



# NEWSLETTER

23 OCT 2022

A PARISH OF THE MULLINGAR DEANERY

Fr. Stan Deegan Tel: 044-9374127 0872673655.

Email: [parishofkillucan@gmail.com](mailto:parishofkillucan@gmail.com)

Streaming; <https://www.churchservices.tv/raharney>

[www.parishofkillucan.ie](http://www.parishofkillucan.ie) Facebook: Killucan Parish

The Community of St. Camillus 044 9374115.

## ST. JOSEPH'S, RATHWIRE.

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>, 11.30am. Kathleen & Billy McDermott. Peggy Gorman. Lelane McGrath.

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>, 11.30am. Brigid Maher. Mary O'Gorman.

## ST. BRIGID'S, RAHARNEY.

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6pm. Larry Byrne.

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>, 6pm. Christopher (Kit) & Kathy McKeogh & dec.d family members.

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>, 10am. Frank, Elizabeth & Patrick Gorman.

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

MASS OFFERTORY COLLECTION: €620  
PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND €580

Adoration  
of the  
Blessed Sacrament



In St. Joseph's Tuesday 1pm-9pm.  
& St. Brigid's Wed. 5pm-10pm:  
*Special Diocesan intention of prayer  
for vocations and the family.*  
**Take one Hour with the Lord**

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

## World Mission Sunday Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>.

In Ireland, Missio Ireland is responsible for coordinating World Mission Sunday. We are part of a global network serving the Church in over 120 countries.

We seek to help the faithful to understand and respond to the call of mission. We respect all cultures and traditions by treating everyone as brothers and sisters under one loving God. Because of your kindness, we can support overseas missionaries, serving in some of the most impoverished areas of the world, through their challenges, struggles and hardships.

The needs of overseas dioceses vary greatly. Anything from a motorbike so a priest can celebrate Mass in a remote village, to a community hall to allow people to gather and celebrate in safety. Or more urgently, vaccinations and medicines to protect the vulnerable.

In essence, World Mission Sunday:

- Provides Church centred infrastructure by helping communities build schools, clinics, parish halls, and churches
- Prepares the future leaders and carers of the Church by supporting the training of sisters, priests, religious brothers and catechists
- Supports missionary programmes that protect and care for children's wellbeing by offering safe shelter, healthcare, education, and hope for the future

Each year, representatives from our 120 international offices meet for the National Assembly. During this meeting funding requests from mission dioceses are reviewed to identify those with the greatest need. Each international office is then assigned specific missionary projects to fund via their country's World Mission Sunday collections.

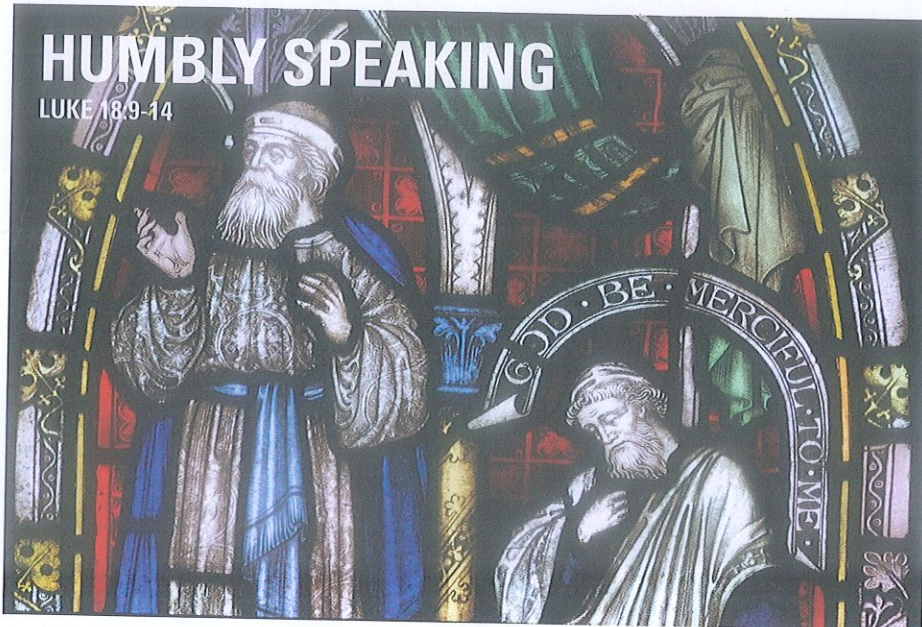
Missio Ireland has a responsibility to ensure that all contributions and donations are distributed justly and transparently. To ensure this, World Mission Sunday funding is given directly from Ireland to overseas bishops, churches, and missionary congregations. They then provide a report and updates on the progression of their project.

