

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 9TH MARCH 2025

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First Sunday of Lent

On Ash Wednesday we set out on the journey of Lent, a journey that will bring us to Holy Week and Easter. Lent calls us to expand our hearts and to live more fully the message of love. In to-day's Gospel we see Jesus struggling against temptation. Because Jesus struggled, he understands our struggles.

Theme of the Weekend Readings: We pray that God who supported his people down the ages will support us on our journey through Lent.

First Reading: Moses explains their origins to the Chosen People.

Second Reading: Saint Paul explains the importance of Christ's Resurrection.

Gospel: The Temptations Jesus endured in the desert are described.

Weekend Masses:

Sunday 16th March: 9.30am Mass in Mullinarrigle
11.00am Mass in Rosbercon

Weekday Masses:

Rosbercon

Monday 17th March: 11am Mass for St. Patrick's Day
Wednesday 12th March: 10am Mass
Friday 14th March: 10am Mass

Mullinarrigle:

Monday 17th March: 9.30am Mass for St. Patrick's Day

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

Anniversaries:

Ellen Malone, Ballygriffen, Kilmacow
Michael and Philip Wall and Baby Jack Kelly, Galway

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.

Lenten Reconciliation Services: Fr Dan will hear Confessions for Lent after the weekend Masses beginning next weekend, Sunday 16th March 2025.

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

Following our recent Pastoral Committee meeting on Tuesday 18th February, it was decided by the members that a **Cleaning Rota would be put in place for Mullinarrigle Church**. We are now looking for people who would be interested in helping 1-2 hours per month. If interested please contact Fr Dan on (087) 233 5432 or email Anne on danieljcavanagh49@gmail.com.

To Make you smile: Woman to her friend: 'My husband is always travelling and is only home one month in the year'. Friend: 'How very sad for you'. Woman: 'Yes, but a month goes by very quickly!'

A Message from Fr Dan: Lent 2025 – Ash Wednesday this week marked the beginning of the Holy Season of Lent. This is the time every year when we make a special effort to fast, do penance, reflect on our faith and perform acts of charity. In this way we prepare for the great celebrations of Holy Week; the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ. It is through the events of the first Holy Week that we attain redemption.

On Ash Wednesday we wear ashes on our foreheads to remind us that we came from the earth and to the earth we will, one day, return. As the ashes is placed on our foreheads we think of the words of Jesus, "**Repent and believe in the Good News.**" The Good News is that we are loved by God and by his Son. Jesus Christ.

The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's Palm Sunday Mass. The ashes remind us also that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with changed hearts. God's mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent.

The Stations of the Cross are most commonly prayed during Lent on Fridays, and especially on Good Friday. Many of us were taught as children to "give up something" for Lent. Our parents made sure that what we did for Lent was really penance. Throughout our history Christians have found that prayer, fasting, and almsgiving were a great help in coming close to Christ.

Nowadays some prefer to look at personal habits that need work or to reach out to people in need. The priority is to grow closer to Christ. We are not asked to be perfect, but we should put forth a good effort. We can pray, fast and give alms.

For almost 50 years our people have contributed generously to **Trocaire** during the Lenten Season. Trocaire is the Irish language word for "compassion". Trocaire turns the compassion of the Irish people into life-changing support for some of the poorest people in the world.

From the Ennis Parish Newsletter – Adapted.

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Mass Intentions for Sunday 16th March 2025:

Rosbercon: Sunday 16th March at 11.00am:

Tom and Josie Cashin, Tinnakilly

Peggy Irwin, Assumption Terrace

Johnny Aylward, Shanbogh and Rosbercon

Phil Walsh, Glenballyvalley

Elizabeth Hennessy, Tinneranny

Jo and Michael Ryan, Glentiroe

St Mary's Cathedral, Kilkenny Restoration Fund 2024/2025:

The Diocesan Draw for February took place on Wednesday, 26th January 2025. Congratulations to Jamie Doyle of Rosbercon who won 9th Prize of €100.00. Please check the Church Noticeboards for the full results of the draw.

