

Ferrybank & Slieverue Parish Newsletter

17th May 2020

Sixth Sunday of Easter



Recently Deceased

Rosemary Coady,
England/Ferrybank

Eily Rockett,
Airmount, Slieverue

Paddy Whitty
Killaspy, Ballymountain

Month's Mind

Jimmy Searson

Anniversaries

William (Billy) Irish
(1st Anniv.)

Peg Sneyd

Michael & Patricia O'Regan

Peter Hennessy and his
daughter Ann Mullane

Paddy Meagher

Derek Howard

Michael Bohill

Phylis McMahan

*May they rest in
peace*

'Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience.'

This quote from the first reading from Peter this weekend reminds us that another great hallmark of the followers of Jesus is HOPE. Hope is not just a feeling or a false sense of security it is a way of life. Our hope is the life death and resurrection of Jesus. Hope allows us to see that the good days and bad days of our lives have meaning. Hope enables us overcome our own weaknesses and our own troubles and to still find joy and peace in living.

How often do we meet people who despite their own sufferings are true witnesses to faith and joy, People who sometimes have their own reasons for despair and yet give of themselves for others. People who say that through their faith and through helping others they have found new meaning in life.

These are the people who have the answer ready for those who ask the reason for the hope they carry within them.

At the same time it is important to acknowledge that many people today for one reason or another find it difficult to have hope. To have no hope is to be in a very dark place. Let us pray for one another that we will continue to share our hope with those who need it most and to gently encourage others who need this wonderful gift to turn to Christ who is always our light in darkness.

As we slowly enter a new phase on the road of recovery from all things Covid -19 the church is looking at ways to begin to open our church buildings again and resume public worship in a way that is safe and in compliance with the guidelines laid out by the health authorities. There are a number of areas that have to be addressed but hopefully we will be able to find new ways of embracing the 'new normal'. We will keep you posted.

Please remember in your prayer the children, families and teachers who would have been celebrating first communion this weekend. We will be remembering them all at our 7.30 pm Mass this Saturday evening (16th May).

A sincere word of thanks to all who have dropped in envelopes and donations to the parish office in these days. In a difficult time when there are many demands on people financially your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Fr Kieran

This Week's Calendar

Wed. 20th May - St. Bernardine was born in Siena in 1380. He became a Franciscan and travelled through Italy, preaching with great success. He promoted devotion to the Holy Name and to St. Joseph. He died in 1444.

Fri. 22nd May - St. Rita of Cascia was born in 1386 and died in 1457. She was married for eighteen years. Her husband, an ill-tempered and abusive man, was murdered. Later Rita entered the Augustinian convent in Cascia and spent forty years in prayer and charity, and working for peace in the region.



May Devotions in honour of Our Lady

During the month of May the Rosary for each day is available on our website to pray in your own time.

Parish Office

Due to the **Coronavirus** outbreak our Parish Office is closed to visitors at this time but if we can help you with anything, please contact us on the phone on 051-830813 or email:

ferrybank@ossory.ie
slieverue@ossory.ie

Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals

Please remember that Baptisms, & Weddings can be celebrated with a minimum of participants and as long as social distancing is observed in accordance with Government Guidelines.

Funerals can be celebrated as long as the congregation **does not exceed ten people who are not cocooning** and as long as social distancing is observed in accordance with Government Guidelines.

Mass Intentions

Please note that Masses already booked for Ferrybank & Slieverue will be offered at the normal time of 10am every morning and will be remembered at our weekend Mass (only one Mass in our churches each weekend). All of these Masses will be celebrated without a full congregation until further notice.

Safeguarding Our Children

Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are

Ferrybank - Breda Freyne & Jerry Hughes.

Slieverue - Mary Kenny

If you, or anyone you know, has a safeguarding concern or wishes to report an allegation directly to Statutory Authorities contact the Gardai or Túsla An Garda Síochána 1800 555 222. Túsla Child and Family Agency, Waterford 051-842827.

The Diocesan Designated Liaison

Person **Mr Cathal Cullen,**

Tel. 087 100 0232.- email

dlp@ossory.ie

Ferrybank & Slieverue

Parish Office

Very Rev. Kieran

O'Shea P.P.

Tel. 051-832773/

051-830813

kieranoshea@ossory.ie

Cemetery Masses 2020

Bishop Farrell has written to all parishes to ask that Cemetery Masses and the Annual Blessing of Graves be postponed at this time. This decision is taken in light of the guidance from NPHE: social distancing would be compromised and by their very nature the gatherings would invite families to travel long distance; further concern was expressed that large family groups might gather around a single grave and that the Mass might attract a large number of elderly people.

Ways to join together for Mass ... Live & Recorded Masses from Ferrybank & Slieverue

Please note that during the coming week advance notice will be given when our Liturgies will be live streamed on our Facebook page and available immediately afterwards to watch on our website.

Mass is also broadcast daily on RTE News Now TV at 10.30m each day

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024

Kilkenny Co. Council

Kilkenny Co. Council has established a helpline for those who are in need of support with services such as delivery of food or transport for essential trips. Phone 1800 500 000

Accord Help Line

Accord has established a support phone line to help relationships during the COVID 19 crisis. If you need to speak to an experienced couple and relationship counsellor contact 01-531 3331. Lines are open from 9am to 8pm Monday to Friday. All calls are charged at local rates.



KNITTED TOGETHER Kilkenny County Council Arts

Office as part of Community Wellbeing Initiative

Crochet or knit a square to help vulnerable children in South Africa.

Kilkenny County Council Arts Office has initiated a blanket project to help you use up of all that extra wool you have lying around your house and to help improve the lives of children in South Africa. What better time to get back to knitting, crocheting or indeed take it up for the first time or to get our children knitting.

Knit or crochet a square 7" x 7" and your squares will be stitched together into beautiful blankets for the children supported by the Elkana Childcare charity in South Africa.

The Elkana Charity transforms the lives of children who live in severely adverse situations which negatively impacts on their positive development and future. They are in desperate need of meaningful interventions to prevent/stop the infringement on their human rights to enable them to eventually lead happier and more balanced lives. The charity runs a residential Temporary Safe Care Programme for twenty-four children at any given time and after school programmes accommodating two hundred children. This offers the children a safe place to do their homework, assignments and studies instead of being alone at home after school (which is the case for 95% of their children). Throughout the year children enjoy numerous activities that contribute towards their physical, emotional and social development. This charity has very strong connections to Kilkenny, and so is very dear to our hearts. A magnificent municipal building named 'Kilkenny Hall' stands in the middle of one of Africa's largest townships today. It was built via the monies sent from the south east of Kilkenny in a drive spearheaded by Mooncoin farmer John Crowley. John was deeply moved by what he witnessed on his first trip to the Khayelitsha township during the 2002 Kilkenny hurlers' holiday to South Africa. So John set about transforming the lives of women and children.

If you are interested in getting involved in this wonderful project please let us know by e mail bernadette.roberts@kilkennycoco.ie / or call the Arts Office on 056 779 4203. We ask that for now you collect your knitted squares at home and we will send out further instructions regarding collection in due course.

This project is brought to you by Kilkenny County Council Arts Office as part of Kilkenny County Council's community wellbeing initiative.