# Sunday Message

30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • 23 October 2022 • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 2



## HUMBLY SPEAKING

LUKE 18:9-14

You could say that this Gospel is asking a question: who prays best? Is it the professional, who knows all the techniques, or the amateur, who doesn't even trust himself to get it right?

The opening words make it clear that it is addressed to those who pride themselves on being virtuous and look down on everyone else. The characters represent the two extremes of Jewish society in the time of Jesus.

The Pharisee was the totally dedicated religious professional. Strictly speaking, the Pharisees didn't have any place in the religious hierarchy. They were a fellowship of like-minded Jews that included priests and laity but their influence came from the popular esteem they enjoyed. The Pharisee's prayer could be described as a commercial for the movement.

Tax collectors, or publicans, were at the other end of the social scale. They bought the rights to collect the taxes of their own people from the Roman occupying power. If that wasn't bad enough in a strongly nationalist society like Palestine, they made their profit by adding a percentage to the taxes for themselves. Throughout the Gospels, tax collectors are presented as outsiders, who had long ago abandoned any loyalty to their own, so that 'tax collector' and 'sinner' effectively means the same thing.

One might imagine Jesus' audience waiting in expectation to hear what such a person would pray for. The surprise is that, quite unconsciously, it is this person rather than the religious one who knows instinctively how to pray. He is not there to overwhelm God with a catalogue of his good deeds. Even his demeanour speaks of a humble heart: he stands barely inside the area of the temple reserved for prayer, he keeps his eyes downcast, he strikes his breast as a sign of penitence and pleads for mercy. After his prayer, he returns home "at rights with God".

Why was the prayer of the Pharisee without effect? It was because he made the fatal mistake of comparing himself favourably with others and judging that God would not hear the prayer of the tax collector. In other words, he was playing God. Luke rounds off the parable with yet another reference to one of his favourite themes: "everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but those who humble themselves will be exalted." ■

### PRAY

Make the publican's prayer your own. Repeat slowly and from the heart: "God, be merciful to me a sinner."

### DO

The Pharisee looked down on the tax collector. Is there a person or group of people you look down on? What do you need to do about it?

### REFLECT

Rabbi Lionel Blue tells a humorous modern Jewish story that echoes this parable. Once, on the Day of Atonement, a man was selected to lead in his local synagogue one of the long confessional prayers that is central to that day's worship. He was not known for his piety, and the fact that he was selected didn't impress some of his critics in the congregation. As he chanted the part of the confession where it says that, on account of his sins, he is but dust and ashes, one critic nudged another and said, "Look who thinks he is dust and ashes!"

Consecrated and familiar words of prayer can sometimes lull us into a false sense of security about ourselves. That is precisely what happened to the Pharisee in the parable. He was blinded by such a false sense of his own righteousness that he failed to recognise his need of salvation. There is not a word of repentance in his prayer; it is a litany of self-congratulation from beginning to end.

Coming face to face with our sinful side is never easy. The tax collector knows he can sink no further and that if anyone is to rescue him, it can only be God, and that is what he prays for. As we think over this Gospel again, we might ask whether our prayer is closer to that of the Pharisee or the tax collector. ■

### SAY

Lord, I know I am far from perfect. Help me to live in a way that is pleasing to you. Amen.

### LEARN

The Christian has the same human weakness and sin as everyone else.

The Christian trusts in God's love and forgiveness and knows that God forgives him or her first.