



Riverstown Parish

Riverstown - Sooley - Gleann



Riverstown Parish Newsletter

Twenty-Second Sunday, Year A
Sep 02 / Sep 03, 2023

www.massonline.ie



'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me'

Matthew 16: 24

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NOT MY WILL BUT YOURS BE DONE

(A short Reflection based on Matthew 16: 21 - 27, the Gospel Reading of the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A)

The General Instructions of the Roman Missal (the rulebook for the celebration of the Eucharist) insists that there should be a crucifix on the altar or near it (308) when the Eucharist is celebrated. It is a perpetual reminder for the assembly, more especially for the priest, that the Eucharist is participation of the saving passion of the Lord. He offers the Eucharist in *Persona Christi* and so he is an emissary of Christ crucified and not a proponent of triumphalism or an advocate of shortcuts to material or spiritual wellbeing. Peter, after his declaration about the identity of Jesus, pathetically goes wrong in presuming Jesus to be a hero, according to his (or even Jewish) expectations of the Messiah.

Sacrifice personal schemes: The prayer of Jesus in the garden is the ideal of Christian prayer, 'Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, let your will be done, not mine' (Lk. 22:42). Jesus was not granted His plea but an angel was sent to strengthen Him (v. 43). The shattering cry of Jesus on the cross, '*Eli, eli, lama sabachthani?*' (My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?) (Mat. 27:46) may seem unanswered. Job's experience of questioning God about the misfortunes in his life ended by resting his case finally with God (Job 42:2-6). Instead of reproaching God like Job or Peter, we should school with Peter to accept what is enfolded in our life as part of God's plan. Every time we resist God, we are rebuked and placed behind Him to learn from His footsteps.

Enter into the plan of God: We often misapprehend prayer as inviting God into our plans and our yearnings. The psalmist (139) echoes that God is omniscient and His plans are eternal. Hence, Jesus prayed to enter into the Father's eternal plan, 'let Your will be done' and in doing so He accomplished His earthly mission, 'it is completed' (Jn 19:30). Sacrificing personal plans and ambitions without inquiring 'why' is to stride in the footsteps of our Master. That is the way to enter into the plan of God. Pursuing our own goals and ambitions may give us momentary fulfilment and happiness, but lasting peace and joy comes only by entering into the plan of God.

When the whole world is chasing a 'sorrow-less' life, the teaching of Jesus may sound obsolete and difficult to comprehend. However, God bestows us with true glory and a sense of fulfilment when we yield our wills to God and whisper like Jesus, 'not mine, let your will be done'. We are to remain behind Jesus to learn from Him, lest we may stumble.

Very Rev Mathew Kuthanapillil, SDB

ROSARY SERVICE IN SOOEY CHURCH

A Special Rosary Service is held every Thursday at 07.00 pm in Sooeey Church. Most welcome to attend the same. Those who cannot make it to the Church may join us on www.massonline.ie

VISITS TO THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

I will be visiting the sick and housebound on Thursday, September 7th in Riverstown / Coolbock areas and on Friday, September 8th in Sooeey / Gleann areas.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION – CEMETERY MASSES

Remembering and praying for our faithful departed is central to our Catholic faith. When we remember someone, that person becomes present to us. And we become conscious of our loss and grief. And every time we celebrate the Eucharist, we obey Christ’s command, ‘Do this in memory of me’. Following our tradition, we gathered to celebrate Cemetery Masses this year in Sooeey, Ballynakill, Taunagh, Templemore, Kiltycloghan and Kilross: to remember our deceased dear ones, to honour them and pray for them. It is laudable to note that there was great attendance in all the cemetery Masses. My sincere thanks to each and everyone of you for your participation in the Cemetery Masses.

***Please Note:** We received €119.50 at the Cemetery Mass in Kiltycloghan on Monday, 28th August, and €481.25 at the Cemetery Mass in Kilross on Wednesday, 30th August. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.*

Mass Schedule - Riverstown Parish			
Twenty-Second Week in Ordinary Time, Year A – 2023			
DAY / DATE	CHURCH	TIME	INTENTION
Sat Sep 02 Vigil Mass 22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Riverstown	08.00 pm	John Breheny and the deceased members of the Breheny family Mamie and Paddy O'Connor, and the deceased members of the O'Connor and Naughton families
Sun Sep 03 22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sooey	11.00 am	Frankie and Annie Mc Dermott Gerry Mc Morrow (2nd Anniversary), Kate Teresa and John Mc Morrow, Bernie Mc Morrow, and the deceased members of the Mc Morrow family Michael, Katie and Seamus Lyons, and the deceased members of the Lyons and Duggan families
Tue Sep 05 Saint Teresa of Calcutta	Riverstown	10.30 am	
Wed Sep 06 22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sooey	10.30 am	
Thu Sep 07 22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Riverstown	10.30 am	
Fri Sep 08 The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Sooey	10.30 am	
Sat Sep 09 Vigil Mass 23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Riverstown	08.00 pm	
Sun Sep 10 23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sooey	11.00 am	
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OFFERTORY COLLECTION (PARISH ENVELOPES)

The Offertory collection for the Parish funds last weekend (Sunday, 27th August) was €519.40. The collection received on Saturday 26th August will be included in the Newsletter next weekend as we couldn't do the count last weekend. We received €74.30 from Sooeey Church Candle Donation Box on Sunday, 27th August. We thank all those who contribute, collect and count our finances.

