

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 22nd March 2026

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Fifth Sunday of Lent

In today's Gospel we see a familiar scene, namely, people weeping over the death of a loved one. Jesus is at the centre of that scene. He is the one who gives hope to those who are surrounded by the shadows of death.

Theme of the Weekend Readings: This weekend focuses on the Resurrection from death

First Reading: God raises his people from their graves.

Second Reading: The Spirit of God gives light.

Gospel: The raising of Lazarus.

Weekend Masses:

Sunday 29th March: 9.30am Mass in Mullinarrigle
11.00am Mass in Rosbercon

Weekday Masses:

Rosbercon:

Wednesday 25th March: 10am Mass

Friday 27th March: 10am Mass

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

Anniversaries

Ray Shannon, Glenpipe

Micheál Kavanagh, Mountgarrett

Josie and Tom Cashin, Tinnakilly

Nora Breen, Tinnakilly

Bridget and William Gaule, Annfield lane, Rosbercon

Derek and John-Joe Lewis, Assumption Terrace and all deceased members of the Lewis family

Ned and Mary O'Neill, Ballyknock and all of the deceased members of the O'Neill family

Jim Brindley, Ballybeg and Tramore

Johnny, Cissie and Noel Furlong, Brownstown

Peggy Irwin, Assumption Terrace, Rosbercon

Paddy Murphy, Brownsford

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.

Prayer of Blessing for the World:

May your servants be shielded, O Lord by the protection of your loving kindness, That, doing what is good in this world, they may reach you, their highest good.

Through Christ Our Lord, Amen

A Message from Fr Dan: Hail Glorious St. Patrick! St. Patrick's Day is the day when millions of people, even those without a drop of Irish blood become honorary Irish for the day. The day itself has become traditionally associated with parades and the wearing of the green. Globally the 17th March is pencilled in as a day for everyone to celebrate the impact that our ancestors have made on both the religious and social development of our world.

Following St. Patrick's footsteps, the early monks brought the light of Christian Faith to a Europe of that time that had fallen into darkness of pagan worship. Even to this day Irish Missionaries, both religious and lay, are to be found in every corner of the world, bringing dignity, hope and love to people who are suffering and poor.

The early ideas I had of St. Patrick was that in his youth he had a hard time as a slave in Ireland but that after his return as a missionary he found success came very easy. Later in life I read documents called his "Confessions" and "Letters to Coroticus" and I realised that his life as a missionary here in Ireland was anything but an easy one.

Despite all his success he had to cope with many disappointments and setbacks and would certainly not have achieved so much if he did not have great faith in God. We all know about the first big crisis in Patrick's life, when at the age of sixteen, he was snatched from his secure home to a life of slavery in Ireland. Yet when he looked back on this time, he saw it as a blessing. From being a lukewarm Christian, he turned to God for help and as he himself wrote "I used to get up for prayer before daylight."

He escaped after six years, eventually making his way home and later he was ordained a priest, hoping one day to return to Ireland. When he did return, he met with great success but at a price. In his old age some people, envious of his success, began to gossip about him, others who were his helpers were more educated than he was and looked down on him as they felt that he was not qualified to lead them.

The experience of St. Patrick shows us that the path to God is never smooth, even for a great saint. When troubles and disappointments came and he had more than his fair share of them, St. Patrick put his trust in God, reached out to him in prayer and gave an example from which we can all learn. As we celebrate St. Patrick's Day, we are invited to reflect on our values which are the hallmark of what makes us Christians.

From the Ennis Parish Newsletter –Adapted.

