

Presentation of the Lord Deacon: Rev. Liam Dunne

Presentation of the Lord

Candlemas Day

Luke 2:22-40

Today we hear an account from Luke's Gospel of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, which was required after the birth of the firstborn male. At the Temple, it is not the priests they meet but Simeon, a 'righteous and devout' man on whom 'the Holy Spirit rested'. They also meet Anna, an eighty-four-year-old prophet who had dedicated her life to prayer and fasting. This pair are wise and represent God's faithful ones; they are a continuity with Israel's past. Anna and Simeon don't appear to have any official status, which probably makes them free enough to be able to stand on the threshold of old and new and embrace this turning point for the people of God. In his oracle Simeon warns Mary of the challenging times ahead – Jesus' radical hospitality to all will not sit comfortably with everyone. Anna rejoices for all those who are looking for change, for hope. She knows that this child will challenge systems of oppression and exclusion.

Luke is interested in how humanity responds to the Gospel. If Jesus' message is really good news, then this requires a change of 'heart'. The heart spoken of here refers to the inner workings of a person, that which regulates our attitudes and actions. Jesus challenges people's comfortable assumptions. Many situations in our own world today need a shake-up. The 'inner thoughts of many' are 'revealed' when we face crises that bring out the best and the worst in us. Look around at the different responses to refugees and asylum seekers; our reaction or lack of reaction to the climate and biodiversity crises; the resistance to change in our Church. In order to embrace what is new and life-giving, we always have to let go of something and invite freshness in. May we, like Simeon and Anna, filled with the Holy Spirit and giving praise to God, have the courage to cross the threshold from old to new, to bless it and welcome that which can bring restoration for all. Copyright © Triona Doherty & Jane Mellet, 2023. *The Deep End: A Journey with the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Mark*. Dublin: Messenger Publications 2023).

“Simeon and Anna cherished the hope proclaimed by the prophets, even though it is slow to be fulfilled and grows silently amid the infidelities and ruins of our world. They ... patiently looked for the light shining in the darkness of history.

– *Pope Francis*

ALL MASSES AND PRAYERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE & RADIO

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 Website: www.rathvillykilteganparish.ie

Registered Charity Number 20015848

Diocesan Website: 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

RATHVILLY KILTEGAN PARISH

NEWSLETTER

**St. Brigid's
Talbotstown**

**St. Patrick's
Rathvilly**

**The Assumption
Tynock**

Sat/Sun, 1st & 2nd February 2025

The Presentation of the Lord

Recent Death: Colette Byrne, Golden Fort, Grangecon, sister of Annie Kelly, Ballinroan.

ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Sat/Sun, 1st & 2nd February

Brendan Paisley, Rathvilly – 1st Anniversary

Agnes Byrne, Garretstown

Sean Bolger, Rathvilly

Philip Kavanagh, Broughillstown

John Swayne, Rathvilly

Sat/Sun, 8th & 9th February

Martin Molloy, Rathvilly

Vera Lawlor, Rathvilly

Christopher & William Lawlor, Rathvilly

Bridie Doyle, Tankardstown

Andy Smith, Coole & London

Thomas & Ellen Foley, Rathmore & deceased family members

Canice Donnelly, Broughillstown & deceased family members

William, Kieran, Thomas & Michael Byrne, 16 Ballyoliver

Adrian Byrne, Fr. Cullen Tce.

Mary Hanlon, Ricketstown

Patrick Hanlon, Bough

Kate Hanlon, Borris

Kathleen Faulkner, St. Patrick's Pk

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RATHVILLY

Monday – the Feast of St Blaise – Mass at 10 a.m. with Blessing of Throats.

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday – Mass at 9.30 a.m. No Mass on Friday morning.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION – Adoration each Friday 3 – 6 p.m.

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, TALBOTSTOWN

Saturday, 1st February – Mass at 6.00 p.m.

Reader – Joe O'Brien.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, TYNOCK

Sunday, 9th February – Mass at 9.30 a.m.

Reader: Lucilla Brophy.

Feast of St Blaise – 3rd February

The Blessing of Throats will take place after each Mass this weekend, 1/2 February.

PARISH HOUSEBOUND VISIT FOR FEBRUARY

Kiltegan Area on Wednesday 5th February from 2 – 5 p.m.

Rathvilly Area on Friday, 7th February from 2 – 4 p.m.

CHRISTMAS CRIB

The Crib will close this weekend 2nd February, The Presentation of the Lord.

To date, thank you for your generous donation of €693.32 for Homeless Charities.

SPECIAL MASS

February 15th/16th will be a celebration of love. Special prayers and blessings will be included in all the Parish Masses to celebrate St. Valentine. Everyone is welcome to attend and join in the celebration and prayers.

ST PATRICK'S DAY IN RATHVILLY

Weather permitting Rathvilly Parish will celebrate St Patrick's Day in a special way this year. People are invited to gather at St Patrick's Well on March 17th at 10:30am where shamrock and water will be collected. Prayers will be said at the well in honour of St Patrick. We will then process to St Patrick's Church for Mass. After this celebration all are invited for light refreshments in the parish meeting room.

