

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 24th November 2024

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Feast of Christ the King

Today we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. When we think of a king we think of someone who is above his people. But Christ became one of us and lived an ordinary life. He is king of all who are on the side of truth and listen to his voice. The best way to show our loyalty to Christ is to serve one another.

Theme of the Weekend Readings: Christ is our King.

First Reading: Daniel's vision of a man becoming King in Heaven.

Second Reading: Jesus is the ruler of the kings of the earth.

Gospel: Jesus disputes his kingship with Pilate.

Weekend Masses:

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

Weekday Masses:

Rosbercon:

Wednesday 27th November: 10am Mass

Friday 29th November: 10am Mass

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

Anniversaries:

Thomas Murphy, Assumption Terrace and London O'Neill family, Ballyneale & deceased family members

John and Mary Fripps, Mooncoin

Jimmy Phelan, Smithstown

Fr Michael Norton, PP. Rosbercon

Molly Martin, Ballybawn, Rathnure

John Dooley and his daughter Joan Hennessey. We also pray for Johns wife Loretta, daughter Maria and son Anthony

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 thank all who have contributed so generously to the October Stations and November Offerings. Outstanding envelopes may be handed in at Mass or to the Parochial House.

Rosbercon Parish Pastoral Council would like to send a Christmas Greeting Card for 2024 to parishioners who have emigrated from the parish down the years. Please let us have the names and addresses of any family members, friends or neighbours whom you wish to receive a card. The emigrants will also be remembered at our Parish Christmas Masses. Names may be handed in to the Parochial House or to the Parish Office. Names may be posted, texted or Emailed to Fr. Dan or Anne at danieljcavanagh49@gmail.com

Rosbercon Parish Draw: It is Parish Draw Time of the year again! To help meet our financial commitments and to continue to maintain the Buildings of the Parish we will be holding our usual Parish Draw on Sunday 15th December 2024. Tickets will be distributed to the homes of the parish during the coming week at a cost €2.00 each or a book of 6 for €10.00. Each household and wage earner is asked to buy three books or as many as you can!! This Draw has been successful over the years and Fr Dan is confident that it will be successful this year also.

There will be a Special Mass with Anointing of the Sick for the 'Over 55s' of the parish in Rosbercon Hall on Sunday 15th December at 3.00 p.m. followed by a reception and music. The Mass and Reception will be followed by the Parish Draw at 4.00p.m. All are welcome to attend.

A Message from Fr Dan: Christ the King: This weekend we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. An old priest said after the Vatican Council, 'My Christ used to be Christ the King, but now he has to be Christ the Carpenter'. Yet in this Sunday's gospel, Jesus refers to himself as a King. For this, 'He was born and for this he came into the world'.

Today we live in a world of democracy where kings have no place. But the Feast of Christ the King is very important for our times, for his Kingdom and his kingship are totally different from the kingdoms of the world.

Christ is a king who cares. He calls himself the good shepherd who cares for his flock. He searches for us and when he finds us, he keeps us safe from harm. When we stray from him, he comes for us and heals our lives and gives us his strength. Yes, Christ has been immensely good to each one of us. He continually leads us to the right path and accompanies us on our journeys. Christ knows our needs and listens to our prayers. One day he will welcome us into the kingdom of Heaven.

Christ is a king who offers his grace to the world that needs his love so badly. As Pope Francis repeats again and again, Christ offers forgiveness and mercy to his people. He replaces our natural weakness and failings with his greater love, compassion, kindness and courage. He doesn't force us to do anything. He respects our freedom and leaves us to make our own decisions for or against him each day.

Christ's greatest commandment is the commandment to love God, to love ourselves and to love our neighbour. Christ has a special love for the poor, the sick, the lonely and the rejected. He came to serve rather than be served. It is the goodness and sacrifice of his life that persuade us to follow him. We meet Christ in the 'bits and pieces of everyday, a laugh here a kiss again and sometimes tears', As Patrick Kavanagh wrote. 'Christ is the pearl necklace around the neck of poverty'.

