

# God's People Our Parish

## St. James and St Hugh, Kilbeggan and Rahugh

Saturday Vigil 7.30 p.m. Kilbeggan Sunday 9.30 a.m. Rahugh and 11 a.m. Kilbeggan

Monday to Friday 9.30 a.m. Saturday 10 a.m. Friday 7.30 p.m. Rahugh

Fr. Brendan, Harbour Rd. 057 9332155 087 2618353

Confessions Saturday 10.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.

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<https://www.kilbegganparish.ie>

**Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”**  
**Mt.11: 28-30**



**Make love your aim**  
**1 Cor 14:1**

### Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



**7.30 p.m.** Mary and Paddy Daniels

Eileen and Nollie Keoghan and deceased members of the Keoghan and Dullaghan Families

**9.30 a.m.** Hughie Harte

**11 a.m.** Tom and Teresa Kinahan

Oliver, Joseph and Mary O'Neill and birthday remembrance for Geraldine, and deceased members of the O'Neill family

**Monday 9.30 a.m.** Margaret Kelly

**Wednesday 9.30 a.m.** P.J. Hoare

### Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**7.30 p.m.** Phyllis, Sonny and John Maxwell

John, Sarah, Geraldine and Sean Egan

**9.30 a.m.** Mick Wyer

**11 a.m.** Eddie Wilson

Cellie Cowley

Joe McDonnell, Clara Rd.

Cait and Joe Farrell and deceased members of the McManus and Farrell Families



**Parish Charity Shop** We have a wide selection of new summer clothing, household goods and bric-a-brac. Much of the clothing is brand new and never worn. There



is also a wide selection of shoes. **Open Tuesday to Saturday 10 a.m. — 5p.m.**

**Thanks to all who support the shop.**

**Thank You**

Maintenance Fund: €245 Plate: €1,205. **Thanks to all who are so generous.**

## A Day for Life - Jane's Story

I went to Catholic schools, I knew about God and morality on some level, but for me, the culture spoke louder when it came to making decisions around sexuality.

When I was 15, I discovered I was pregnant and the fear clouded everything. I had one aim, and that was to solve the problem I had found myself in. A quick search for confidential help landed me at a clinic connected to an abortion provider. They seemed to genuinely believe that abortion was the solution to my problem and I don't remember discussing any other options. I was relieved when

they determined that I was capable enough to make this decision alone, without the involvement of an adult, which is still legal to this day.

That Saturday I travelled alone to the clinic. My parents were unaware, due to other difficulties in the family home that I didn't want to contribute to. I went through the degrading experience of a surgical abortion, and I thought that if I could just get through that day, I would never have to think about it again. I remember feeling conflicted as a tear rolled down my cheek, that I quickly wiped away. I believed I couldn't be sad because this was something I had chosen to do. So, after the initial feeling of relief, I pushed down the experience and avoided anything to do with the topic of abortion. It was difficult to be around pregnant women and I found the anniversary difficult each year.

Over the next few years, I became more curious about faith through the invitation of a friend. I was looking for direction and truth, but my spiritual life was always tainted by the thought that I could never be forgiven for what I had done – somehow, God's mercy didn't apply to me. In the fleeting moments of honesty with myself and God, I knew that my choice didn't make me lose something, but someone. At times, this realisation was unbearable. This led to periods of deep depression and suicidal thoughts, as well as more promiscuous behaviour and numbing the pain with alcohol, food, or isolation.

This all changed when I was encouraged to go to confession. Even when I tried to justify my choice, the priest met me with the love and mercy of Jesus. The tears he shed melted my heart of stone. I began to give up my old ways of life and follow His way.

On this journey I was introduced to Rachel's Vineyard: a healing ministry that provides support for those who are suffering after abortion. I remember the kindness of the woman that I spoke to, and I knew I wouldn't be judged there. It took so much courage to go on a retreat, but I can genuinely say it changed my life. By hearing other people share their stories and being gently encouraged by the team, I was able to speak the truth of what had happened to me on that day. My feelings were acknowledged, including my sense of loss. I was finally given permission to grieve for the baby that had died through my choice. I acknowledged my motherhood and named my son Joseph. This was the start of God turning the guilt, shame and unforgiveness into a deep love for my son, as any good mother would have.

The healing has continued alongside my faith journey. I've taken responsibility for the role I played in my abortion, but with perspective and time, I can see that my 'choice' wasn't really a choice at all. There were other people's failures, and an inability to truly give informed consent as a teenager that also contributed. The option that was presented as a quick fix solution has eternal consequences, and I truly believe that if I'd have known the impact abortion would have had on my life, even as a teenager, I would have made a different choice.

**Support Organisations: Have you or someone you know been affected by abortion? There are some wonderful organisations that can help you.**

**Rachel's Vineyard - [rachelvineyard.ie](http://rachelvineyard.ie) and Gianna Care - [giannacare.ie](http://giannacare.ie)**

