



Riverstown Parish Newsletter

Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year B
April 27 / April 28, 2024

www.massonline.ie



www.riverstownparish.com

**I am the vine, you are
the branches.
Whoever remains in
me, with me in him,
bears fruit in plenty**

John 15: 5-6

ABIDE IN ME, AND I IN YOU

(5th Sunday of Easter – Acts 9: 26-31, 1 John 3: 18-24, John 15: 1-8)

The Scripture Readings on this Fifth Sunday of Easter emphasize the need for Christians to abide in Christ as a condition for producing the Spirit's fruits of kindness, mercy, charity, and holiness.

The first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, testifies to the abundance of spiritual fruits yielded by the apostles because of their close bond with the Risen Lord. The reading tells us how the Lord pruned the former fanatical Pharisee, Saul of Tarsus, who had persecuted the Church, to produce a fruit-bearing branch called Paul, the zealous Apostle to the Gentiles, a man now entirely dedicated to the proclamation of the Gospel. In today's second reading, John, in his first letter to the Church, explains that only if we remain united with Christ by putting our Faith in Him and drawing our spiritual strength from Him, will we be able to obey God's commandments, especially the commandment of love. In the Gospel, taken from the Last Supper discourse, Jesus uses God's Old Testament image of the vine and branches to help His disciples to understand the closeness of their relationship with Him and the necessity of their maintaining it. They are not simply Rabbi and disciples. Their lives are mutually dependent – as close as a vine and its branches. In fact, in using this image, Jesus is explaining to them and to us what our relationship with Him should become. And Jesus teaches us how to become true disciples of His and how to abide in Him as branches abide in the main trunk of the vine and how to draw their life from the vine.

Let us abide in Christ and let Christ abide in us.

ROSARY SERVICE IN SOOEY

A Special Rosary Service is held every Thursday at 02.30 pm in Soeey Church. Most welcome to attend the same. Those who cannot make it to the Church may join us on www.massonline.ie

ROTA FOR ALTAR SERVERS

DATE	CHURCH	SERVERS			
Sat April 27 (8 pm)	Riverstown	James Ryan	Méabh Tonry	Shea Mc Grath	Sinéad Gilligan
Sun April 28 (11 am)	Sooley	Anna Mc Mahon	Shauna Mc Tiernan	Daithi Scanlon	
Sat May 04 (8 pm)	Riverstown	Shea Mc Grath	Eva Callaghan	Róise Henry	Katie Murrin
Sun May 05 (11 am)	Sooley	Khloe Rooney	Nicole Rooney	Kate O'Brien	

ROTA FOR READERS

DATE	CHURCH	ADULT READER	CHILD READER
Sat April 27 (8 pm)	Riverstown	Kathleen Barlow	Méabh Tonry
Sun April 28 (11 am)	Sooley	Sean Travers	Andrew Quinn
Sat May 04 (8 pm)	Riverstown	Joan Mc Loughlin	Bronagh Conlon
Sun May 05 (11 am)	Sooley	Mary Kelly	Michael Kelly

CHILDREN'S CORNER

LEARNING ABOUT MASS WITH KATH AND QUMEN

(This exploration of the Mass is led by two cartoon characters, Kath and Qumen, who are also preparing for their First Eucharist. Through questions, observations and comments they help the children and their parents learn more about the Sunday Celebration)



WHAT IS A DEACON?

The word 'deacon' comes from the Greek word 'diakonia', which means 'service'. The work of the deacon is an act of service to the community. Deacons can read the Gospel, preach the homily, baptise and perform other ceremonies where there is no Mass. There are two types of deacons who minister in the Church. The first is someone who is training to be a priest and this is the last step before finally being ordained a priest. The second is called a Permanent Deacon and he is not going to be ordained a priest. We know that priests cannot get married, but a married man can be ordained a Permanent Deacon.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

A Retreat for our young people preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Tuesday, 30th April at *Star of the Sea Retreat and Conference Centre, Mullaghmore*. Colette Furlong (Catechist, Sligo Cluster of Parishes) will be the animator of the Retreat. This will take place during School hours.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



Bishop Kevin will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on 40 young people of our Parish on Friday, 3rd May at 4 pm in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Riverstown. Please pray for them and their families at this special time.

What happens in Confirmation?

In Confirmation we are imprinted with a permanent seal that can be received only once and marks us forever as a Christian. The gift of the Holy Spirit is the strength from above in which we put the grace of our baptism into practice through our life to act as a 'witness' for Christ.

To be confirmed means to make a 'covenant' with God. You say, 'Yes, I believe in you, my God; give me your Holy Spirit, so that I might belong entirely to you and never be separated from you.'

And God says, 'Yes, I believe in you, too, my child and I will give you my Spirit, my very self. I will belong entirely to you. I will never separate myself from you. I will be in your body and your soul, in your words and deeds. Even if you forget me, I will still be there - on good days and bad.'

