



NEWSLETTER DEC 15TH, 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT.

A PARISH OF THE MULLINGAR DEANERY

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The Community of St. Camillus 044 9374115.

ST. JOSEPH'S, RATHWIRE.

Sunday 15th, 11.30am. William Kane. Sean Gaynor & Margaret, John & May. Clement Traynor. Christina, James, Patrick & John Gaynor. Christine Glennon nee Mullen. Jimmy Rooney & parents Ned & Mary.

Sunday 22nd, 11.30am. Edward, Rose & Christy Glennon & Christine Glennon nee Mullen. Rose, Patrick, & Pat Sheils, Edmonton. Mary Franklin NY.

ST. BRIGID'S, RAHARNEY.

Saturday 14th, 6pm. Edward & Rose Mc Keogh.

Sunday 15th, 10am. Pauline Doyle. Florrie, Vinnie & son Brendan Sheils. Mary, Peter, Peggy, Maureen, John & Kevin Mulkearns & family.

Saturday 21st, 6pm. Michael Dowdall

Weekday Masses; Thurs 9am, Raharney. Wed & Fri 9am, Rahtwire.

MASS OFFERTORY COLLECTION: €535
PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND €610

RIP; Liam Carty, Knockmant. Funeral Monday 11am, Rathwire.
Michael Jenette, Raharney. Removal Mon 7pm. Funeral Tuesday 11am.

Christmas Mass Schedule: Dec 24th, 7pm in Rahtwire. Dec 25th, 10am Raharney, 11.30am Rathwire.

Advent Confessions: Sat evenings 5.30pm in Raharney before Vigil Mass. Or any other time on request.

Christmas Carol Service; in Raharney church on Dec 15th at 7pm.

East Westmeath CCE; Seisiún Ceoil, Sunday 6 -8pm in Ennis' Lounge.

Hope and Joy

What an overwhelming message is carried in today's liturgy: "Rejoice in the Lord always! May we experience the joy of salvation! Shout for joy! Sing joyfully! Cry out with joy and gladness!"

There is a profound sense of hope for a better world to come, a world in which, the prophet says, "you have no further misfortune to fear and the apostle tells us to dismiss all anxiety from your minds."

The reason for this joy and hope is clear: "The Lord himself is near" (Second Reading); "there is one to come who is mightier than I" (Gospel).

It is within this context of joyous and hopeful expectation of the coming of Christ that we must understand the exhortations of John to the people. Our work for a better world is preparation for the coming of Christ. It is also a sign that the coming of Christ is near.

"The Spirit of the Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor." That is the message which we are to shout with joy: Jesus is coming with Good News for all those who are suffering because of injustice and placelessness.

The Christian's hope comes primarily from the fact that he knows that the Lord is working with us in the world, continuing in his Body which is the Church—and, through the Church, in the whole of mankind—the Redemption which was accomplished on the Cross and which burst forth in victory on the morning of the Resurrection. This hope springs also from the fact that the Christian knows that other men are at work, to undertake actions of justice and peace working for the same ends.

Pope Paul VI, Octogesimo Adveniens,

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

The People's Mass

What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Profession of Faith (Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living
and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

The priest introduces the Prayer of the Faithful.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), ...

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right and just.

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. ...

After the Consecration

The mystery of faith.

**Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.**

THE COMMUNION RITE

At the Saviour's command ...

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, ...

**For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ, ... **Amen.**
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And with your spirit.

As the priest breaks the consecrated Host the following is sung or said:

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, grant us peace.**

Showing the Eucharist to the people, the priest says:

Behold the Lamb of God, ...
**Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter
under my roof, but only say the word and my
soul shall be healed.**

Communion Antiphon (Cf. Is 35:4)

**Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not
fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will
save us.**

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon (Phil 4:4-5)

**Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.**

In the name of the Father, ... **Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all. **And with your spirit.**

Penitential Act

Brethren (brothers and sisters), ...

A brief pause for silence follows.

**I confess to almighty God and to you, my
brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have
done and in what I have failed to do,**

And, striking their breast, they say:

**through my fault, through my fault, through my
most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed
Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and
you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to
the Lord our God.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, ... **Amen.**
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

(The Gloria is not said.)

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING (Zeph 3:14-18)

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of
Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the
king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more
evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come
to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your
hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you,
he will renew you by his love; he will dance with
shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Is 12:2-6)

**✠ Sing and shout for joy, for great in your
midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

1. Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. **✠**
2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise
to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. **✠**
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One
of Israel. **✠**

SECOND READING (Phil 4:4-7)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians.

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I
repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your
tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very
near. There is no need to worry; but if there is
anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with
prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God,
which is so much greater than we can understand,
will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ
Jesus.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Cf. Is 61:1; Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!
**The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the
poor.**
Alleluia!

GOSPEL (Lk 3:10-18)

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Luke. **Glorify to you, O Lord.**

When all the people asked John, 'What must we
do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he
must share with the man who has none, and the
one with something to eat must do the same.' There
were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and
these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He
said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some
soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us?'

(contd on back page)