

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 17th May 2026

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Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord

On this day we celebrate the glorification of Jesus, our brother, when the Father called him home to Heaven. Jesus wants us to share in his glory. Let us reflect for a moment on the glory to which we are called.

Theme of the Weekend Readings: Christ ascends into Heaven.

First Reading: Saint Luke describes the Ascension.

Second Reading: Christ is present at the Father's right hand.

Gospel: St. Matthew's Ascension story.

Weekend Masses:

Sunday 24th May: 9.30am Mass in Mullinarrigle
11.00am Mass in Rosbercon

Weekday Masses:

Rosbercon:

Wednesday 20th May: 10am Mass

Friday 22nd May: 10am Mass

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

Anniversaries

Margaret Fleming, Shanbough

Mieczyslaw Olipra, McMurrough Court, New Ross

Gerry Hennessy, Marshmeadows formerly Glensensaw

Philip, Michael Wall and Baby Jack Kelly, Rosbercon

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.

Sincere thanks to all who contributed so generously to the **Lenten and Easter Offering**. Outstanding envelopes may be handed in at the weekend Masses or to the Parish Office.

We welcome into our Christian Community **Margaret Jenny Murphy**, daughter of Paddy and Alice, Marshmeadows, who was baptised in the Church of the Assumption, Rosbercon, on Saturday 9th May 2026.

Graveyard: Please help keep the Parish cemeteries clean and tidy by taking home any withered flowers and wreaths instead of leaving them at the cemetery entrances. Remembering our beloved dead is important, and so too is caring for these sacred spaces. All old flowers, wreaths, and other waste should be taken home for proper disposal, as there is no collection service available in the cemeteries. Thank you for your cooperation.

A Message from Fr Dan: The Ascension of the Lord: This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension, when Jesus Christ in the presence of his followers, ascended into Heaven. People often ask the question, 'but where is Heaven?'. In the past we had a rather simplistic idea, that earth was here and Heaven was somewhere up there in the clouds. We thought of Heaven as almost a physical place and people often asked how so many people could fit there?

We are now more aware that the size of the Universe is beyond what the human mind can grasp or even imagine. Like God the Universe is total mystery. No amount of travel will bring us to Heaven! Christ, our God, came among us in human form to teach us the way to live and in this way to find Heaven. He asked his followers to bring his message to the ends of the earth. After two thousand years of Christianity, we still struggle to live from day to day and to remain healthy. We can achieve little on our own.

God recognizes our limitations and our helplessness. So, he sent Jesus to guide and help us. Jesus came as one like us to show us the way to God and to lead us to God. After his life, death and resurrection he ascended to the Father. He assures us that he is not leaving us alone. Where he has gone, we hope to follow. He has gone 'to prepare a place for us.' So, we are not to be troubled. As Jesus said, 'there are many rooms in my Father's house'.

It's a question of faith. Jesus tells us that we now possess the glory of God as his gift and when our earthly life is over, he will come to meet us and welcome us home to God's kingdom. In the meantime, we live in hope.

For our earthly life, we live under the power of the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. We are Christ's presence in the world, tending the garden of the Lord. We enjoy his gifts of nature, the Eucharist, the Scriptures and the love of our family and our community. Where two or three of us gather in his name he is with us in a special way.

Cemetery Clean up: If there are anyone in the Ballyneale or surrounding areas that would be able to help with the strimming and clean up of the Grave Yard in Ballyneale, petrol and other materials will be supplied. Please contact Bob on 086 1060689.

Love is a popular Word: 'If I speak the languages of men and of angels, but don't have love, I have become a sounding brass or a clanging cymbal..., If I give all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body to be burned, but don't have love, it profits me nothing.'

St Paul

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Mass Intentions for Sunday, 24th May 2026:

Mullinarrigle: Sunday 24th May at 9.30 am

Edward and Margaret Conway, Listerlin

Sr. Margaret Conway, Holy Faith Sisters and Listerlin

Rosbercon: Sunday 24th May at 11.00 a.m.

