



NEWSLETTER 2 OCT 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.

Sunday 2nd, 11.30am. Mary Casserly. Joseph Croach Jnr & Joe Croach.

Sunday 9th, 11.30am. Daithi Hynes MM. Margaret (Mag) Nea. John & Mary Nea. Tom Nea. Teresa Cronley
James & Bridget Quinn. Tom & Declan Brilley.

ST. BRIGID'S, RAHARNEY.

Sunday 2nd, 10am. Doreen Murtagh. Kitty Brady.

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: €679
PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND €620

RIP: AnnRose Finn, Colehill. Sister of Kathleen Shaw.

First Friday: Communion calls attended as usual.

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.

Day for Life Message – Caring for the Older Person

The focus of the Day for Life this year is older persons.

There are many challenges which we face; the way in which we provide care for older persons, its cost and the means of payment, the shortage of staff in care homes, the time and energy needed to help older people feel valued and wanted. Many feel they have become a burden or can feel treated as a burden, a 'bed-blocker', or a nuisance because they move more slowly, struggle with more physical challenges and live a different rhythm of life. They often feel vulnerable and worry, when they hear talk about and even concrete proposals for the legalisation of assisted suicide and euthanasia. We share their concerns. In better valuing older persons, we need to find new ways of building bridges by our actions.

Pope Francis has recently offered a very different and more positive perspective. In his Catechesis on Old Age, he writes, 'The alliance between generations, which restores all ages of life to the human, is our lost gift and we have to get it back. It must be found, in this throwaway culture and in the culture of productivity.' [1] He invites us to listen to the dreams of older women and men and to learn from their wisdom (Joel 2:28). Older persons have a different rhythm to life from which we can learn. He continues, 'The arrogance of the time on the clock must be converted into the beauty of the rhythms of life.' [2]

We invite people to think again about the value and worth of older persons in families and in society, and to make practical choices to build bridges between the generations. We call for people and parishes to devote quality time, energy and creativity in caring for the older persons in our communities.

We invite engagement in political debate on providing adequately resourced care of older persons so that no-one feels like a burden in our society.

We challenge our politicians and healthcare system to provide accessible palliative care for all the dying.

We encourage people to learn from a closer accompaniment of the elderly that there is a real richness in the journey through old age, which offers a deeper meaning and a new rhythm to the whole of life; something which can be celebrated and lived with hope in eternal life.

Saint Joachim and Saint Anne, pray for us.

Sunday Message

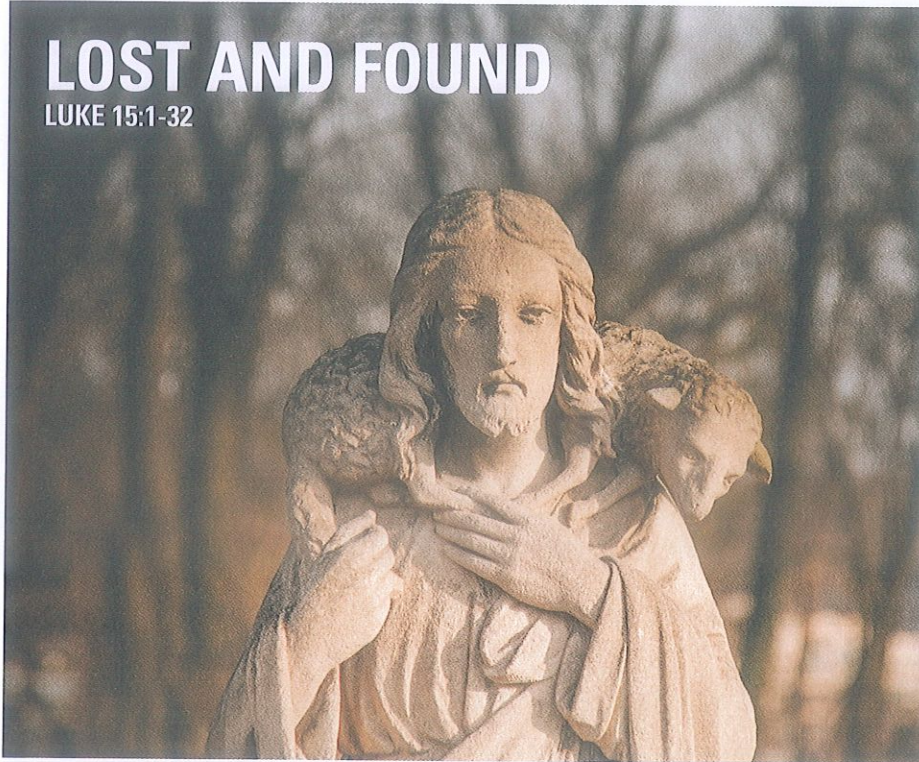
24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • 11 September 2022 • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 4

