

## MASSES THIS WEEKEND

### Sat. 6pm Rathdowney

#### Enrolment Mass for Our First Communion Children

Kathleen Kenny, Quigley Park 1st Anniversary  
Jackie Cahill, Main Street  
Michael Creagh, Harristown

### Sunday 10.00 am Errill

Fr Joe Campion, formerly Lisduff

### MASSES DURING THE WEEK – IN RATHDOWNEY

Monday: No Mass

### Tues 10am:

Service of the Word and distribution of Communion

Wednesday 10 am: May Fitzpatrick, Ballybrophy

Thursday & Friday: Mass at 10 am

## MASSES NEXT WEEKEND

### Sat. 6pm Rathdowney:

Kreena Baterson, Mooreville Months Mind  
Maura & John Loughlin, Moore Street  
Ellen Bannon, Oldtown, Errill

### Sun. 10.00 am Errill:

Michael Walsh, Glosa, Months Mind  
John & Margaret Meehan, Grogan

### Recent Death:

Dan Whelan, Ballybrophy

### Collections Weekend 14th/15th October 2023

Weekly Envelopes €1688.60  
Offertory Collection: €286.40

### Adoration

Adoration in Rathdowney on Thursday after Mass until 12 noon

Adoration in Errill on Friday from 10am until 12 Noon.

Rosary will continue each evening - Monday to Friday  
at 5.30 on the Webcam

### Pilgrimage to Medjugorje 2024

The pilgrimage to Medjugorje will take place from June 5th to 12th, 2024. 7 Nights Half Board €879 per person sharing. Single supplement €140. Price does not include Travel Insurance.

€100 discount if paid in full by 15th November.

Full religious programme led by Fr Martin Delaney.  
For more information & to book contact Group Leader  
Mary O'Dea at 087 3170084

## Rathdowney Parish Newsletter

21st & 22nd October 2023

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Parish Office

Darina Ní Cholmáin / Maureen Guilfoyle

Contact: 0505-46282.

www.rathdowneyparish.ie

Email: rathdowney@ossory.ie

Fr. Martin Delaney 086 2444594 - Sr. Anita O'Leary 087 4301072

### Remembrance Mass

Our Annual Mass of Remembrance for those who died during the past year will take place on

**Thursday 2nd November at 7.30pm.**

If you wish to have a candle presented at this Mass in memory of your deceased relative please contact the Parish Office on 0505 46282

### Synod Update

This past week the Synod discussed mission and a central aspect of that discussion, it seems, focused on the role of women in the Church. Opening this session, Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich (Archbishop of Luxembourg) drew attention to the question of gender right away with questions that we could read –

“Most of us are men. But men and women receive the same Baptism and the same Spirit. The Baptism of women is not inferior to the Baptism of men. How can we ensure that women feel they are an integral part of this missionary Church?” He challenged participants, most of whom are ordained men, to examine whether they feel “enriched or threatened” when sharing responsibility for the Church’s mission with women. Interesting thoughts, as the vast majority in attendance are men and only 54 of the voting members of over 350 are women... but the women's voice is being heard... remember the Synod does not do decisions, it does deliberations and it is deliberating... Discussion also took place on authority, structures and processes and what would a synodal Church really look like? Those involved have confirmed that the difficult conversations—for which there are not easy answers—are happening.

### Social Dancing

Social Dance classes for beginners will start in the Marian Centre on Wednesday 25th of October at 8 pm.

Contact Mary on 087 9249633

### SAFEGUARDING

Designated Liaison Person  
Kathleen Sherry —085 8021633

[safeguarding@ossory.ie](mailto:safeguarding@ossory.ie)

Gardaí 1800 555 222

TUSLA – Laois/Offaly 090 648 3106

**Parish Representatives**  
**Helen Campion & John Casey**

The Covid 19 pandemic changed our lives in many ways and some of the practices and services which we took for granted have been slow to restart. At our Parish Pastoral Council meeting during the week, we discussed two services in our parish which have not resumed since the restrictions of a few years ago. The first one is the facility we had to offer catering and refreshments in the Marian Centre after funerals. This was a popular option for many families, and we would like to provide this service once again. We need a small core group of people who would be prepared to coordinate the service. I’m asking for some volunteers to form the core group. Please contact me directly or The Parish Office if you are interested.

The second service we discussed was Altar Servers. We have had none in either church since 2019. The Parish Pastoral Council feels that we should resume the ministry of Altar Server. My previous experience of recruiting Altar Servers was through the school. I would bring in Application forms. At least twenty enthusiastic candidates would take home the forms and a few days later 75% of them would come back to me and say that their parents did not want them to serve or were not prepared to commit to bring them to Mass. I am very happy to have Altar Servers, but I would like to try to a different approach to recruiting them. Therefore, I am asking young people and or their parents to express an interest in this ministry by contacting me or The Parish Office and we will take it from there.

Fr. Martin