

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 24th May 2026

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Pentecost Sunday

This is the day when, true to his promise, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to the Apostles. The coming of the Spirit changed the Apostles and saw the launching of a new community (the Church). This day renews the gift of the Spirit in each of us and in the Church as a whole.

Theme of the Weekend Readings: The coming of the Holy Spirit.

First Reading: The Spirit descends.

Second Reading: The effects of the Spirit.

Gospel: The gospel of John links Easter with the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Weekend Masses:

Sunday 31st May: 9.30am Mass in Mullinarrigle
11.00am Mass in Rosbercon

Weekday Masses:

Rosbercon:

Wednesday 27th May: No Mass

Friday 29th May: No Mass

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

Recent Deaths

Matty McGrath, Rosbercon

Arthur (Terry) Coldough, Waterford

Mary Phelan, Tullogher

Anniversaries

Andy Kane, Shanbogh

Dick and Bidy Fluskey, Shanbogh

Cathy Doran, Maiden Lane

Please note there will be no **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** next Wednesday morning 27th May 2026.

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.

The **Annual Summer Collection Envelopes** for the support of Fr Dan will be available from the weekend of the 5th /6th June. The usual distributors are asked to oblige and we thank them for their work on our behalf. Part of this collection supports the retired priests and the priests of the Diocese whose income has to be supplemented.

A Message from Fr Dan: Pentecost: The Coming of the Spirit:

This weekend's celebration of Pentecost is a beautiful feast. Scripture tells us that over two thousand years ago the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles, accompanied by miraculous signs of mighty winds and tongues of fire. The descent of the Spirit is the final act of our salvation which God had promised. From Old Testament times there was an expectation that God would send his Spirit to his people. So, the coming of the Holy Spirit reminds us that God fulfils his promises, even if it takes time!!

The sound of the wind and the flame that accompanies the Spirit represent the creative breath of God and fire was also associated with the purifying presence of God. The wind and the fire tell us that God is about to do something 'new' or even that God is creating something new. The experience of the Spirit this weekend changes what is old and stale within us to something new.

Why does God send the Holy Spirit to us? God sent the Holy Spirit to his followers because the early Church needed God's Spirit. The first disciples were in hiding after their experience of the crucifixion of Jesus. They were terrified that what had happened to Jesus would happen to them. Only the power of the Holy Spirit would get them over their fear.

In answer to their prayer, God sent the Holy Spirit, to embolden them to go out and preach the story of Jesus and to remind the people of the love of God. Pentecost reminds us that God will fulfil his promises, even if it takes time. His presence this weekend is powerful and re-creates the old into something new as he responds to our needs today. So, let us all pray, Veni Sancte Spiritus, Come Holy Spirit.

Many thanks to all who took part in the in the **Holy Communion Ceremonies** in Listerlin last weekend. Special thanks to the Teachers, Choir, Readers and to those who decorated the Church. We wish all the children happiness in their lives.

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.

*This weeks newsletter is kindly sponsored by
Tirlán Glenmore*

Mass Intentions for Sunday, 31 st May 2026:

Mullinarrigle: Sunday 31st May at 9.30 am
Bernard (Barney) Malone, Brownsford and all deceased members of the Malone Brownsford family
Anna and Martin Woods, Ballymartin

Collection of Parish Funds 10th & 17th May 2026:

Offertory Collection: €1,354.05

Weekly Envelopes: € 906.75

Parish Debt on 20th May 2026: €7,353.60

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

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.

Pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome 25th – 30th October 2026:

Including visits to the Tombs of St. Francis of Assisi, Saint Carlo Acutis and St Clare of Assisi . Spiritual Director – Fr. Marius Tomulesei OFM Conv €1,565pps. Full itinerary available or to book your place contact Marian Pilgrimages (01) 8788159. Early booking is advised as limited spaces available.

Our Lady of Lourdes Lotto Fundraiser: We had a jackpot winner this week; €725 jackpot was won by David Falconer. Spot prizes winners were Olive Keating - €50 One4all Gift Card and Jenny Burke - €25 One4all Gift Card (both 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>

Humour: 'Some people live their life and they worry about their destination. I enjoy the trip. Wherever you're going is where you'll end up. Don't worry about that. Enjoy the scenery on the way – Noel Gallagher.

Summer Wishes: Fr Dan thanks all parishioners for the many wonderful ways that we journey together throughout the year. He thanks those who have continued to be so generous to our parish and to him over so many years. May we all enjoy the wonderful season of summer.

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.

Reflection: Death Overcome

As long as the sun comes over the hills,
scatters the darkness, and fills the world with light;
As long as the fields get green again,
and the primroses and violets return;

As long as the trees fill up again with leaves,
there is hope for us and for the world.

So, come, let us follow the footsteps of spring,
for the snow has melted,
and life is awakening from its sleep
and wanders through the hills and valleys.

Come, let us ascend the heights
and gaze upon the waving greenness of the plains below.

O come, let us rejoice on this Easter Day,
for death has folded up its tent and gone away.

Rosbercon Castle:

The origin and construction of Rosbercon Castle has long since being lost in local history however, the answer is found in the court case held in Kilkenny involving the 1834 trial of a local man charged with the murder in Annefield Lane of the notorious Mr. Lundy Foote who resided in the castle a retired barrister and tobacco merchant who seeking a quiet and retired lifestyle in Rosbercon following an earlier attempt on his life had just completed the castle construction in 1832 using local labour. This earlier attempt happened in 1831 whilst riding on horseback from Ross back to his estate in the Rower where he was not very popular, fortunately the perpetrator's gun jammed and fled the scene back across the river to Rosbercon and later to America. Following Lundy's death, the Foote family disposed of both the castle and attached grounds. In famine years the castle back entrance off Annefield lane served as a food distribution centre for the local poor. From about 1875 to the early 1900s a backyard building served as the Rosbercon Petty Sessions Court, the high benches of which and usual court room furniture with two solid iron rings fitted to one wall for retention purposes were visible up to the early 1960s. The two lovely period semidetached dwellings facing onto Rosbercon hill predate the castle back to c1815 are not part of the actual castle building and were over the years regarded as the exclusive dwellings of the parish aristocracy.

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