



NEWSLETTER 23RD APRIL. THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER.

A PARISH OF THE MULLINGAR DEANERY

Fr. Stan Deegan Tel: 044-9374127 0872673655.

Email: parishofkillucan@gmail.com

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

www.parishofkillucan.ie Facebook: Killucan Parish

The Community of St. Camillus 044 9374115.

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

ST. JOSEPH'S, RATHWIRE.

Sunday 23rd, 11.30am. Kevin Nea MM.

ST. BRIGID'S, RAHARNEY.

Sunday 23rd, 10am. Peter Farrelly.

Saturday 29th, 6pm. Tommy McDermott. Michael & Eileen Kangley & family.

Sunday 30th, 10am. Una Weir MM.

Weekday Masses; Tuesday & Thursday, Raharney 9am. Wednesday & Friday Rathwire 9am.

MASS OFFERTORY COLLECTION: €605
PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND €580

RIP: Matt Mullen, Rathwire.

Mass of Healing: in St. Camillus Church, this Thurs 27th at 8pm. All welcome.

CCE; Traditional music session in Ennis' this Tuesday at 8.30pm. All welcome.

Quiz Night: on Friday 28th at 8.30pm in Toms Pub. Proceeds in aid of Columba College. Table of four €40. Raffle and spot prizes on the night.

Accord Mullingar are currently recruiting Marriage Education Facilitators who will deliver a one day course to those preparing for marriage. This is an interesting and fulfilling role which may suit someone who has an interest in this area. Full training will be provided later this year, and no previous experience is necessary. If you are interested in the dynamics of relationships and marriage and think that you would enjoy this role, please contact the Accord Office on 044-9348707. Recruitment will take place in June 2022.

The Encounter. The two disciples are leaving Jerusalem. They had been caught up in the experience of following Jesus, and they were devastated by his crucifixion.

Moreover, they were undoubtedly frightened by the prospect of what might happen to them as followers of the executed master.

On their way from Jerusalem to Emmaus, they have an unusual encounter.

The man they find themselves walking with seems to understand much about the scriptures, but they aren't able to make the connection between what he says and who he is.

It is only in welcoming him into their house and sharing a meal with him that they realize who it is they are facing: it is Jesus, the risen Lord. So moved are they by the encounter that they turn around and head back to Jerusalem, to join up with the other disciples but also to face risk and uncertainty.

They may very well have headed straight into martyrdom.

The Easter event can also turn around our lives. It can cause us to "rise and come forth into the light of day," but we must be prepared for the risk and uncertainty such a conversion would entail. For the Church, evangelizing means bringing the good news into all the strata of humanity, and through its influence transforming humanity from within and making it new. ...

The purpose of evangelization is (an) interior change, and if it has to be expressed in one sentence the best way to stating it would be to say that the Church evangelizes when she seeks to convert, solely through the divine power of the message she proclaims, both the personal and collective consciences of people, the activities in which they engage, and the lives and concrete milieux which are theirs.

Pope Paul VI, *Evangelii Nuntiandi*,

Sunday Message

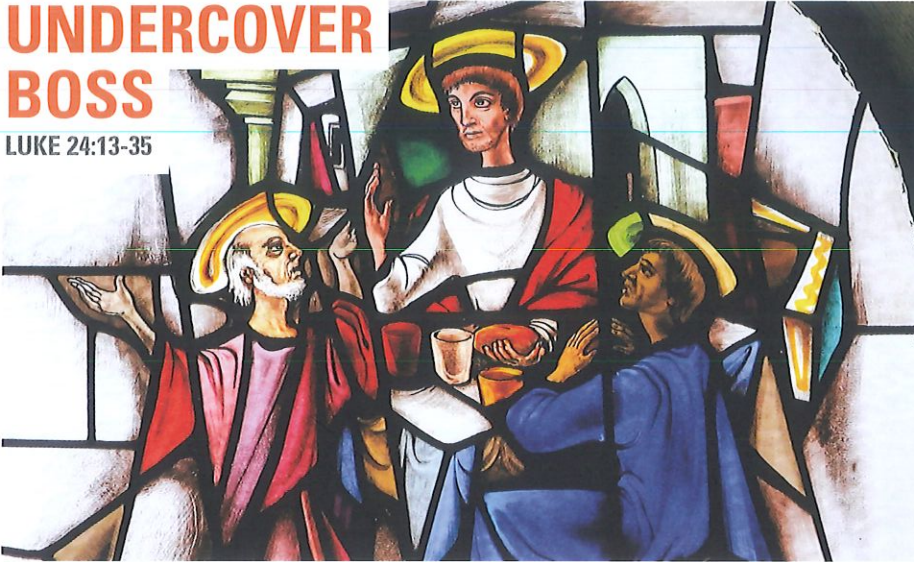
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE WORD

