



NEWSLETTER

11TH SEPT 2022

A PARISH OF THE MULLINGAR DEANERY

Fr. Stan Deegan Tel: 044-9374127 0872673655.

Email: parishofkillucan@gmail.com

www.parishofkillucan.ie Facebook: Killucan Parish

The Community of St. Camillus 044 9374115.

ST. JOSEPH'S, RATHWIRE.

Saturday 10th, 6pm. Mary Fox. Richard Lynch & dec.d family.

Sunday 11th, 11.30am. Seamus Leavy MM. Joseph & Elizabeth Clyne.

Saturday 17th, 6pm. Noel Kellaghan MM. Michael, Jane & John Gilsenan.

Sunday 18th, 11.30am. Billy Leavy. John Keenan.

ST. BRIGID'S, RAHARNEY.

Sunday 11th, 10am. Rob & Roisin O'Connor.

Weekday Masses; Tues & Thurs Raharney 9am. Wed & Fri Rathwire 9am.

Adoration
of the
Blessed Sacrament



In St. Joseph's Tuesday 1pm-9pm.
& St. Brigid's Wed. 6pm-10pm:
*Special Diocesan intention of prayer
for vocations and the family.*
Take one Hour with the Lord

MASS OFFERTORY COLLECTION: €390
PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND €356

Charity shop: at Rathwire church opens Tues, Thurs & Fri 11am – 1pm.

Alpha Course: takes place in the Greville Arms hotel for 11 weeks. Sessions each week begin on Sept 8th from 7.30pm – 9pm. In the course there is a different theme each week to learn more about Jesus, the Scripture and Prayer. The evening consists of an Alpha film series shown for about 20 minutes, followed by small group discussion and light refreshments. All are welcome to come and develop faith together.

Bingo: returning to Rathwire on Tuesday evenings at 8.30pm from **Tues 20th Sept.**

Raharney History Group: if you have a story, as memory, a picture or a postcard from the Raharney area that you would like to share with the group you can contact Anne 0879308405/ Rita 0877638807.

Lost Sheep

Today's liturgy is about the lost sheep, the people who "have become depraved," the criminals and doers of evil who have offended against God and society. These are the lost people who are like the prodigal son, wasting everything they have on dissolute living. They present a challenge to us just as the prodigal son presented a challenge to his family.

The message of today's liturgy is forgiveness, leaving the ninety-nine sheep in the wasteland and following the lost one until he is found. Our model is the father of the prodigal son, who forgives the past and welcomes his dead son back to life. Our task is to reconcile, for "the Good News of reconciliation God has entrusted to us."

It is contrary to the spirit of this liturgy to lock people up in prison and on death row and forget about them. Our task of reconciliation involves making it possible for the most "lost" of human beings to rise "and go to my Father."

We worship God on this Sunday by professing our belief that "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." We worship God the rest of the week by rejoicing in the salvation of the lost sheep.

Abolition of capital punishment is a manifestation of our belief in the unique worth and dignity of each person from the moment of conception, a creature made in the image and likeness of God.

It is particularly important in the context of our times that this belief be affirmed with regard to those who have failed or whose lives have been distorted by suffering or hatred, even in the case of those who by their actions have failed to respect the dignity and rights of others.

U.S. Bishops, [Statement on Capital Punishment](#),

Sunday Message

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • 2 October 2022 • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 3



**DUTY
CALLS**
LUKE 17:5-10

Doing our duty is a central theme of today's Gospel. Jesus tells a parable about what is expected of servants.

The situation he describes would have been familiar to his audience, a medium-sized farmer who can afford to employ a single worker as a jack-of-all-trades. The job spec would have been agreed upon when the servant was taken on and included working in the fields and helping around the house.

It would be unthinkable for the employer of such a servant to prepare the servant's dinner and wait on the servant at table. It would always be the other way around.

Jesus applies the parable directly to the disciples. They are servants of the Kingdom of God; therefore, they shouldn't expect to be thanked simply for doing what is required of them. They have no right to expect special treatment for doing what they are supposed to do anyway. ■

SAY

Repeat the words of the apostles in today's Gospel. Say slowly and prayerfully: "Lord, increase our faith."

LEARN

Real faith is not just assent to a list of teachings. Genuine faith is belief in a person. It is a deep relationship with God who reveals himself to us in Jesus.

The gift of faith is the greatest treasure one can possess.

To live the Gospel is to do our duty.

PRAY

God gives faith to all who asks for it. Pray for the light of faith and for the strength to live out its implications.

DO

Speak to people this week about your faith. Tell them why it is so important to you.

REFLECT

Today's Gospel reminds us of the importance of duty in our lives and the need to honour it. Duty is a dull word. It speaks of routine, obligation, reliability, monotony, having to do something. You are 'on duty' or 'duty calls'. It doesn't sound very exciting. It's not what you dream about when you're in school, and you're asked what your ambitions are for the future. You're unlikely to say, "I just want to be dutiful."

And yet there's a beautiful nobility about being dutiful. Family life and society could not function if people were not dutiful, if they did not fulfil the monotonous everyday tasks expected of them – cook dinner, do the shopping, take the children to the creche or school, iron clothes, put out the rubbish, help with homework, head out to work every morning whatever the weather.

There are other even more heroic examples of duty. Think of those who put their career on hold to look after an elderly parent or sick child. Those who go to a

nursing home or a hospital every day to spend time with a loved one; those who have raised children by years of putting themselves in second place or who held a marriage together through significant challenges because 'it was their duty.'

I know a woman who, in her old age, looked after four grandchildren after their mother had walked out on them. She should have been enjoying her old age, but she had to start mothering all over again, which she did with devotion and love. An awful lot for a woman in her 70s to take on, but she would insist that she was only doing her duty.

And that, at its heart, is what duty is all about – it is a practical expression of love in action. There are countless people who think of themselves as ordinary and do mundane but heroic, loving things every day. We all know people who fall into that category.

Today's Gospel also reminds us of another form of duty: that of witnessing to our

Christian faith and handing it on. To live the faith as best we can is to do our duty. It is returning the love that God has shown us.

That means not only the routine things like going to Mass that can often seem boring, mundane, and unexciting, but more heroic things, too, like standing up for the Gospel in a culture that is increasingly anti-religious and sacrificing your time and money out of love for neighbour or in service to the poor. As people of faith, doing all of this is doing no more than our duty.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples they should never expect a pat on the back for doing what they are called to do anyway as disciples. He is saying the same to us too. We should not expect to be congratulated for witnessing to our baptismal calling. We do it out of love. We do it out of gratitude for what God has done for us. And we know that when our hour of judgement comes, it will be sufficient reward. ■