

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.

brendanfcorrigan@gmail.com

<https://www.kilbegganparish.ie>

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7.30 p.m. Stephen Crowe

9.30 a.m.

11 a.m. Regina McMahon

Morgan McNamara

Friday 9.30a.m. Colm Harte and deceased family



Ash Wednesday Masses 9.30 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.

Blessing and distribution of ashes at both Masses

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence. Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence from meat. The norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age

59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

Examples of what we could do for Lent: Abstaining from meat or some other food; Abstaining from alcoholic drink or smoking; Making a special effort at involvement in family prayer; Making a special effort to participate in daily Mass; Visiting the Blessed Sacrament; Making the Stations of the Cross each week; Fasting from all food for a longer period than usual and perhaps giving what is saved to the needy. Helping the poor, sick, old, or lonely. Saying the Rosary each day. Prepare to make a sincere and humble Confessions of sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent. Reducing T.V. or Media time. Read a piece of Scripture each day; Read a spiritual book.

First Sunday of Lent

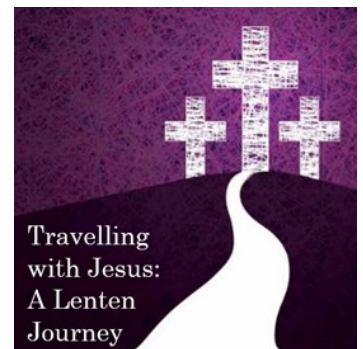
7.30 p.m. Paddy Ryan, Moate Road

9.30 a.m. Annie and Charles Dunne and deceased family

11 a.m.

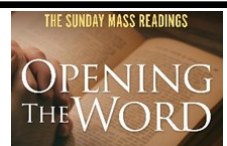


The Parish Pastoral Assembly meeting is on Tuesday 13th February @ 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Centre.



Thank You Maintenance Fund: €375; Plate: €1,251; Shrines: €935. Thanks to all who are so generous.

"Opening The Word" Bible Study will resume in the Parish Centre on Wednesday 21st February at 7.30 p.m.—8.30 p.m. We will reflect on the Mass Readings for the following Sunday. Everyone is welcome to drop in.





Confessions available 10.30 a.m. —11.30 a.m. on Saturdays.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Monday 10 a.m. — 11 a.m. in Kilbeggan.

Friday 7 p.m.— 9 p.m. in Rahugh with Mass at 7.30pm



MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2024

Through the Desert God Leads us to Freedom



....The exodus from slavery to freedom is no abstract journey. If our celebration of Lent is to be concrete, the first step is to desire to open our eyes to reality. When the Lord calls out to Moses from the burning bush, he immediately shows that he is a God who sees and, above all, hears: “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey” (Ex 3:7-8). Today too, the cry of so many of our oppressed brothers and sisters rises to heaven. Let us ask ourselves: Do we hear that cry? Does it trouble us? Does it move us? All too many things keep us apart from each other, denying the fraternity that, from the beginning, binds us to one another.

.....Let us welcome Lent as the great season in which he reminds us: “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery” (Ex 20:2). Lent is *a season of conversion, a time of freedom*. Jesus himself, as we recall each year on the first Sunday of Lent, was driven into the desert by the Spirit in order to be tempted in freedom. For forty days, he will stand before us and with us: the incarnate Son.

....The desert is the place where our freedom can mature in a personal decision not to fall back into slavery. In Lent, we find new criteria of justice and a community with which we can press forward on a road not yet taken.We can become attached to money, to certain projects, ideas or goals, to our position, to a tradition, even to certain individuals. Instead of making us move forward, they paralyze us. Instead of encounter, they create conflict. Yet there is also a new humanity, a people of the little ones and of the humble who have not yielded to the allure of the lie. Whereas those who serve idols become like them, mute, blind, deaf and immobile (cf. Ps 114:4), the poor of spirit are open and ready: a silent force of good that heals and sustains the world. It is time to act, and in Lent, *to act also means to pause*. To pause *in prayer*, in order to receive the word of God, to pause like the Samaritan *in the presence of a wounded brother or sister*. Love of God and love of neighbour are one love. Not to have other gods is to pause in the presence of God beside the flesh of our neighbour. For this reason, prayer, almsgiving and fasting are not three unrelated acts, but a single movement of openness and self-emptying, in which we cast out the idols that weigh us down, the attachments that imprison us. Then the atrophied and isolated heart will revive. Slow down, then, and pause! The contemplative dimension of life that Lent helps us to rediscover will release new energies. In the presence of God, we become brothers and sisters, more sensitive to one another: in place of threats and enemies, we discover companions and fellow travellers. This is God’s dream, the promised land to which we journey once we have left our slavery behind.

The Church’s synodal form, which in these years we are rediscovering and cultivating, suggests that Lent is also *a time of communitarian decisions*, of decisions, small and large, that are countercurrent. Decisions capable of altering the daily lives of individuals and entire neighbourhoods, such as the ways we acquire goods, care for creation, and strive to include those who go unseen or are looked down upon. I invite every Christian community to do just this: to offer its members moments set aside to rethink their lifestyles, times to examine their presence in society and the contribution they make to its betterment. Woe to us if our Christian penance were to resemble the kind of penance that so dismayed Jesus. To us too, he says: “Whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting” (Mt 6:16). Instead, let others see joyful faces, catch the scent of freedom and experience the love that makes all things new, beginning with the smallest and those nearest to us. This can happen in every one of our Christian communities.

To the extent that this Lent becomes a time of conversion, an anxious humanity will notice a burst of creativity, a flash of new hope. Allow me to repeat what I told the young people whom I met in Lisbon last summer: “Keep seeking and be ready to take risks. At this moment in time, we face enormous risks; we hear the painful plea of so many people. Indeed, we are experiencing a third world war fought piecemeal. Yet let us find the courage to see our world, not as being in its death throes but in a process of giving birth, not at the end but at the beginning of a great new chapter of history.



Parish Charity Shop

We have a wide selection of high quality clothing, household goods and Bric-a-brac. There are also First Holy Communion dresses and shoes for sale.

Open Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 5pm



Bus to DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE in Dublin on Sat 24th Feb. Bus will pick up in Kilbeggan at **8:30am** approx, will leave Dublin at 6:30pm approx. Fare €40. Booking with deposit essential before 17th. Please contact Siobhan on 083 0254 809

Old Teachers’ Residence in Rahugh for sale It is hoped that the old teachers’ residence will go on sale in the coming weeks. It is not serving any purpose for the parish and it would be good if it was bought and renovated.

