



**NEWSLETTER** SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
A PARISH OF THE MULLINGAR DEANERY



6<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2018

Fr. Mark English P.P.  
Parochial House Tel: 044-9374127  
www.parishofkillucan.ie  
Parish Office: Tel: 044-9374127 Tuesday and Friday

The Community of St. Camillus Tel: 044-9374115  
killucanparish@gmail.com

Facebook: Killucan Parish

**MASS INTENTIONS:**

**ST. JOSEPH'S, RATHWIRE.**

**Saturday 6pm.** Mattie, Frances & Dermot Whelehan. John & Delia Dowd.

**Sunday 11.30am.** Paddy & Julia Fitzgerald.

**Saturday 6pm.** Missa pro populo.

**Sunday 11.30am.** Dymrna Rourke. Ollie Ayers. Eddie Deihy.

**ST. BRIGID'S, RAHARNEY.**

**Sunday 10am.** Lil & Patrick Gorman & dec. family. Gretta & John O'Connor. John Mulvaney.

**Sunday 10am.** Joseph & Vera Mulvaney. Thomas Brennan.

*Mass this Tuesday to Friday with the Camillians*

*Confessions: Fridays after Mass and Saturdays after the Vigil Mass*



**MASS OFFERTORY COLLECTION (basket): ST. JOSEPH'S €225.00 ST. BRIGID'S €440.00**  
**PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND (weekly envelopes): €529.90**

**ON RECENTLY CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE WE CONGRATULATE:**  
Pauline Sheils and Darren Egan



**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** in St. Joseph's Tue. 1pm-9pm. & St. Brigid's Wed. 6pm-10pm:  
*Special Diocesan intention of prayer for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.*

**TO ASSIST NEXT WEEK**

*All kindly check in at the sacristy before Mass*

**ST. BRIGID'S Ministers of Holy Communion:** 10am. Peter Fagan, Edward Fox & Martina Mockler.

*Minister of the Word:* 10am. Liz Naughton.

**ST. JOSEPH'S Ministers of Holy Communion:** 6pm Mary Leech, Douglas Hynes & Marie Leavy. 11.30am. Maura McAulliffe, Mary Briody & Sharon Fitzpatrick. *Ministers of the Word:* 6pm. Paul Dunne 11:30am Des Smyth.



**THE ICON OF THE HOLY FAMILY** As part of our parish on-going preparations for the World Meeting of Families, two Icons of the Holy Family are available from one Sunday to the next, over the months until the visit of Pope Francis in August, for families to take for a week and perhaps invite their extended families or neighbours round to their home for a celebration of the rosary and refreshments. A pack is provided to guide the family if they are wondering what to do! Fr. Mark will gladly attend the house gathering if you would like him to. Please sign in at the church sacristies to book your week to host the Icon of the Holy Family or contact the Parish Office.

**PARISH FAMILY DAY SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2018** As we plan for our Parish Family Day the Parish Pastoral Council invite anyone who would like to help us prepare and arrange for this big event to attend our second preparatory meeting on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm in the Parochial House.

[www.worldmeeting2018.ie](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie)



**QUEEN OF THE MAY** Let us keep the treasured tradition of honouring our Lady, the Mother of God during the month of May with special devotion. Perhaps get the children in your home to help set up a May altar. Make time for the family rosary, especially with children celebrating their First Holy Communion and those who recently made their Confirmation.

**THE RIGHT TO LIFE.**

During these weeks ahead, much reflection and debate continues in the public and political sphere. It is important that in private, at home, within the family and our circle of friends that discussion also takes place. Conscious that this may bring to the fore a lot of pain for those who may have personal experience of abortion, be assured of God's compassion and our prayerful support.