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Mass Intentions for Sunday, 29th March 2026:**Mullinarrigle:** Sunday 29th March at 9.30 am

Margaret Long, Listerlin

Rosbercon: Sunday 29th March at 11.00 a.m.Katie Murphy, Ballyfoyle and remember her late husband Tom and all deceased members of the Murphy and Doherty families
Joe Lawlor, Schoolhouse Road

Moses Murphy, Assumption Terrace, Rosbercon

Bobby and Bridie Richardson, Assumption Terrace, Rosbercon

Holy Week Programme 2026**Rosbercon Church:****Wednesday of Holy Week:** Mass 10.00 a.m.**Holy Thursday:** 7.00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper.**Good Friday:** 3.00 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion**Holy Saturday:** 8.00 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass.**Easter Sunday:** 11.00 a.m.**Mullinarrigle Church:****Easter Sunday:** 9.30 a.m. Mass of the Resurrection**Tullagher Church:****Good Friday:** 8.00 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion**Holy Saturday:** 6.00 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass**Rosbercon Parish Safeguarding Representatives** are Brid Vereker and Anne O' Sullivan. If you have a Safeguarding concern, contact Brid or Anne.**Lenten Reconciliation Services:** Fr Dan will hear Confessions for Lent after the weekend Mass in Rosbercon. Confessions will be heard in Listerlin this Sunday 22nd of March.**Lenten Station Envelopes** together with Trocaire Boxes have been distributed to the homes of the Parish. Please return Lenten Station Envelopes at your convenience. The Trocaire Boxes should be returned to the Church on Holy Thursday.**Diocese of Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026:** Our Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place again this May. Package details are for 5 nights, departing May 25th, fares from €995pps. Anyone wishing to travel, bookings for our Pilgrimage, can be now made directly with Joe Walsh Tours Tel: 01-2410800 Email: info@joewalshstours.ie**Prayer for those Away from Home:**Loving God, we pray for those whom we love,
But who are absent from us.

Keep them safe from all harm, stress and danger.

Bless them with peace, laughter, wisdom, love and joy.

Grant that we may be reunited in the fullness of love;

In Christ's name we pray. Amen

Humour: A man, who always had money troubles, was asked by a creditor to pay at least the interest on the money he owed. He replied: My dear fellow, it is not in my interest to pay the principal or in my principal to pay the interest.**Prayer of Blessing for the World:**

May your servants be shielded, O Lord by the protection of your loving kindness,

That, doing what is good in this world, they may reach you, their highest good.

Through Christ Our Lord, Amen

To Make you smile: A traveller asked a holy man if he could share his tent for the night. The holy man invited him in and asked the man to pray with him. The traveller refused, saying he was an atheist. The holy man showed him the door. That night the holy man asked God if he had done the right thing. God replied, 'No, you did not. I have put up with that atheist for 70 years and you could not put up with him for one night!'**Reflection**

I arise today, through the strength in the sky:

Light of the sun, moon's reflection

Dazzle of fire, speed of lightning

Wild wind, deep sea, firm earth, hard rock.

I arise today, with God's strength to pilot me

God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me

God's eye to look ahead for me, God's ear to hear me

God's word to speak to me, God's hand to defend me

God's way to lie before me, God's shield to protect me

God's hand to safeguard me

(John O'Donohoe)

St. Joseph's Day Prayer 19th MarchGuardian of the Holy Family and faithful servant of God,
on this day dedicated to you,we thank you for your quiet strength, your humble heart,
and your steadfast trust in the Lord's plan.Guide us in our work, protect our families,
and help us to live with patience, courage, and love.Teach us to listen for God's voice in the silence,
and to act with kindness in all we do.

St. Joseph, protector of the Church,

pray for us now and at the hour of our need.

Amen.

A True Christian: 'In reality, there has been only one Christian,
and he died on the cross'.

Frederick Nietzsche, German Philosopher (1844-1900)

South Kilkenny Historical Society lecture**Caring in the Crossfire:** Northern Ireland's Health Services during the Troubles**Speaker:** Dr Ruth Duffy, Queen's University Belfast**Date:** Friday, 27th March 2026**Time:** 8pm**Venue:** Mullinavat Parish Hall (opposite St. Beacon's church)**Wisdom:** "We must learn to live together as brothers and sisters or perish together as fools."

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