('Youcat' 205)

PARISH COLLECTION (RIVERSTOWN-SOOEY-GLEANN)

Trocaire Lenten Collection - €50.00

Saturday, 20th April, Riverstown Church

Offertory Collection (Envelopes) - €452.50

Offertory Collection (Loose) - €122.30

Sunday, 21st April, Soeey Church

Offertory Collection (Envelopes) - €524.90

Offertory Collection (Loose) - €122.25

Holy Places - €05.00

Diocesan Needs - €05.00

Easter Collection - €90.00

Pentecost - €30.00

Thank you for your continued support.

Mass Schedule - Riverstown Parish

Fifth Week of Easter, Year B

DAY / DATE	CHURCH	TIME	INTENTION
Sat April 27 Vigil Mass Fifth Sunday of Easter	Riverstown	08.00 pm	
Sun April 28 Fifth Sunday of Easter	Soeey	11.00 am	John and Bridie Broderick Mollie, Stephen and Martin Sweeney
Tue April 30 Fifth Week of Easter	Riverstown	10.30 am	
Wed May 01 Fifth Week of Easter	Soeey	10.30 am	
Thu May 02	There is no public celebration of the Holy Mass today in our Parish		
Fri May 03 Saints Philip and James, Apostles	Riverstown	04.00 pm	Confirmation Mass
Sat May 04 Vigil Mass Sixth Sunday of Easter	Riverstown	08.00 pm	Michael and Mary, and John and Michael O' Hara Kevin Donnelly (1st Anniversary) and the deceased members of the Donnelly family
Sun May 05 Sixth Sunday of Easter	Soeey	11.00 am	

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DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES – ASSISTED PILGRIM SECTION

The Elphin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 30th August – 4th September 2024 inclusive, under the leadership of Bishop Kevin Doran. Pilgrimage Highlights include Mass at the Grotto, Torchlight and Blessed Sacrament Processions, Anointing of the Sick, Water Ceremony. Flights ex Knock Airport. The Pilgrimage includes the Assisted Pilgrim Section. Those who travel as part of the Assisted Pilgrim Section will stay in Accueil Notre Dame, which is situated beside the Grotto and Sanctuary area. They will be cared for by the Elphin Diocesan Pilgrimage Care Team whilst in Lourdes. Application forms for the Assisted Pilgrim Section and full details are available from Very Rev. Ray Milton, PP, Pilgrimage Director, St. John's, Lecarrow, Co. Roscommon (090 6661115). Closing date for receipt of completed Application Forms is 10th June. All other enquiries in relation to the Pilgrimage can be directed to Joe Walsh Tours at 01-2410800 or info@joewalstours.ie

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE FOR LIFE

Organised by the Council for Life
of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference

KNOCK

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE FOR LIFE

SATURDAY 4TH MAY 2024

Knock Shrine, County Mayo



*"You gave hope to your people in a time of distress
and comforted them in sorrow."*

Join the National Pilgrimage for
Life to pray for the protection of
all human life.

3pm - Mass with Anointing of the Sick



IRISH CATHOLIC
BISHOPS' CONFERENCE
COMHDHÁIL EASPAG CAITLICEACH ÉIREANN

www.councilforlife.ie

SLIGO CATHEDRAL EASTER RETREAT

The healing of the Easter Triduum Retreat will take place on Saturday 11th May in the Gillooly Hall from 11.30 am – 4 pm. All are welcome to join us.

FRIARY LECTURES

Continuing the celebrations of 700 years of the Dominican Friars in Ireland, Fr Michael Dunleavy OP will give a series of lectures on "Saint Dominic – Our Wonderful Hope" in the Friary Hall (Dominic Street, Sligo) on Thursdays 2nd May and 9th May at 7.30 pm. All are most welcome.

LOUGH DERG ONE DAY RETREATS IN MAY

These guided days of prayer and reflection will take place on Sun 5th, Mon 6th, Sun 12th, Tue 14th, Sat 18th, Sat 25th and Mon 27th. More details can be found at www.loughderg.ie € 45 per person, booking essential. The Lough Derg traditional Three-Day Pilgrimage begins on Friday May 31st and continues until August 15th.

ANNUAL ROSARY RALLY

The Annual Rosary Rally takes place on Saturday 1st June in Knock Shrine commencing at 9.30 am and finishing with Mass at 3 pm. We have many amazing speakers for the day and many beautiful apostolates available on the day to chat with you. Bus leaves Sligo Park Hotel at 8.30 am. For more details about the bus or the event please contact Lisa on 087-6274621 or Corina on 087-7602977.

THE FAMINE PRIEST

All are welcome to a talk about Fr Edward Wallace PP “The Famine Priest”, given by Mr Jarlath McNamara on Friday 17th May at 8 pm in the Community Centre, Lecarrow F42 CK11.

SLIGO SOCIAL SERVICES

Sligo social services are seeking volunteers to join their Befriending Service. Volunteers are required for both the home visit and friendly phone-call services. For more information, please call James on 085 8768720 or email befriending@sligosocialservices.ie

Sligo County Agricultural Show AGM - 10th May at 8 pm in Morrision Teach Cheoil Riverstown.

NOTES FOR NEWSLETTER

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

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✉ parishofficertown@gmail.com

071-9165144 

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God bless you all!
Fr. Yashin