SLIGO PARISHES CLUSTER ONE-DAY PILGRIMAGE TO LOUGH DERG

The one-day Pilgrimages to Lough Derg will take place on Tuesday 12th September. To book a place, please phone Sabrina on 914 5028.

True Devotion to Mary Discussion Groups forming in Donamon Castle, Donamon, Co. Roscommon and Gillooly Hall, Sligo, in September. Lovely opportunity for adults open to exploring Our Lady's identity and mission in the Church and in helping us all come to God. Some reading required. More information available at www.elphindiocese.ie/mary All welcome but places limited.

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

On 6th September, Deacon Conrad Forzeh and Deacon Frankline Nkopi will be ordained to the Priesthood for the Diocese of Kumba in their home country of Cameroon. Deacons Conrad and Frankline studied in St Patrick's Seminary, Maynooth and have been ministering in our Diocese for the past year. Please remember them in your prayers.

APOSTOLIC WORK

Apostolic work is celebrating 100 years this year. Eplhin Diocesan apostolic work are planting a tree at Knock on the 16th Sept. at 11.30 am. with Mass celebrated by the Papal Nuncio in the Basilica at 12.00 to celebrate the occasion and soup tea and sandwiches afterwards in St. Johns. (Cost €10). If attending could you contact us before 31st August. Mary Lee merlee4525@mail.com 0871353780 or Margaret Haughey magthaughey@gmail.com 087 2072400.

SILENT RETREAT - KNOCK

Theme: "If you but knew the gift of God..." Preached by Fr. Kilian Byrne, Foyer of Charity at St. Mary's Accommodation, Knock, Co. Mayo from October 16th to 22nd. €495 full board. To book contact Helen: 086 1678027 or hellywilliams@gmail.com A privileged time to come away from noise and distractions, and listen to the Spirit of God, - Who is Love. Silence, prayer, teachings & liturgy of the Church. www.foyerofcharity.ie

Rambling House Night in Ballintogher Enterprise Centre, (Eircode F 91 C2 HT) on Friday 8th Sept 2023 @ 8.30 pm. – "Taking A trip down memory lane" - with Music, Song, Dance. Story and a chat family and friends. All Welcome.

PRIDE OF PLACE – BALLYGAWLEY

Pride of Place, Ballygawley takes place on Friday 8th September from 4 pm to 6 pm in Ballygawley Community Park. There will be Children's Giant Games from Garden Parties, MAIA Purposeful Play, Soccer Skills Session on the Ballygawley Astroturf, Refreshments served/Corina's Curry, Gardai on hand to showcase their work and equipment and the Ballygawley Music Festival 2023 video launch. All are welcome to attend. The event is free.

Taunagh Parish, Riverstown, will hold a Clothes Recycling Collection on 21st October as a fundraiser for general parish funds. Clothes can be dropped on that day to the Cooper Memorial Hall (Eircode: D52 FY71) between 3 and 6 pm. If you have any clothes which you might be thinking of getting rid of, we would really appreciate it if you could remember the parish and keep them aside until then. If you haven't thought of any, perhaps this is the time to have a look through the wardrobe!

ONE DAY EUCHARISTIC CONFERENCE IN SAINT ANNE'S CHURCH, SLIGO

On Saturday 16th September, beginning at 11.00 am. It includes Mass, talks, adoration, confession, children's prayer, praise and worship, music and Eucharistic healing service. During the conference, a first-class relic and permanent shrine to Blessed Carlo Acutis will be installed in St Anne's. Among the speakers on the day will be Bishop Kevin, Archbishop Domenico Sorrentino of Assisi, Italy, Mother Adela Galindo, Miami, USA and Fr Barry Braun, Papal Missionary of Mercy, Tyburn, London. All are welcome.

JUBILEE OF MARRIAGES



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Inviting all couples celebrating the
Anniversary of their Marriage, especially those marking their
Silver, Ruby, Golden and Diamond Anniversaries.

SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2023 AT 2:30PM
Saint Colmcille's Church, Rathcormac, Co. Sligo

SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2023 AT 2:30PM
Saint Mary's Church, Ballygar, Co. Galway

On both days, Mass will be followed by light refreshments
for all in attendance.

All couples celebrating an Anniversary will receive a certificate,
we ask them to please register their details at:
www.elphindiocese.ie

NOTES FOR NEWSLETTER

**All submissions for inclusion in the Newsletter to be submitted
by 12 midday on Thursday**

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God bless you all!
Fr. Yashin