Year A • 23 April 2023 • Colour: White • Psalter Week 3

UNDERCOVER BOSS

LUKE 24:13-35



Several years ago, Channel 4 broadcast a series called 'Undercover boss.' As the title suggests, it was about company bosses who went undercover to see what was really going on in their company.

They went on to the shop floor or into a warehouse or a forecourt to observe what was happening on the ground. And, of course, the employees had no idea that this new person stacking shelves or doing an inventory was actually their boss.

By going deep undercover, bosses were able to get an invaluable insight into what was happening in their company. Staff were frank, open, and uninhibited with the boss because they didn't know who he or she was.

They failed to recognise the boss. To them, it was simply a new employee, a stranger, someone needing to learn the ropes.

It's a little like what happens in the beautiful story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus in today's Gospel. The two had spent so much time with Jesus, but they failed to recognise him until the breaking of bread. Only then did they realise they had been talking all along to their undercover boss. ■

PRAY

At the beginning of today's Gospel, the two disciples are dejected, without hope. Pray for all who feel crushed by hopelessness or despair, that they may know that God is with them.

LEARN

In the liturgy, Christ becomes visible

God is with us at all times

"The Lord meets us, men and women created in God's image and likeness (Gen 1:27) and becomes our companion on the way. In this sacrament ... Christ becomes for us the food of truth."

Pope Benedict, *Sacramentum Caritatis*

DO

Make a conscious effort today and at every Mass to listen to the readings and the words of consecration.

SAY

Say this beautiful prayer based on today's Gospel: "Stay with us, Lord Jesus, as evening falls. Be our companion on our way. In your mercy inflame our hearts and raise our hopes, so that, in union with all our brothers and sisters, we may recognise you in the scriptures and in the breaking of bread" (Evening Prayer, Monday Week 4).

REFLECT

The story of the two discouraged disciples encountering the stranger on the Emmaus road points to four ways we can recognise the risen Christ.

First, in gathering together. Christ is present whenever two or three gather together in his name. As Jesus was present to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, even though they did not recognise him, Jesus is present to us the moment we come together. He is here with us now, present in this community.

Second, in Scripture. Jesus is present to us in the Scriptures. According to Vatican II, "Christ is present in his word, since it is he himself who speaks when the holy scriptures are read in the church." Do we really believe this? Or do we regard the readings as merely obscure texts,

snippets of history? Just as the hearts of the disciples burned within them as Jesus interpreted the Scriptures on the road, we, too, must listen to Christ speaking to us in the Scriptures with open, eager hearts.

Third, in the breaking of the bread. Jesus is present to us in the Eucharist. When we receive Holy Communion, it is Christ himself whom we receive. The question is, do we really recognise him, really believe this is Christ with us, Christ within us, just as the two disciples recognised him present with them at the breaking of the bread?

Fourth, in others. Jesus is present in all we meet. Remember the judgement scene in Matthew 25. On judgement day, on what basis will God separate the sheep from the goats, the saved from the lost? "I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty

and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; I was naked and you clothed me; sick and you visited me; in prison and you came to see me. For as often as you did this to one of the least of these sisters or brothers of mine, you did it to me."

As Christians, we are called to see the face of Christ wherever we look, especially in the uncomfortable places. In the face of the asylum seeker, the junkie, the mother struck down with cancer, the homeless boy shivering in a doorway on a freezing winter's night.

The Risen Christ is present to us, with us, at all times and in so many guises. You could say he is our undercover boss.

The question is, how good are we at recognising him? ■