PARISH SURVEY

A parish survey will be distributed in the coming weeks for parishioners to share their experience and views of the parish. This will be circulated online with physical copies available in the Churches. A special box will be available in the Churches for the return of physical surveys. This will guide the work of the redevelopment group in the parish and allow all parishioners voices to be heard. Your support and time is much appreciated in completing this activity.

COLLECTION FOR CHURCH FLOWERS

Collection for flowers for the Church will take place Sat/Sun, 15th /16th February. Donations of Flowers for the Altar would also be much appreciated.

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS – 25th & 26th January

We thank all our parishioners who contribute to the weekly Collections.
Rathvilly: Offertory €437.48 Envelopes €1845.00
Kiltegan: Offertory €41.80 Envelopes €142.00

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

Results from 29th January, 2025 **One Jackpot winner of €20,000**
Congratulations to McNamara Household, Bough. Promoter – Trish Leonard.
Numbers: 03-13-21-30. 26 Match 3 numbers get €39 each.
One local match three winner this week.
Winner – Oliver Kirwan. Promoter – Philip Kirwan.
Next draw on Wednesday, 5th February. **Jackpot €10,000.**
The draw takes place each Wednesday at 4 p.m. in the Parish Centre, Portlaoise.
Thank you to our parishioners for supporting the Lotto.
Tickets available in the Post Office, Parish Office, Lotto promoters and also in Rathvilly, Tynock & Talbotstown Churches after Mass in the Sacristy.

RATHVILLY NS - 6 WEEK DRAW – Results Week 2

€100 – Paul Kelly. Promoter – Robyn Kelly.
€50 – Emmet Doyle (Snr). Promoter – Cooper O'Brien.
€20 – Jason Byrne. Promoter – Cody Byrne.
€20 – Ethan Carthy. Promoter – Mya May Boland Carthy.
Promoters Prize €20 – Robyn Kelly.

ECUMENICAL TABLE QUIZ

Ecumenical Table Quiz takes place on Friday, 21st February in The Harp Lounge at 8.30 p.m. Team of 4 - €40. A meeting to prepare for the Quiz takes place on Wednesday, 5th February in the Harp at 8 p.m. If you can help, please attend meeting.

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 – 'A CALL TO ACTION!'

The celebration of Jubilee 2025 has now begun throughout the universal Catholic Church on the theme: 'Pilgrims of Hope'. For further information on Jubilee 2025 Year of Hope, see the dedicated page on CatholicBishops.ie for all Jubilee-related updates, including a live calendar featuring events happening across the island.

SLANEY ROVERS A.F.C.

Lotto Results: No Jackpot Winner. Winning numbers were 1 - 8 - 16 – 18
Liz Nolan c/o Chrissie Deering 1-8-16-27 Chrissie Deering
Antoinette Kelly, Fr. Cullen Terrace 6-8-16-18 Peg Kehoe
Promoter's prize €20 – Rathvilly Post Office.
Next draw 4th. Feb. 2025 **Jackpot €13,100.** Thank you for all your support.

RATHVILLY GAA CLUB

Lotto results: No Jackpot winner. Numbers drawn 1-5-14-19
Match 3 win or share € 150. 5 Lucky dips
Colette Sibbald Patricks Well On Line winner
Paul Hickey Bough On Line winner
Pat Deering Ballybit On Line winner
Holly Nolan Bough Post Office
Irene Smith Fr. Flood Ave. Post Office
Next draw 4 Feb. 2025 **Jackpot € 11,700 Membership now open for 2025**

RATHVILLY COMMUNITY CENTRE AGM

Rathvilly Community Centre Committee will hold its AGM on the 25th February 2025 in Lawlor's Bar at 7.30pm. Nominations for executive positions should be sent to Brian O'Donoghue by 5pm on 15th February 2025, via email info@rathvillycc.ie or in writing to Williamstown, Rathvilly. Co. Carlow. Nominations are sought for chairperson, secretary, joint treasurers, vice chair and assistant secretary. Open invite to anyone interested in the School House Community and Enterprise Centre, please come along and show your support

The School House Community & Enterprise Centre

The committee of our local centre will be shortly going door to door seeking support for our Buy-A-Brick Fundraiser. This is an opportunity for your name, a family name, or a loved one's name, or a family crest to go on the wall of the building when renovated and be part of the history of the building. There are single brick (€100) and double brick (€150) options available. There's also a business/corporate option available. Please keep an eye out for our committee members and support if you can. Our committee members are: Janice Joyce, Brian O'Donoghue, Rita Balfe, Pat Deering, Anna Deering, Alan Hanks, Liam Cole, Aidan McNamara, Sarah Gallagher, Fiona Brennan, Martin Deering, Norah Ryan, Trevor Jones.