

## Kildare & Leighlin Christmas Message 2024 from Bishop Denis

At the very centre of the word ‘*incarnation*’ is the noun ‘*caro*’ meaning flesh. God assumes our flesh. He who is everywhere, allows himself to be restricted in our human body, in our broken and bruised world. Christmas is once again marvelling at this becoming flesh, the fact that He “*became flesh*” (Jn.1:14).

Christmas reminds us that God completely assumed our human condition.

We sometimes ask, why did He do it? Because He cares for us, loves us, wants to hold us close to Him and particularly those who are fragile or tender.

As we contemplate the mystery of the Incarnation this Christmas, our hearts are filled with joy and gratitude for God’s immense gift to humanity. But we can’t just leave it there, Christmas calls us to be that gift to others.

As Pope Francis reminded us in his homily at Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve 2023 in St. Peter’s Basilica “*Christ does not look at numbers, but at faces*”.

This Christmas, as we prepare to step into a Jubilee Year of Hope, may we realise He sees our face and He smiles at the greatest gift we can give, the gift of being present to and for one another, the gift of our hearts. Pope Francis’ latest encyclical *Dilexit Nos* means “*He Loved Us*”. He invites us to draw closer to one another and to allow our hearts to be transformed. Looking on the crib at Christmas allows us to do just that. May our hope, this Jubilee Year, be grounded in the incarnate Christ.

As the Jubilee Prayer prays “*may your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the gospel*”.

Blessings and good wishes to all for Christmas and 2025. ✠Denis

### THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Sunday, 12th January is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. At Mass we will remember all the children baptised during 2024. Families are invited to attend Mass in Tynock Church on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> January at 6 p.m. & Rathvilly Church on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> January at 11 am. There will be a special blessing for the children. Baptismal Certificates will be available after Mass.

### ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE & RADIO

[www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie/our-parish/webcam](http://www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie/our-parish/webcam)      **Radio 104.3 fm**

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, Rathvilly/Kiltegan - 083 1494412**

**Parish Office – Mon-Fri: 10 am – 1 pm - 059 9161114**

**Email: [office@rathvillykilteganparish.ie](mailto:office@rathvillykilteganparish.ie)      Website: [www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie](http://www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie)**

**Registered Charity Number 20015848**

**Diocesan Website: [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)      Parish Radio 104.3 fm**

**Local Safeguarding Reps: Mary Phelan   Elizabeth Austin   David Carton**

**Diocesan Director of Safeguarding: Ms Ailish Higgins   Email: [safeguarding@kandle.ie](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)**

## **RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH**

### **NEWSLETTER**

**St. Brigid’s                      St. Patrick’s                      The Assumption**  
**Talbotstown                      Rathvilly                      Tynock**  
**Sat/Sun, 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2024      Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS**

**Recent Death:** Brian Smyth, Templeogue Dublin brother in law of Phyllis Fowler

**Months Mind Mass:** Ann McNamara, Baltinglass this weekend, 21/22 December

### ANNIVERSARY MASSES

#### Sat/Sun, 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> December

Kevin Barry, Tombeagh – 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary                      Michael Mullin, Rathdangan  
Patrick & Breda Molloy, Ricketstown & Rathvilly                      Moya Mullin, Rathdangan  
John Dunne, Carlow  
Eileen & Denis Byrne, St. Patrick’s Park & deceased members of the Byrne family  
Fr Nicholas Cullen, former PP                      Tommy Kelly, New Road, Ballyoliver  
Fr Edward Flood, former PP                      Leon Kelly, New Road, Ballyoliver  
Jackie Kelly, Manchester & Ballyoliver

#### Christmas Eve & Christmas Day, 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> December

Matthew & Margaret Byrne, Ballymanus                      Paddy & Nora Quinn, Roscommon  
Jim Smith, London & Coole                      Jimmy & Gretta Fowler, Birmingham

#### Sat/Sun, 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> December

Margaret Ludkins                      Sheila Fitzpatrick, Mt. Kelly  
Harry & Bridget Byrne, Fr. Cullen Tce                      John Fitzpatrick, Ardnahue  
Joe McCall, Bough                      Jim Doyle Snr., Ricketstown  
Molly Lawlor, St. Patrick’s Park                      Jim Doyle, Jr., Ricketstown  
Liam Lawlor, Phelan Street & deceased family members

#### Sat/Sun, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> January

James, Teresa & Johnny McGuire & deceased family members  
Paddy & Elizabeth Kelly, Ricketstown & deceased family members  
John (Jack) Farrell & his daughter Myra, Maynooth  
Mary Plant, Rahill                      Ann O’Connor nee Plant, Rahill

### ST. PATRICK’S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

Christmas Eve, 24<sup>th</sup> December – Mass at 6.00 p.m.

Christmas Day, 25<sup>th</sup> December – **Mass at 11.15 a.m.**

Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> December – No Mass      Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> December – Mass at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> December – Mass at 10 a.m.

Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> January – Parish inauguration of Jubilee Year – Mass at 11 a.m.

Thursday & Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> January – Mass at 10 a.m.

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION – Adoration will resume on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> January.**

### **ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN**

Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> December – Mass at 6.00 p.m.

Christmas Day, 25<sup>th</sup> December – Mass at 10.00 a.m.

Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> January – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Mary Kelly, Feddan.

Reader: Fiona Kane.

Reader: Breedh Murphy.

### **CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK**

Christmas Eve, 24<sup>th</sup> December – Vigil Mass at 8.00 p.m. Reader: Lucilla Brophy.

Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> December – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Mary Byrne.

### **CAROL SERVICE**

**St. Patrick's Church, Rathvilly this Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December 6 p.m. All welcome.**

### **HOUSEBOUND VISIT ON MONDAY, 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

**Kiltegan Area 11 a.m. and Rathvilly Area 2.00 p.m.**

### **CHRISTMAS WISHES**

As we celebrate Christmas and end 2024, I reflect on a busy year in our Rathvilly Kiltegan Parish Community. We have shared times of joy and sorrow. We have marked notable anniversaries and coped with our share of disappointments. It has been the first calendar year in which the Parish is served by a single priest. Our parish is fortunate to have four excellent schools for the education of our primary children. Each of them has just offered a Christmas concert in the days gone by.

I would like to wish you all and the members of your extended families every blessing of joy and happiness at Christmas and in the year 2024. I wish to acknowledge the assistance of a great number of people in helping in our liturgies and parish celebrations.

Thanks to our deacon Liam Dunne, the sacristans, musicians, readers, collectors, ministers of the Word and of Holy Communion, and to all who assist in any way in the building up of our parish and community. Looking forward to building on our strengths into the future as we 'Push out into the Deep'. Our Parish is in the same pastoral area as Baltinglass, Grangecon and Stratford. I invite people of all age groups to offer their services in any way you might like to help. Forging a future with our neighbouring parish of Baltinglass is a project you can all help in. Together we are stronger.

Msgr John McEvoy PP

### **WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> December**

Rathvilly: Offertory €411.87

Envelopes €715.50

Kiltegan: Offertory €96.97

Envelopes €500.00

We thank all our parishioners who contribute to the weekly Collections.

Next years Envelopes are being distributed to families. If you do not receive a box and would like to contribute to the Parish, there are boxes available in each Church or please contact the Parish Office. Please put your name on the envelope.

### **PARISH LOTTO (Kildare & Leighlin Co-Op Lotto Draw)**

Results from 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2024 No Jackpot winner €20,000 Numbers: 04-13-18-31.

17 Match 3 numbers and get €59 each. No local match three winner this week.

The draw takes place each Wednesday at 4 p.m. in the Parish Centre, Portlaoise.

**On Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> January the Jackpot is €20,000.** Tickets €2.

Thank you to all our parishioners for supporting the Lotto.

### **CHRISTMAS CRIB**

The Crib will remain open from now until 2<sup>nd</sup> February. We welcome donations for Homeless Charities.

### **JUBILEE 2025: Pilgrims of Hope**

The Jubilee Year 2025 opens in Rome on Christmas Eve, 24 December.

The opening of the Holy Year will be marked universally in a liturgy celebrated by the diocesan bishop on the following SUNDAY, 29 DECEMBER.

Mass takes place in Carlow Cathedral at 7.00 p.m. All are welcome.

A copy of the Jubilee Prayer is available in each Church.

### **MARRIAGE AND THE JUBILEE OF HOPE**

Bishop Denis and Accord will mark the Jubilee of Hope, celebrating with engaged and married couples on the Feast of the Epiphany, 6<sup>th</sup> January in the Cathedral of the Assumption Carlow at 7pm.

All are invited; those preparing for marriage, all married couples – particularly those celebrating Jubilees, and those remembering the love of their departed spouses, who are with God in heaven. Come along, pray, celebrate and give thanks. After Mass all are invited to refreshments in the Cathedral Parish Centre.

### **SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.**

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 11 – 18 - 23 – 25

Pat Ivory, Tynock 9-11-18-23

Breda Keogh

Promoter's prize €20 was won by Peg Kehoe, St. Patricks Park, Rathvilly.

Next draw 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec. 2024 Jackpot €20,000

**Traditional Extra Christmas Draw** – Five share €150: Maire O'Connor, Kevin Barry Rd. David Kelly, New Road, Ballyoliver, Hazel Burgess, Lisnavagh, Willie O'Toole, Ballyoliver and Paul Kelly, Rathvilly.

**Christmas and a Peaceful New Year** - The committee of Slaney Rovers AFC would like to thank everybody for their support to the Club Lotto during the year and would like to wish one and all a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

### **CARLOW PRIDE OF PLACE**

In Tullow Municipal District– Michael Collins Park, Rathvilly were the winners in the Small Housing Estate category. Congratulations for the great work done in the Estate.

### **RATHVILLY GAA CLUB**

Lotto Results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 6-10-25-28

Match 3 win or share €150

Mayghan Doyle Carlow 6-10-15-28

On line winner

Gretta McGuirk Ricketstown 10-19-25-28

On line winner

### **Christmas draw winners:**

Mons. John McEvoy Rathvilly, Eamon Kelly Lucan, Gretta McGuirk Ricketstown  
Adrian Doyle Fr. Cullen Tce. Yvonne Whyte Woodgrove.

Next draw Monday 23 Dec. 2024 Jackpot €11,100.

The club wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.