

Rathdowney Parish Newsletter
20th / 21st June 2020
Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Parish Office: 0505-46282.
Email: rathdowney@ossory.ie
Fr. Martin Delaney 086 2444594

Saturday 8.30pm

Ned & Mary Campion, Bridge View House, Donaghmore

Breda Carroll, Kylemelawn

John, Margaret & Joseph Dowling, Clonmeen

Sunday 11 am:

Martin Begadon, The Conoboro

Masses During the Week

Mon 10 am:

Tuesday 10 am: For the intentions of Cathy McNicholas

Wed & Thurs 10 am

Fri: Mass at 10 am: Ann Dillon & Tom Ryan, Ross
60th Birthday Remembrance

Mon to Friday: Rosary at 5.30pm

Masses Next Weekend

Saturday 8.30 pm:

Thomas Behan, Graigueavalla 1st Anniversary

John & Marcella Moore & their son Alan, Borohan

Donal Hickey, Dublin

Sunday 11 am:

Betty Keane, Months Mind & **Tim Keane**, Anniversary

Mary Finane, Kilcoran

Recent Deaths

John Holohan, Co. Mayo & formerly Middlemount

Noreen Coss (nee Doyle) Portlaoise & formerly Kyle

Sonny Bowe, 14 Moore Street

Planning to Re-open Our Churches for the Public Celebration of Mass.

Over the last few weeks, our Parish Pastoral Council has met to begin planning the reopening of our churches for the public celebration of Mass. The Irish Bishops have issued a Framework Document to guide this process, but each parish has to submit a detailed plan to our bishop outlining how we intend to re-open safely for the public celebration of Mass and other Sacraments.

The First thing we had to determine was how many people can be accommodated while observing the two-metre social distance. **This means that Rathdowney church would only be able to have a maximum of 90 people attend at Mass and in Errill it would be about 30-35.** How do we determine who comes to mass? Given that our regular mass attendance pre Covid19 was 550 approx. this would mean that for the foreseeable future our regular attendees would be only able to come to mass every month or five weeks.

The parish Council has agreed that anyone wishing to come to mass will have to indicate in advance their intention to do so. We will have a group of ushers at each mass who will greet people at the door and bring them to a designated seat in the church. The Parish Council also agreed that we will only be opening Rathdowney church initially and Errill will open at a later date. This will give us a chance to see how the new system is working and adjust as necessary. Having both masses in Rathdowney for the immediate future means that those who cannot attend physically will have access to both masses on the webcam.

This is going to be a very big challenge and I hope that our parishioners will be patient and understanding as we try to welcome back congregations to weekend mass in a safe way. We will keep you updated as the plan is finalised over the next few weeks. If our plan is approved by the bishop we intend to celebrate the first weekday mass on Tuesday 30th June and the first weekend masses on Saturday 4th July/Sunday 5th July. As we continue to work on this plan please feel free to contact me or any member of the Parish Pastoral Council for clarification and all helpful suggestions will be very welcome!

Fr. Martin

Parish Pastoral Council Members: Assumpta Casey; Helen Campion; Josephine Campion; Fran Doyle; Maureen Guilfoyle; Oliver Kennedy; Mary Nolan; Mary O'Dea; Josephine Ryan; Fr. Martin Delaney

Weekly Concert

Michael Creagh will entertain us this week at our concert on Tuesday at 1 pm available on our website www.rathdowneyparish.ie Or www.parishwebsites.ie/rathdowney

Candle Light Procession

You are invited to a CANDLE LIGHT PROCESSION on Sunday June 21st at 8.30 pm LIVE on zoom from MEDJUGORJE !

Fr Martin will lead us in prayer as we gather in front of St James's Church and then go to the candle park to place our intentions before the heart of Jesus on the Cross. We will then move in procession to pray the Mysteries of Light behind St James's Church. Roland (Medjugorje musician) will lead us in song.

Please have a lit candle with you, as we join one another from our homes in praying for all the intentions in our hearts.

'Dear Children... prayer is light... you are not called to the darkness, you are called to the light...'

Follow this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2365242750?pwd=RlISVm84bCtVeU1WNXh6aXB5UTVBdD09> to Meeting ID: 236 524 2750 Password: Medjugorje

Sunday 21 June 2020

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading

Jeremiah 20:10-13

Jeremiah said:

I hear so many disparaging me,
“‘Terror from every side!’
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!’
All those who used to be my friends
watched for my downfall,
‘Perhaps he will be seduced into error.
Then we will master him
and take our revenge!’
But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;
my opponents will stumble, mastered,
confounded by their failure;
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.
But you, O Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice,
who scrutinise the loins and heart,
let me see the vengeance you will take on them,
for I have committed my cause to you.
Sing to the Lord,
praise the Lord,
for he has delivered the soul of the needy
from the hands of evil men.

Psalm or Canticle

Psalm 68(69):8-10, 14, 17, 33-35

In your great love, answer me, O Lord.

It is for you that I suffer taunts,
that shame covers my face,
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,
an alien to my own mother’s sons.
I burn with zeal for your house
and taunts against you fall on me.

In your great love, answer me, O Lord.

This is my prayer to you,
my prayer for your favour.
In your great love, answer me, O God,
with your help that never fails:
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;
in your compassion, turn towards me.

In your great love, answer me, O Lord.

The poor when they see it will be glad
and God-seeking hearts will revive;
for the Lord listens to the needy
and does not spurn his servants in their chains.

Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,
the sea and all its living creatures.

In your great love, answer me, O Lord.

Second Reading

Romans 5:12-15

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of ‘law-breaking’, yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man’s fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

Gospel

Matthew 10:26-33

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: ‘Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the housetops.

‘Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

‘So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.’