Andy Kane, Shanbogh

Dick and Bidy, Fluskey, Shanbogh

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

Our Lady of Lourdes Lotto Fundraiser: We had no jackpot winner this week and the €20 weekly winner was Paschal Wilson. Next week spot prizes are 1. €50 One4all Gift Card and 2. €25 One4all Gift Card. Both of these kindly sponsored by Allianz Insurance. Thank you everyone for your support. You can sign up to our fundraiser via the following link:

<https://www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/olo>

The Diocese of Ossory requires a Nurse to provide an advocacy and support service to Priests in the Diocese of Ossory. The Diocese comprises of 42 parishes in Counties, Kilkenny, Laois and Offaly. The post will be part-time, flexible and initially for a three-year period. The ideal candidate must be:

- A registered General Nurse (ideally with Community experience).
- Self-motivated and have the ability to co-ordinate care planning in a community-based environment.
- Possess excellent communication skills.
- Competency in time management.
- Full clean driving licence and own transport are essential.

Please email your application to admin@ossory.ie or by post to The Diocesan Secretary, Diocesan Office, James's St, Kilkenny, R95 NH60. Closing date for applications is Friday, 29th May 2026.

Reflection:

"Always trust your fellow man.

And always cut the cards.

Always trust God.

And always build your house on high ground.

Always love your neighbour.

And always pick a good neighbourhood to live in.

The race is not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, but you'd better bet that way.

Place your bet somewhere between turning-the-other cheek and enough-is-enough-already.

Place your bet somewhere between haste-makes-waste and he-who-hesitates-is-lost.

About winning; it isn't important.

What really counts is how you play the game.

About losing; it isn't important

What really counts is how you play the game.

About playing the game; Play to win."

Dates of Cemetery Masses in Rosbercon Parish, 2026:

Thursday, 18th June: Ballyneale Cemetery

Friday, 19th June: Listerlin Old Cemetery (**Rosary Only**)

Tuesday, 23rd June: Shanbogh Cemetery

Friday, 26th June: Rosbercon New Cemetery

Tuesday, 30th June: Rosbercon Old Cemetery

Friday, 3rd July: Mullinarrigle Cemetery

Sunday, 23rd August: St Moling's Well

All Evening Masses at 7.30pm and Sunday Mass at 2.00pm

Please note the change of time for evening services.

Wisdom: We are not all in the same boat, but we are in the same storm.

What is Home:

Most people have forgotten nowadays what a home can mean, though some of us have come to realize it as never before. Home is a kingdom of its own in the midst of the world, a haven of refuge amid the turmoil of our age, a sanctuary.

A home is not founded on the shifting sands of private or public life but has its peace in God. For it is God who gives a home its special meaning and dignity, its nature and privilege, its destiny and worth.

Home is the place that God establishes for us in the world, A place, where peace, quiet, respect, acceptance, and, to crown them all, happiness, may dwell, whatever else may pass away in the world.

Humour: A man was reading the Bible. He read in the Holy Book that if you prayed for anything for seven years you would get it. So, he prayed for seven years to win the Lotto, but did not win. So, he went back to the Good Book and read, 'If you do not receive what you prayed for after seven years, pray for a further seven years and it will be granted' So the man prayed for a further seven years but did not win the Lotto. So, in his desperation he called out to God, 'O God, give me a break'. And he heard a voice call back 'You give me a break, buy a lotto ticket'!

River Scenic Escape - Co. Kilkenny

Relax and enjoy the fantastic scenery along the River Barrow surrounded by the history that makes Graiguenamanagh so beautiful. Discover the natural beauty and unique riverside landscape of Ireland's Ancient East and beyond, led by Eoin Bolger, a resident of Graiguenamanagh.

- Limited availability. Capacity of the boat: 12 people
- Duration: 1 hour
- Time: 12.00 PM - 1.00 PM - 2.00 PM

Meet 10 min before at the Quay, Graiguenamanagh, County Kilkenny. All Tours are subject to the weather conditions. FREE event, BOOKING essential. See the full list of events on livingearth.ie

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