LOST AND FOUND

LUKE 15:1-32



In today's Gospel, Jesus tells three parables about things lost and found – a lost sheep, a lost coin and a lost child.

The reason Jesus tells them is that the professional religious people were aghast that a man who claimed to be speaking in God's name was welcoming all sorts of people without demanding that they first perform the religious rites needed to bring them back into good standing in the community. The parables are Jesus' response to the exclusive nature of the religion of the Pharisees.

Each parable speaks of a God whose love and concern for his people goes way beyond what we would regard as rational or normal behaviour. Why would a shepherd risk losing 99 sheep to look for a stray that wanders off? Why would a woman spend the entire day turning her house upside down searching for the equivalent of a single penny and then invite her neighbours to celebrate with her over finding it? Her neighbours would think she was mad. Why would a parent throw a party for a renegade son who had treated him so badly and squandered his inheritance? No wonder the elder son is indignant.

And yet, Jesus says that this is what God is like – a God who loves us like mad, who forgives us unconditionally, who includes rather than excludes. And that's the model for how we should behave, also. ■

LEARN

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

God never gives up on us, no matter how often or how badly we let God down.

The extraordinary story of our salvation is that our God is a loving, forgiving God who never stops loving and forgiving us.

God's mercy turns the logic of justice on its head.

DO

Imagine that you are the elder son in the story of the prodigal. Place yourself in his shoes. How do you think you would have reacted to the Father's forgiveness of the younger son?

SAY

Thank you, Lord, for always loving and forgiving me. Help me to never stray from you. Amen.

REFLECT

Some time ago, I was in Anfield for a Premier League game. Needless to say, as a devoted Liverpool fan, I had a wonderful time. Great seat, great company, great atmosphere, great result. Only one thing deflected from the experience.

It was a public announcement that was repeated several times: "Would XX please make himself known to a steward or a police officer? XX from XX who has become separated from his dad."

As I watched the match, I thought of the boy – alone, confused, frightened, probably crying. And I thought of his dad – panicking, frantic, berating himself for his negligence in losing his son, his enjoyment of the game also lost.

And then, because the announcement stopped after a while, I imagined the pair reunited – the joy on the little boy's face, the extraordinary relief of his dad, their tender embrace, and how, assuming they were sensible enough to be Liverpool supporters, they could now enjoy the rest of the match in each other's company – safe and secure.

Thankfully, I've never been in a situation like that – so I can't even begin to imagine the panic, the fear, the cold chill that comes over a child when they look around and discover their dad or mum isn't there, or a parent who discovers that their child isn't by their side any more. That he or she is missing. It must be an appalling realisation.

It's something that too many families have experienced – a son or daughter suddenly missing; a loved one vanishing into thin air: the desperate searching, the heartbreaking appeals for information, the never-ending longing for answers.

We remember today all those who are missing, the well-known cases as well as the not so well-known, and we ask the Lord to comfort their devastated families who never stop looking for them. ■

PRAY

Pray for all those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks in America on this day 21 years ago. Ask the Lord to comfort the grieving and for an end to all acts of violence.