



Ferrybank & Slieverue

Parish Newsletter

21st June 2020 **Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Recently Deceased

**Michael Flynn,
Waterford City**

Alfie Cullen, Drumdowney

Anniversaries

**Joan Walsh
(1st Anniv.)**

**Martin Smith
(20th Anniv.) and his sister
Trish and father Martin
(Mono) Smith**

**Pauline & Jack Flynn and
their son Thomas**

Lily Atkins

Thomas & Anastasia Tyler

John Minogue

**Kitty, Billy, Eamonn &
Edward Walsh**

Kevin & Mary Freeman

Maura Dunne

**O'Dowd & Costelloe
Families**

Patrick Conway, Ringville

**Deceased members of the
Irish Family, Rathpatrick**

May they rest in peace



St Paul reminds us in the second reading this weekend that sin existed in the world long before the law was given. Sin, evil, call it what you like has been part of the human story almost since the beginning. Our faith tradition tells us that for a brief moment there was paradise, human beings lived at peace with one another and with creation. Everything was rosy in the garden! It didn't last long though! Selfishness began to take root in peoples hearts and the beautiful relationship of Love which the Creator wanted for us and all creation was ruptured. Since then humanity has longed for that relationship to be healed, for a restoration of paradise, for a new heaven and a new earth. That longing is especially evident in times of great suffering and pain. The sick long to be healed, the victims of war long for peace, those who are in despair long for hope. The sorrowful long for joy, the poor and the destitute long for solidarity and food. The lonely long for company, the earth longs for respect and care, the bereaved long for a day when they will see their loved ones again.

God knows our longing. Yes we rejected his love but he never stopped loving us. God set out immediately to restore the broken bonds between us and God. God has given us a way back a remedy to restore what was lost. For us Christians that way, that truth, that life is Jesus Christ. Paul describes Christ as God's free Gift through which Divine grace comes. In other words in Jesus we have the means to restore our broken world, our broken lives, our broken communities, our broken hearts, our broken bodies and minds. In him death is destroyed and our life restored. Pope Francis in his encyclical *Laudato Si* invites us to recognise that through living the Good News of Jesus Christ we can begin to renew creation and heal the wounds of selfishness and greed.

As we long for a new day for new hope for that new heaven and new earth let us remember that we are not alone. Jeremiah tells us in the first reading that 'the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero' He is the one who whispers to us 'Do not be afraid', 'there is no need to be afraid' and to trust that the salvation of our lives and our world is the supreme goal of the Father.

During the week all of us were deeply saddened by the tragic and violent death of Det. Garda Colm Horkan in Castlerea, Co Roscommon. A reminder if we needed one that we live in a sometimes broken world. We express our deepest sympathy to his family & friends and to his colleagues in An Garda Siochana who are always available to help us with courtesy when we call upon them.

A very moving image of the scene where Garda Horkan was murdered showed people praying on the street beside a wooden Cross. It was a beautiful expression of faith in Jesus words that not even a little sparrow falls to the ground without our Father knowing. For all of us in our faith community it represented an act of solidarity with his family and colleagues but also an expression of that longing within all of us that broken things will be mended and that everything will be made whole again.

Let us remind ourselves - that longing within us and all creation is only satisfied in Christ & through living the Gospel of Peace.

Parish updates

In Ferrybank during the past couple of weeks some work has been undertaken in the parish cemetery which had already been planned before the arrival of Covid - 19. A new permanent Altar is being erected to facilitate our cemetery Masses and the area adjacent to the boundary with Madonna House is also being cleaned. It had become unsightly with indiscriminate dumping and had become overgrown.

In Slieverue some work is currently being done in the Parish hall to prepare for reopening in September (hopefully!) with cleaning of rooms etc.

A new Website for both parishes with webcams is also at the design stage.

Reopening our Churches

At present plans are being drawn up to allow for the safe reopening of our Churches in Ferrybank and Slieverue. Next weekend we will issue full details of our reopening policy and schedule for Masses going forward.

There is much work to be done and the process will require patience and understanding from everyone. Details will be announced on the Parish Radio, facebook & our Newsletter.

Daily Public Masses will resume from Tuesday 30th June. It is hoped that public weekend Masses will be celebrated from the weekend of July 4th / 5th. A new schedule of Masses for the 'new normal' will be published next weekend.

Parish Office

The Parish Office Reopens to the Public during the coming week. Please respect the procedures in place for your safety. Those who are medically vulnerable are asked not to call personally but to continue to contact us on the phone on 051-830813 or email: ferrybank@ossory.ie slieverue@ossory.ie

Weekly Envelope Collection

Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order. Despite there being no public masses, we appreciate you dropping off your envelope or donations at the Church/Parish Office. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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 twenty five 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.

Ways to join together for Mass

Great news! - we are back on the airwaves! Tune in to our Mass from Ferrybank/Slieverue on the radio - 103.9fm. Tuesday - Friday

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

Safeguarding Our Children

Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are

Ferrybank - Breda Freyne & Jerry Hughes

Slieverue - Mary Kenny

If you have a child safeguarding concern or wish to raise a matter from the past you may contact any of the following:-

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person

Mr Cathal Cullen,

Tel. 087 100 0232. email dlp@ossory.ie

Deputy Liaison Person: Ms. Rose Brophy

Tel. 087-331 4330

Prayer for Father's Day



God our Father,

We give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation; may they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family

and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for Fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering; may they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great grandfathers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love.

Amen

Confirmation Forms

Forms to be completed by parents / guardians of those who wish to have their children Confirmed on the new dates should return them as soon as possible to the Parish Office

Cemetery Masses 2020

Cemetery masses this year will not take place in June and July. They are postponed and may be rearranged for a later date. Please inform relatives and friends.

New regulations for use of our cemeteries are being prepared and will be published in the near future.

Parish Centres

Groups who wish to book the Parish Centre in Ferrybank or Slieverue from September 2020 (if public health guidelines permit!) should contact the parish office so that arrangements can be made with each group to complete the necessary documentation for use of the centres and so we can prepare adequately for reopening and put in place Covid-19 protocols.

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.

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE support for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024

2020 Online Summer School

Theology, Spirituality & Religious Experience
by Fr Pat Collins C.M.

Two week online course will begin on 13th July and again on 10th August. One lecture per day! €80 - enrol today! Enquiries @ prioryonstitute.com. Tel. 353 1 404 8124

Very Rev. Kieran O'Shea P.P.

Tel. 051-832787/051-830813

Website

www.ferrybankparish.com www.ossory.ie