



NEWSLETTER

16 OCT 2022

A PARISH OF THE MULLINGAR DEANERY

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The Community of St. Camillus 044 9374115.

ST. JOSEPH'S, RATHWIRE.

Sunday 16th, 11.30am. John McGuane. Sam Garty.

Sunday 23rd, 11.30am. Kathleen & Billy McDermott. Peggy Gorman. Lelane McGrath.

ST. BRIGID'S, RAHARNEY.


Saturday 15th, 6pm. Seamus Plunkett.

Sunday 16th, 10am. Christopher Greville.

Saturday 22nd, 6pm. Larry Byrne.

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

MASS OFFERTORY COLLECTION: €534
PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND €634

<p>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</p> 	<p>In St. Joseph's Tuesday 1pm-9pm. & St. Brigid's Wed. 5pm-10pm: <i>Special Diocesan intention of prayer for vocations and the family.</i> Take one Hour with the Lord</p>
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Charity shop: at Rathwire church opens Tues, Thurs & Fri 11am – 1pm.

To raise vital funds **LARCC Cancer Support Centre**, Multyfarnham is hosting its annual 5km Run / Walk and Family Fun Day on Sunday 16th October at 12 noon.

Refreshments to be served, Medals for all participants. Children's entertainer with Face Painting. Register

online: www.cancersupport.ie - or Register on the Day. Follow event on Facebook.

Event to be timed and is AAI sanctioned.

World Mission Sunday Oct 23rd.

World Mission Sunday is the Holy Father's annual appeal for spiritual and financial support so that the life-giving work of overseas mission and missionaries can continue. It always falls on the second last Sunday in October, and like the Good Friday collection for the Holy Land and Peter's Pence, it is one of three yearly universal Church collections.

World Mission Sunday collections take place in every single parish where the Church is present. This includes not only Ireland and Europe, but also in poorer parishes in developing countries. It is a moment of universal solidarity when each member of the Church family, regardless of location or background, play their part in supporting each other. This is what makes it such a special celebration.

Why is World Mission Sunday important?

All offerings and donations made for World Mission Sunday become part of the Holy Father's Universal Solidarity Fund. This fund is a lifeline for struggling missionaries and the communities they serve across Africa, Asia and Latin America, where over 1,100 mission dioceses are found. As these dioceses form and grow, so do their needs. On top of this, mission dioceses are often in remote areas devastated by war and natural disasters, or where suppressed communities are just opening up to the life-saving message of Jesus Christ.

This is why World Mission Sunday is so important. It offers young dioceses the financial and spiritual assistance they need to help their men, women, and children to survive and thrive.

Sunday Message

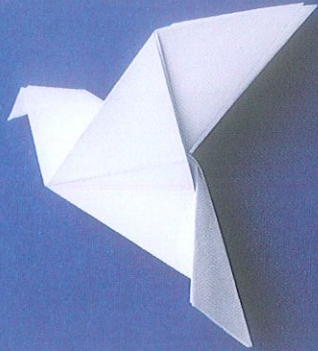
29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • 16 October 2022 • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 1

NEVER GIVE UP

LUKE 18:1-8



The opening line of today's Gospel makes it clear that this parable is about persevering in prayer. The parable involves a conflict between two stock characters.

The widow stands for the most vulnerable kind of people in Israelite society. With no husband to ensure their rights, widows were at the mercy of others, including even male family members. We don't know what this woman's case is, except that she wants justice against her enemies. The rather self-important judge, who neither fears God nor listens to public opinion, isn't going to allow a defenceless woman like her to get the better of him. At least, that's what he thinks. For a time, he ignores all her demands for justice.

At this point, Jesus includes some humour that gets lost in most of our translations. As is often the case in his parables, Luke lets us into a character's inner world. Here he shows us the judge's innermost thoughts. Unbending he may be, he realises he will have to yield to this defenceless woman. Why? Our translations usually say something like "because she will persist in coming and worry me to death." The original word in the parable can be translated as something close to "she will slap me in the face" or even "she will give me an uppercut." The judge fears that this powerless woman's exasperation will know no bounds, and her persistence will finally spill over into violence. So a judge who doesn't fear God or care about public opinion is brought to his knees by the most defenceless of women, a poor widow!

Jesus applies the parable to how God deals with persistent prayer. God will reply to those who cry day and night, even though it may look as if their prayer is unanswered. The riddle of unanswered prayer is one of the great tests of faith and something the Bible does not ignore. When the Israelites cry out under the burdens of slavery, God "hears" but does not immediately answer. The Book of Job is built around the problem of a good man who suddenly loses everything he has, to whom God seems deaf until God and Job finally become locked in a dramatic argument.

In the last line of today's Gospel, something of a reversal takes place. The main character of the parable was an earthly judge and not a very good one at that. Another judge is coming, the Son of Man, who will be even more searching than the most stringent earthly judge. ■

SAY

Lord, help me to never lose heart. Help me to trust in you always. Amen.

PRAY

Ask God to help you keep on praying and trusting in him, even when God seems deaf to your prayer.

DO

Look at our society and world. What injustices exist that need to be addressed? Join or donate to a group that works for justice and peace.



LEARN

The Christian knows the importance of prayer.

Prayer and justice go hand in hand. If we are people who pray, then our prayer will compel us to be concerned for justice and to work for it.

Action for justice is a constitutive part of preaching the Gospel.

REFLECT

The Gurkhas couldn't believe their luck. For years Nepalese veterans who served in the British army before 1997 had been campaigning for the right to settle in the UK but without success. And then the actress Joanna Lumley took up their cause. Her father had served with the Gurkhas, and she felt they were being treated unjustly. She began a campaign on their behalf, which attracted huge publicity and put tremendous

pressure on the authorities. In the end, the British government had to give in. Ministers were afraid the actress would give them a metaphorical black eye!

There are many Joanna Lumleys throughout our world today, women and men who work for justice. For more than 30 years, widows and mothers have marched in Buenos Aires seeking to discover the fate of sons and husbands who disappeared during the military rule of the 1980s. Closer to home, there are the

women like Marie Collins who suffered sexual abuse and persisted until their voices were heard.

To follow Jesus means to work for justice. Indeed, the church teaches that action for justice is a constitutive part of preaching the Gospel. It is not enough for us to tell the poor, the abused, the unjustly treated that "we will pray for them." We must also do what we can to address the injustice. And, like the persistent widow, we mustn't give up. ■