is fleeting.  
Today is the day to forgive.

Lord, deliver us from the poison of bitterness,  
and give us the grace to forgive from the heart  
those who have offended us.  
Then we will know the warmth of your forgiveness'

**Wisdom:** "The diamond cannot be polished without friction,  
nor the man perfected without trials."

**Humour:** The great advantage of not having children must be  
that you can go on believing that you are a nice person. Once  
you have children you realise how the wars start!

#### **St Molings Pattern History**

There are two events in our Parish history that relate to the Pattern at St Molings Well. The first recorded event was in 1448 when the Black Plague ravaged this part of the country. New Ross port was deemed to be the source of this disease due to its substantial shipping trade. According to records 38% of the town's population died. The disease quickly spread upriver to Kilkenny city. Thousands of people converged on St Mullins to bathe in their St Molings well to receive alleged special powers of protection. Our well in Mullinakill was also a place of pilgrimage for the same reason.

The second event brings us back to the early 1750's when our notorious local highwayman, James Freney was operating in the general area of our Parish. Some of his highwaymen gang were known to have peddled some of their ill-gotten gains at the Pattern of St Moling. This was usually when Freney himself was in hiding from the military.

He was a frequent visitor to the Ballyneale area due to its proximity to the main Kilkenny / New Ross Road. On one occasion (according to his memoirs) when he experienced cash flow issues he visited the local Parish Priest whom he assumed would have sufficient funds to fund his adventures. Despite removing the Priest's front door with his sledgehammer, he was disappointed to leave empty handed as the local PP got wind of his movements and made a lodgement of all funds to his bank in Waterford.

#### **South Kilkenny Historical Society**

Heritage Week 2024 Event's

Mystery Tour of Carrigeen

Tour Guide: Eoin Walsh

Sunday, August 25th

Starting point and time: St. Kevin's Church, Carrigeen at 2pm

Free - all welcome

Walking in the footsteps of the O'Neills' of Owing

Tour Guide: Paddy O'Shea

Saturday, August 31st

Starting point and time: Owing National School at 10.45am

Free - all welcome

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