Rosbercon Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Brid Vereker and Anne O' Sullivan. If you have a Safeguarding concern, contact Brid or Anne.

A Mind Content with What Is: Once God grew tired of man's endless petitions, so He asked him to choose three things that might bring him contentment. The first request the man made was for his wife's death but he heard so much praise of her at her funeral that his second request was to have her back again! He was so anxious to get his third request right that he decided to leave it to God himself. He was then granted a mind content with what is.

Eight ways in which we can love our neighbour during Lent:

The Love of Listening: But you must really listen. Don't interrupt, don't plan your response. Just listen.

The Love of Affection: Be generous with appropriate hugs, kisses, pats on the back and handouts.

The Love of laughter: Share jokes and funny stories. You are saying 'I love to laugh with you'.

The Love of Solitude: There are times when we want nothing better than to be left alone. Be sensitive to those times and give the gift of peace to others.

The Love of a Favour: Every day, go out of your way to do something kind.

The Love of a Written Note: This can be a simple "Thanks for the help!". A brief handwritten note may be remembered for a lifetime.

The Love of a Compliment: A simple and sincere "You look great in red!". "You did a super job!" or "That was a wonderful meal!" can make someone's day.

The Love of a Cheerful Disposition: The easiest way to feel good is to extend a kind word to someone, or even just a smile.

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A Guardian Angel to watch over you: In today's gospel we read of Jesus being guarded by Angels. As children we learned a beautiful prayer to our Angel Guardian. It would be good if the prayer we knew as children became real again for us in adult life:

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here,

Ever this day (or night) be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen

Reflection

Jesus was transfigured on the mountain.

We too have moments of transfiguration.

Sometimes blessedness comes down around us,

A glory falls upon us from God and life is sweet.

In His love for us, God allows us to taste on earth, the joys of the world to come.

Lord, give us confidence in your unchanging love for us.

Help us to follow you with courage,

And lead us to the glory that never fades.

Just a thought: The Call of the Wind: We have been through some windy days and stormy nights as winter fades away and spring beckons and waits to give birth to new life. The trees are starting to produce their buds; daffodils, crocus and tulip are peeping through the soil waiting to catch a glimpse of the spring sun. The wind that tossed everything about has in effect cleared the way for new life. On Wednesday we begin the Season of Lent. Lent is a time to reflect again on our lives, to offload the baggage and make the burdens lighter. Here we are again this Lent, a people looking for hope amid the hurts and storms of life.

The Diocesan Designated Liaison Person is Ms Ailish Higgins 085-8021633 dlp@ossory.ie and the **Deputy Designated Liaison Person** is Mr. Cathal Cullen 056-7752448 ddlp@ossory.ie or Ms. Rose Brophy 087-3314330 ddlp@ossory.ie Should you be concerned that a child / young person may be at risk of abuse within a Church-run organisation or group, you are encouraged to report your concern to Ailish, Cathal or Rose.

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

Tintern Drama Group are holding their Drama in association with Campile area Development Group and Campile Hall "THE REAL MCOY" a comedy by Tommy Marren in Campile Hall on Thursday night 27th of March starting at 8pm Tickets are available in Hayes Daybreak Campile and Campile Hall. Phone (087) 2183300 for any further enquiries. All support would be greatly appreciated!

Employment Opportunity

Activities Assistant required in the New Houghton Hospital

Duties include providing residents with activities such as music, art and physical movement. Working as part of a multi-disciplinary team. This is a developmental opportunity, no experience necessary. Accredited training will be provided to support your career. Community Employment Terms and conditions apply. Contact 086 3642592 for further info.

Employment Opportunity

Project Worker required in St. Michael's Theatre

Duties include maintaining sets and props, setting up the stage and meeting rooms for various groups and minor maintenance. This is a developmental opportunity, no experience necessary. Accredited training will be provided to support your career. Community Employment Terms and conditions apply. Contact 086 3642592 for further info.

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