

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 31st August 2025

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TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Once, Jesus was invited to a supper. During the supper he commented on how the guests were fighting for the places of honour. Here Jesus invited us to his supper. He is the host, we are the guests. Here every place is a place of honour.

Theme of the Weekend Readings

God invites all people to His banquet. The humble get the places of honour.

First Reading

Be gentle and humble for there is no cure for the proud man's disdain.

Second Reading

The city of the living God is accessible to all who believe in Jesus.

Gospel—Jesus warns us against pride and arrogance.

Weekend Masses

Saturday 6th September 7:00 pm Mass in Tullogher
Sunday 7th September 9:30 am Mass in Mullinarrigle
11:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

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

Fr. Dan is now away on Sabbatical until 29th November, 2025. Fr. Anthony O'Connor will cover weekend Mass and the administration of Sacraments. Phone 087-2517766.

Recent Deaths

Tom Ryan, Listerlin

Anniversaries

Jim Conway, Listerlin

Jim Ryan, Guilcough Beg

Kathleen Brennan, Waterford

Thomas Dowling, Shanbogh

Richard and Rose Dollard, Smithstown

Anna Kearney, Smithstown

Jim and Nora Cody, Smithstown

Just a Thought: It's hard to believe that the summer holidays have come and gone. The children are beginning another year in school. The following is a Parent Blessing for their children as they go to school: 'Father, we thank you for the gift of our children. Bless them as they go off to school. May they remember we love them and that you love them too! In school help them to be good listeners, and to love and respect themselves and those around them. As they grow on the outside, may they grow on the inside too, in knowledge and love for you and others! Be with them and help them to learn today all the things you need them to know. We ask this through Christ Our Lord, Amen'.

A message from Fr. Dan: Attending the Weekend Mass: The Covid pandemic and the closure of Churches for public worship in March 2020 removed the practice of regular 'church going' and broke the cycle of weekly Mass attendance.

Even before Covid, church attendance had ceased for many or more likely been reduced to a number of occasions during the year, such as funerals, weddings, baptisms anniversaries, and the great feasts like Christmas and Easter.

Does this mean that people are losing their faith in God and in Jesus Christ? Apparently not! Sometimes in conversation when the topic of faith crops up, people will say, 'oh I talk to God or I pray in my own way'. If the question is asked, 'when or where or how do you talk to God?', the answer is often very hesitant and uncertain or there is a telling silence. For all that, people reassure us that the faith is there, just not practiced weekly by Mass attendance.

Today's adults have the advantage of being raised in an atmosphere of faith. We have a rich faith heritage going back many generations. We have memories of our parents' and grandparents' faith and prayer. We grew up in communities where faith was important and the Church was the centre of parish life. We have the language of faith so can carry on a reasonable conversation about our memories of belief and practice.

The question arises what about the children, the next generation? They do not have a full cupboard of remembered belief and practice. The concern is, that as they journey through life, things will happen which will test their beliefs and the values they live by. This may well be undramatic and happen quietly. At that point they may find their faith again or lose it altogether

For others a painful illness, a bereavement or and addiction may transform their lives and reveal God to them.

Faith is a living experience. We find God in our daily lives or we lose God altogether.

For faith to give meaning to our lives, we need a personal relationship with God and Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. Sadly, it will not happen automatically and cannot be taken for granted. It requires time and discipline if the Lord is to be given the opportunity to confirm our faith and help us to be a support to one another.

Our presence as part of the community at the weekend Mass deepens our faith and supports others in their faith. As Jesus says, 'where two or three are gathered in my name I am with them'. When the followers of Jesus began to drift away, Jesus said to the Apostles, 'And what about you, do you want to go away too?'. It was Peter who responded, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life'.