Life is sacred; life is precious. For us as believers all life comes from God. "God loved the world so much that he gave us his only Son". We who profess the Christian Faith know how His message of life was rejected by many, how the world did not accept his way. Yet his love was unconditional, even to accepting the Cross. Rising from the dead Christ Jesus proves how God works beyond what we may think possible and even through the most adverse of circumstances. We also have the example of Mary and Joseph; of the men and women of the Bible, of the Saints of our Church to inspire and guide us in our time as we cope with the joys and the sorrows of our personal lives, of our families, of our local community and of our country and world in general.

Within the context of our civil responsibilities and our personal devotion and participation as followers of Christ in the Catholic Church, let us never be afraid to give witness to the dignity of the human person from conception to death. Some people face unimaginable situations in life: they deserve our love and sympathy; many deserve justice for unspeakable crimes. No woman or girl should ever feel alone when pregnant; should never be overcome with anxiety or despair; should never feel abandoned. Very often indeed the circumstances of pregnancy are complicated but the child growing in the womb never deserves abortion. Please believe that life, every life, matters. Abortion kills not only a baby, it wipes out the possibilities, the 'what ifs' of a future and as a consequence another generation to come. Look at some of the amazing people of the past and the present in the area of music and the arts, in the academics and sciences, in sports and politics, these people's lives have enriched our world and their achievements admired; and yet their backgrounds emerged from far from ideal beginnings and they testify that if they had been aborted society would be at a loss. Look at our own families and communities, how enriched and challenged we are by children and adults with special needs; how much less love would we have if abortion had been chosen? For sure lack of compassion, casting judgement upon people and so much more inexcusable things have hurt and left lingering pain. Yet so many families did not reject and instead accepted the initial unwanted pregnancy and they tell stories of how the baby was born and enhanced the whole family dynamic. It takes unconditional love and always self-sacrifices for the whole family and for a local community too but together with the mother and child all things are possible.

Your vote counts; your voice must be heard. Through us the voice of the child in the womb is heard, we vote for the unborn! Consider carefully what is being asked of us. Pray, reflect and discuss with others. How women were treated and what was done in the past 'in the name of Christ' by many in the home, in the parish and in religious schools and institutions was sadly, regrettably, shamefully unchristian and wrong. Even today and in the future human beings who claim to be Catholic or Christian still don't always act as they should in the name of Christ. However, such facts must not cloud the truth that *life is sacred*, even amid the most trying of situations a mother or a father may find themselves facing as they cope with the miracle of life and pregnancy. Together we must support, love and pray for all who are with child and enable those who struggle to seek guidance and comfort. There are so many options and abortion doesn't have to be one of them. Chose life.

*Parish Pastoral Council May 2018*

**STAND UP FOR LIFE – FINAL RALLY BEFORE THE VOTE! NEXT SATURDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2PM MERRION SQUARE, DUBLIN**  
**THERE WON'T BE ANY SECOND CHANCES TO SAVE THE 8<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT. THE TIME IS NOW! [www.loveboth.ie](http://www.loveboth.ie)**

**MEATH DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES**

Led by Bishop Smith 12<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Cost: €749  
To book: Pilgrimage Abroad Ltd, 164 Lower Baggot St., Dublin 2. Tel: 01-6359300 or contact  
Ann Maher 087-9308405 here in the parish for more details.

**COMMUNITY NOTES**

**Raharney Community Alert** invite you to attend a Home Security & Farm Safety Meeting in Shay Murtagh's, Raharney on Thursday May 10<sup>th</sup> at 8pm with expert advice from Garda & Farmer Representatives.  
**Lourdes Annual Church Gate Collection** on the 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> June.

**KILLUCAN S.V.P.**  
Tel: 086-0706571  
Check out Vincent's Shop

**CHILD SAFEGUARDING**  
See the church notice boards  
and diocesan website.

**THE REGINA COELI**

Ÿ. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia:  
R. For he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia.  
Ÿ. Has risen as he said, alleluia.  
R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.  
Ÿ. Let us pray:  
O God, who through the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ gave rejoicing to the world, grant we pray, that through his Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life, through, Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Regina Coeli is recited in place of the Angelus during the Easter season, from Easter Sunday until Pentecost*