

## God's People Our Parish



**KILBEGGAN:** Saturday Vigil 7.30p.m. & Sunday 11a.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9.30a.m.

Wednesday 7.30p.m. & Saturday 10a.m

Confessions - Saturday 10.30a.m. - 11.30a.m. and 7p.m. - 7.30p.m.

**RAHUGH:** Sunday 9.30a.m. & Friday 7.30p.m.

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Website and Webcam: <https://www.kilbegganparish.ie>



## Divine Mercy Sunday (Second Sunday of Easter)

**7.30 p.m.**      **9.30 a.m.** Patrick Egan and deceased Family

**11 a.m.** Frank Ryan Month's Mind

Frank and Nancy Ryan and Joe and Damien

Kathleen, Vincent and Noreen Lennon and deceased members of the Lennon and Prendergast families.

**Wednesday 6.30p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Mass at 7.30p.m.**

**Friday (Rahugh) 7.30 p.m.** Lil Abbott, Month's Mind; and List of the Dead

We pray for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis, who died during the week. May he Rest in Peace.



● Mass will be offered by Bishop Deenihan for the repose of Pope Francis in the Cathedral in Mullingar on Tuesday, April 29th at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

● Mass in Portuguese for our parishioners from Brazil in St James' Church on Saturday 3rd May at 1 p.m.

● **Divine Mercy Devotions** commencing at 2pm in Mucklagh Church this Sunday 27th April with Adoration, Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Confessions. **Mass at 3pm**

## Third Sunday of Easter

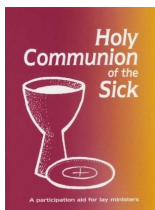
**7.30 p.m.** Bernard Conroy  
Anthony and Mary Daly and daughter Una

**9.30 a.m.**

**11 a.m.** Denis Scally



**Thank You** Plate : €1,580; Maintenance Fund: €570; Holy Land Collection: € 1,150; Trocaire: €475; Lenten Offerings: €150; Easter Offerings: €3,125. Thanks to all who are so generous.



If you have not brought your **Trocaire donation**, please do so next week and we will send it on. Thanks to all who are so generous.

**Trocaire**  
TOGETHER FOR A JUST WORLD

**I will bring Holy Communion to the sick and the housebound this week.**

*Coffee Morning  
Everyone Welcome*

**Coffee Morning after 9.30 a.m. Mass on Tuesday in the Parish Centre.**



**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 Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thanks to all who support the shop.**



**Scoil Aodha Naofa Rahugh Parent's Association:** Recycle your unwanted clothing and help us raise funds for our school at the same time! **Drop Off: Rahugh school shelter anytime between now and the 2nd May. Rahugh Hall - Sunday 4th May between 10 & 11am. Kilbeggan Church Car Park Sunday 4th May after 11am Mass.**



33. Christ showed the depth of his love for us not by lengthy explanations but by concrete actions. By examining his interactions with others, we can come to realize how he treats each one of us, even though at times this may be difficult to see. Let us now turn to the place where our faith can encounter this truth: the word of God.

34. The Gospel tells us that Jesus “came to his own” (cf. Jn 1:11). Those words refer to us, for the Lord does not treat us as strangers but as a possession that he watches over and cherishes. He treats us truly as “his own”. This does not mean that we are his slaves, something that he himself denies: “I do not call you servants” (Jn 15:15). Rather, it refers to the sense of mutual belonging typical of friends. Jesus came to meet us, bridging all distances; he became as close to us as the simplest, everyday realities of our lives. Indeed, he has another name, “Emmanuel”, which means “God with us”, God as part of our lives, God as living in our midst. The Son of God became incarnate and “emptied himself, taking the form of a slave” (Phil 2:7).

35. This becomes clear when we see Jesus at work. He seeks people out, approaches them, ever open to an encounter with them. We see it when he stops to converse with the Samaritan woman at the well where she went to draw water (cf. Jn 4:5-7). We see it when, in the darkness of night, he meets Nicodemus, who feared to be seen in his presence (cf. Jn 3:1-2). We marvel when he allows his feet to be washed by a prostitute (cf. Lk 7:36-50), when he says to the woman caught in adultery, “Neither do I condemn you” (Jn 8:11), or again when he chides the disciples for their indifference and quietly asks the blind man on the roadside, “What do you want me to do for you?” (Mk 10:51). Christ shows that God is closeness, compassion and tender love.

36. Whenever Jesus healed someone, he preferred to do it, not from a distance but in close proximity: “He stretched out his hand and touched him” ( Mt 8:3). “He touched her hand” ( Mt 8:15). “He touched their eyes” ( Mt 9:29). Once he even stopped to cure a deaf man with his own saliva (cf. Mk 7:33), as a mother would do, so that people would not think of him as removed from their lives. “The Lord knows the fine science of the caress. In his compassion, God does not love us with words; he comes forth to meet us and, by his closeness, he shows us the depth of his tender love”. [27]

37. If we find it hard to trust others because we have been hurt by lies, injuries and disappointments, the Lord whispers in our ear: “Take heart, son!” (Mt 9:2), “Take heart, daughter!” (Mt 9:22). He encourages us to overcome our fear and to realize that, with him at our side, we have nothing to lose. To Peter, in his fright, “Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him”, saying, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” (Mt 14:31). Nor should you be afraid. Let him draw near and sit at your side. There may be many people we distrust, but not him. Do not hesitate because of your sins. Keep in mind that many sinners “came and sat with him” (Mt 9:10), yet Jesus was scandalized by none of them. It was the religious élite that complained and treated him as “a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners” (Mt 11:19). When the Pharisees criticized him for his closeness to people deemed base or sinful, Jesus replied, “I desire mercy, not sacrifice” (Mt 9:13).

38. That same Jesus is now waiting for you to give him the chance to bring light to your life, to raise you up and to fill you with his strength. Before his death, he assured his disciples, “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me” (Jn 14:18-19). Jesus always finds a way to be present in your life, so that you can encounter him.

***Taken from Pope Francis’ last Encyclical Letter “Dilexit Nos” on the Human and Divine Love of Jesus for us, which was published 24 October 2024 - see full text of letter on parish website [www.kilbegganparish.ie](http://www.kilbegganparish.ie)***