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Mass Intentions for Saturday / Sunday,

6th/7th September 2025

Tullogher: Saturday 6th September at 7:00 pm

Andy Murphy, Brownsford Castle

Michael Phelan, Late of the Old Post Office, Tullogher

Rosbercon: Sunday 7th September at 11:00 am

Stephen and Josephine O'Connor, Rosbercon

Collection of Parish Funds 27th July & 2nd/3rd August 2025

Offertory Collection € 991.70

Weekly Envelopes € 1,124.30

Parish Debt on 6th August 2025 € 11,853.60

Collection of Parish Funds 10th & 17th August 2025

Offertory Collection € 626.00

Weekly Envelopes € 743.00

Parish Debt on 20th August 2025 € 11,853.60

There will be a meeting of the **Rosbercon Parish Finance Committee** on Tuesday 9th September 2025 at 7:30 pm in the Parochial House.

Many thanks to all who contributed to the Annual Summer Envelope Collection for the support of Fr. Dan. Outstanding envelopes can be handed in at Mass or to the Parochial House.

Promises...Promises: September is upon us. The schools are reopening. Some will be making a new start in primary school, going into the infant class. Others will be taking the next step into second- level school. So, it's a time of excitement maybe also anxiety, a time for routines to come back in family life with earlier bedtimes and earlier mornings. September sees the resumption of meetings and evening activities and classes. So, it's a good time to make some new promises...the following Reflection may help to get you started.

Reflection

A Time for Promises

Promise to be strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind

Promise to make all your friends feel that there is something special about them

Promise to look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come through

Promise to think of the best, to work only for the best and to make the best come true

Promise to be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own

Promise to forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future

Promise to wear a cheerful expression at all times and give every person you meet a smile

Promise to give so much effort to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others

Promise to be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear and too happy to permit the presence of trouble in your life.

Humour: Mother to daughter going back to school: 'Of course I am sad you're going back to school and I have to stay at home, all alone, where it is quiet and I can do whatever, I want'!

◆ NEW ROSS ACTIVE RETIREMENT

New Ross Active Retirement are returning after their summer break on Friday September 5th at 11:00 am in the Youth Centre, Nunnery Lane, New Ross. New members are welcome.

◆ TULLOGHER ROSBERCON VINTAGE CLASSIC CLUB

The Tullogher/Rosbercon Vintage Club will hold a road run on Sunday 7th September in aid of Breast Cancer Ireland.

Assembly and Registration is at Rosbercon Parish Hall Y34TK33. Leaving at 1:00 pm heading to Woodstock Gardens Instioge. BBQ afterwards in Rosbercon Hall, all types of Vintage vehicles welcome. For more information please contact P.J on 087—7982118.

◆ 'THE MAN BORN TO BE KING'

Lake Productions will present "The Man Born to be King" on the 9th, 10th and the 11th September 2025, in the Black Abbey Church, Kilkenny. The religious play will be presented in conjunction with the Black Abbey in celebrating their 800th Anniversary. To book tickets go to www.eventbrite.ie and search for "The Man Born to be King".

◆ 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.

For more information please contact 086—3642592.

Retail Assistant required in the St. Vincent De Paul Shop, New Ross. Duties include customer service, stock control and some cleaning.

Accredited training will be provided to support your career.

Community Employment Terms and conditions apply.

For more information please contact 086—3642592.

WORLD TITLE BOXING IN BALLYNEALE

Back in the 1950's and 60's Ballyneale was the hub of summer evening entertainment for the locals who gathered there in numbers, the men in one area and the ladies gathered separately nearby strictly no communication of any kind permitted. An old local resident recalled the games of marbles, pitching the horseshoe and in particular the boxing matches between the men of the local townlands i.e. Tullogher v Ballyneale that took place. A local army man whilst on leave used to bring home two sets of boxing gloves to facilitate this much anticipated annual event. The contest consisted of two boxers against two whereby standing side by side their inner arms were tied together by a belt or a piece of rope and they each had a glove fitted to their outside hands one on the left side and the other on the right a glove a piece. The refereeless battle began on the sound of the whistle. The Queensbury rules were quickly set aside and the flaking commenced with gusto. This old man recalled the on lookers forming a large ring and in the midst of great excitement as the contest progressed it wasn't unusual to see a few of them overcome with excitement getting involved contributing a few extra shots to the participants. Whilst the Ballyneale men were regarded as good participants the Ballyfoylers were regarded as useless.

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