

## **21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### **Sunday August 25th, 2024**

**Fr. Micheál Murphy, P.P. Tel: 057 8679302**  
**Fr. Noel Dunphy, P.E. C.C. Tel: 057 8624141**

**Parish Office: Tel 057 - 8624390**

**Opening Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday & Friday 10.30am to 1.00pm - 3.00pm to 4.30pm.**

**Email...stjosephs1878@gmail.com**

**Web.. www.mountmellickparish.ie - Facebook... mountmellick parish**



**The Lord is close to the broken hearted; and saves those who are crushed in spirit.**

This Sat/Sun, the readings invite us to consider honestly the depth of our love for the Lord. The same challenging questions once put to the Israelites by Joshua, and later to the disciples by Jesus, are being asked of us today. Today's Gospel depicts a moment of crisis for Jesus's followers. Some, who have already said yes to him, are now finding it difficult to accept what he is claiming. Jesus wonders aloud how they will respond to what is to come. In the 1<sup>st</sup> reading the people of Israel, too, are offered a clear choice: do they want to serve God, or desert God? They respond by declaring: 'we have no intention of deserting the Lord our God.' This week, we trust in the closeness of the Lord, who offers us freedom whilst freely choosing us; the Lord who is good, and who always works for our goodness.

**Blessed Carlos Acutis relic to visit Portlaoise Parish Church.** This September a relic of blessed Carlo Acutis will be brought to Ireland by 3 Franciscan friars from Assisi where his mortal remains repose. Sts. Peter & Pauls Church, Portlaoise, is one of the venues chosen to host this visit and will do so on the 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup>, of Sept. Carlo Acutis is popularly honoured as a heavenly patron of young people and of computer programmers. Reflecting on his 2020 beatification Pope Francis remarked: "His witness indicates to today's young people that true happiness is found by putting God in first place and serving God in our brothers and sisters, especially the least." More details to follow.

**BACK TO SCHOOL:** It's getting close to that time of the year again. As our schools reopen we wish them a fulfilling and exciting year ahead. Special good wishes to all the new Jnr. Infants starting 'big school' for the first time.



*Class of*  
**2024**

**CONGRATULATIONS -**  
Congratulations to the Class of 2024 who received their Leaving Cert results on Friday. Well done all.



**The Dresses of St. Paul's -**

An exhibition of wedding dresses and memorabilia from the last 100 years, in St. Paul's Church from Sept 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>. The event will close with an Ecumenical Service of 'Songs and Praise' at 5.00pm on Sun. Sept 8<sup>th</sup>. Entry to the exhibition is free of charge.

## REMEMBERING OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED - ANNIVERSARIES

*For the following whose anniversaries are remembered this weekend and for whom Mass will be offered:*

Sr. Rosarii Fennelly, Presentations Sisters, Carlo & Stephen Westman, Irishtown, Larry McEvoy, Mountmellick & New York, Julia Cahill, Twomey Park, Ellen Quigley, Emmet Tce., Lina O'Sullivan, Stradbally, Baby George Bentley, The Rock, Peter Healion, Bridge St., Esther Lawlor, Emmet Tce., Mary Ann Lawlor, Chape St., Deirdre Lawlor, Parnell St., Mick Cullen, O'Moore St.

*For those whose anniversaries occur at this time and for whom Mass will be offered next weekend Saturday/Sunday August 31st/September 1st:* Gilbert Utter, David Conroy, Derrycloney,  
*Masses available on parish webcam or church radio.*

### MOUNTMELICK PARISH

#### Collections - Collections

Saturday/Sunday August 17th & 18th

Envelopes: €935

Baskets: €685

#### THANK YOU THANK YOU

#### DONATE ONLINE

You can make your donation to support the parish via the 'Donate' button on our Parish Website, [www.mountmellickparish.ie](http://www.mountmellickparish.ie)

#### CHEQUES CHEQUES

Please make all cheques for the parish payable to

"Mountmellick Parish No 1 Account".

### Ministers of the Word

#### Saturday/Sunday Aug 31st/Sept 1st

7.30pm: Bernadette Clear

11.00am: Mona Conroy

### Ministers of the Eucharist

#### Saturday/Sunday Aug 31st/Sept 1st

7.30pm: Sr. Ann Walsh & Gillian Colgan

11.00am: Paddy Buggy & Noreen Savage

### Sunday Evening Devotions

All are welcome between 7.00pm and 7.30pm this Sunday evening in the parish church for devotions and prayers. There will also be time for quiet personal reflection and adoration before The Blessed Sacrament.

### MOUNTMELICK PARISH LOTTO

Wednesday August 21st

Jackpot Numbers: 1:15:16:23:

No Jackpot winner:

17 Matched '3' - €59 each.

N/W Jackpot is: €11,000

#### Winner

Kevin Bennett

Trish Turner

5 Sisters

Paul Strong

#### Promoter

Myra Murphy

John Turner

Frances Hibbitts

Hanlon's

### THE BALCONY CINEMA

Will show "The Way" on Wednesday August 28th at 8.00pm. Adm: €5.

### **Kildare & Leighlin SAFEGUARDING**

#### Designated Liaison Person &

Director of Safeguarding - Ailish Higgins.

Telephone: 085 8021633.

Email: [safeguarding@kandle.ie](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)

Deputy DLP: Telephone: 086 1710643

Local Enquiries. Parish Office

@ 057 8624390.

#### New Child Safeguarding Policy 2024

"A Safe and Welcoming Church – Safeguarding Children Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland, 2024" – launched on 11th of June 2024. You can access the policy by visiting the Diocesan website [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie) or via the National Board website, [www.safeguarding.ie](http://www.safeguarding.ie)

### CELEBRATING BAPTISM

If you have a baby for Baptism, please make sure we have your "Baptism Registration Form" on file in the Parish Office.

Welcome to our newly baptised...

**Eva Hickey, Australia.**

### GUIDANCE INFORMATION MORNING (LOETB)

Tuesday August 27th - 10am to 1pm. To learn more about PLCs, Apprenticeships and Tertiary degrees in Laois, come and talk with our staff.

Abbeyleix/Portlaoise/Portarlinton FETC

Apprenticeship Services. Visit the Portlaoise Information Hub, Unit 1, Lyster Square, Portlaoise. 057 8630093.

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### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The Neighbourhood Watch's annual sale will take place on Sunday September 1st from 11am to 5.00pm in the Owenass Hall. The hall will be open from 11am to 3.00pm on Sat (Aug 31st) to take in items. Contact: Paddy Bracken 087 6606804, Bobby Delaney 086 0666488, Barbara Lalor 086 6629446.

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### PARISH OFFICE

Please note the Parish Office will be closed for holidays from Thursday Sept 5th to Friday Sept 13th. Notices, anniversaries etc for the Sept 8th & 15th newsletters should be left into the post box at the office door or email: [stjosephs1878@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephs1878@gmail.com) Thank you.

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### CONCERN Worldwide, Thank You.

The sum of €1466 was collected in Mountmellick, and €353.50 in Clonaghadoo. Your generous contributions and the help of the collectors has been much appreciated.

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**For Sale:** A beautiful 3 seater sofa (recliners) in perfect condition. Contact: 086 8739264