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Mass Intentions for the Sunday, 1st December 2024:

Rosbercon: Sunday 1st December at 11.00 am:

Kate Lee, Kilbraghan

Prayer of Saint Jerome: 'Holy Spirit, open my ear to hear Christ's word. Open my mind to understand Christ's message. Open my heart understand Christ's action in my life. May my heart never grow dull, and may my ears be always listening for the voice of Christ.'

From the Ennis Parish Newsletter (Adapted)

Just a thought: "What is Christmas?" It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings, rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace."

To make you Smile: November:

No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease,
No comfortable feel in any member –
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds,
November! *Thomas Hood (1799-1845)*

Wisdom: "A knife of the keenest steel requires a whetstone and the wisest man needs advice"

Humour: Happiness: a good bank account, a good cook and a good digestion.

Collection for the Ossory Priests Society – Feast of Christ the King: The Ossory Priests Society is charged with making suitable financial provision for the care of the priests in the Diocese of Ossory in infirmity, sickness and old age. The Annual Collection takes place on this weekend 23rd/24th November. A contribution to the Ossory Priests Society collection is an opportunity to show appreciation for the many years of service our sick and retired priests have given to God and to His people in the Diocese of Ossory. Your support is much appreciated.

ST MOLINGS CHAPTER ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Our Annual Christmas collection will take place throughout the coming month of December by means of the usual special blue envelopes which will be placed in each of our churches. This is to facilitate those who wish to contribute. All donations received will be greatly appreciated and will go exclusively to assist genuine needy parishioners. Since our Chapter's foundation back in 1962 our parish needy has been served to the best of our ability and will continue to do so in the future thanks to kind parishioners who contribute to our annual collection. All requests for assistance are carefully examined prior to our response. Donations enclosed in the blue envelopes can be returned in the Sunday Mass collection box or handed directly to any of our committee members.

Committee Members; Seamus Waters, Mary B Conway, Richard McElwee, Catherine Cottrell, Brid Vereker and Margaret Saunders.

Rosbercon Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Brid Vereker and Anne O' Sullivan. 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.

Prayer/Reflection

O Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds
And whose breath gives life to the world, hear me.
I come to you as one of your many children.
I am small and weak; I need your strength and your wisdom.
Make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset.
Make my hands respect the things you have made,
And my ears sharp to hear your voice.
Make me wise so that I may know
The things you have taught your children,
The lessons you have hidden in every rock.
Make me strong, so that I may not be superior to other people
But able to fight my greatest enemy, which is my selfishness.
Make me ready to come to you with straight eyes,
So that when life fades as the fading sunset,
My spirit may come to you without shame.
Prayer of a Native American

The Ossory Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 19th to 25th May 2025. Bus transport from Loughboy Shopping Centre and Castlecomer GAA pitch to Cork Airport. Direct flights to Lourdes. Full religious programme. Choice of 3* and 4* hotels €949 and €995 respectively. Bookings @ JWT 01- 2410800 or email info@joewalshstours.ie. Assisted pilgrims contact Fr. Anthony O'Connor 087-2517766.

Listerlin NS: Afterschool and Breakfast Club: An information meeting will be held for parents/guardians on this Monday night November 25th at 7.30pm in the school hall. Martin Cunningham (Sceal Eile Afterschool Ltd) will provide information on the above service. Recruitment of staff locally if service commences so if anyone interested with childcare experience, please email martin123@newsceal.com. The school is looking for unwanted children's books to extend their library. Drop off to School Hall November 29th (Election Day)

Vat Pak Drama presents 'A Wake in The West' in Thomastown Community Hall on Friday 22nd November at 8pm. All welcome.

South Kilkenny Historical Society lecture

Title: Freightng the River Blackwater, Co. Kilkenny

Speaker: Andrew Doherty

Date: Friday, November 29th

Time: 8pm

Venue: Mullinavat Parish Hall (opposite St. Beacon's Church)

Tullagher/Rosbercon Vintage Club will hold their Annual Christmas dinner dance on Saturday 7th December at New Ross Golf Club Music by Pat Cooney. Tickets from Bob call (086) 1060689

Shanbogh National School Enrolments:

We are currently accepting enrolment applications for the school year 2025/2026. For an application form contact us on our website shanboghns.ie, phone (051)880308 or email us at shanboghns@gmail.com.

Closing date for completed applications is Friday, 26th December, 2024.

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