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## Rathmolyon Parish Bulletin

**Masses this weekend: 22/23rd July, 2017** No. 1254.

**Sat. 8pm.** Paul and Catherine Maguire. Mary Mahon, Ballinaskea

**Sun. 10am.** Seán Christie. John and Bridget Cooke. Mattie Kerrigan. George Foster

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday:** Mass at 9.30am.

**Next weekend: Sat. 8pm.** Patrick Maguire and grandparents.

**Sun 10am.** Lists of Dead.

**Plate Collection:** €626. *Many thanks.*

**Please pray** for Margaret McPartlin, Johnstown Way, Enfield. R.I.P



**Famine in East Africa: A National Church collection will be held at all Masses this weekend to fund life saving aid for people currently affected by the devastating hunger crisis in East Africa.** The money

raised will go directly to Trócaire's emergency response, which is helping to deliver food, water, healthcare and other life saving aid to people affected. Severe drought, driven by climate change, is currently affecting Kenya, South Sudan, Somalia and Ethiopia, and this has resulted in failed harvests and the widespread death of livestock. Approximately 25 million people have been left facing severe food shortages. Conflict has exacerbated the effects in South Sudan and Somalia, with areas in both countries now on the verge of famine. Announcing the collection, Bishop Michael, said the situation is critical and urged support for the collection from parishioners.

**Meath Pilgrimage to Lourdes:** The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from Sept. 12-17 and will be led by Bishop Smith. The fare is € 729 for full board and inclusive of insurance and travel taxes. Contact Pilgrimages Abroad tel. 01-6359300.



**Visit of Relic of St. Teresa of Calcutta:** A Relic of St Teresa of Calcutta will visit Mullingar Cathedral on this Wed. 26th July as part of a tour of veneration across Ireland. The relic – a muslin cloth marked with the blood of the Saint and encased in a cross.

**Wed. 26th July:** Visit will begin with Mass at 7.30pm and veneration of the relic after Mass until 9.45pm,

**Thursday 27th July:** Veneration of the relic will resume after

7.45am Mass and again after 10am Mass. The relic will depart at 2pm.

**Free English Classes and English as a Foreign Language:** Do you want to learn English or improve your spoken or written English. Free English Classes are available. Contact the B.R.E.D.A. Centre, Johnstown Bridge for details. Tel: 046-941099.

**Eucharistic Adoration: Tuesday:** 10am-10pm. **Wednesday:** 10-11am & 6-10pm.

**Rathmolyon Hurling Club: Lotto Nos. 2, 16, 21, 30.** Next draw Monday 24th July.

**Lough Derg:** Traditional Three Day Pilgrimage: Every day from now until Sunday 13th August. Boats between 10.30am and 3.15pm daily. Public bus service and group organised pilgrimages available. For further information contact the Lough Derg Office Tel: 071 9861518 or email: [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org)

**Youth 2000 Summer Festival** Cistercian College, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary 17th - 20th August for young people aged 16-35, an opportunity not to be missed to experience the Catholic faith and meet many new people, with over 1400 young people from all corners of Ireland attending last year. The festival is donation-only. Free buses from all around Ireland. For info and to book online, see [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie) or Tel: 016753690

**Anyone** with community items for the newsletter please forward them to: [michaeljawhittaker@gmail.com](mailto:michaeljawhittaker@gmail.com) before Thursday evening

**Prayer for the Community:** Make strong, O Lord, the hands held out to receive your holy gifts. Grant that the ears which have heard the sound of your songs may be closed to the voice of clamour and dispute; that the eyes which have seen your great love may also behold your blessed hope; that the tongues which have spoken the "Holy, Holy, Holy" may always speak the truth; that the feet which have walked in your house may always walk in the light; that the bodies which have tasted your living body may be restored in newness of life. Amen

**Tidy Village:** Well Done to all involved on how well the village and surrounding areas look. Credit to all.

**Mercy** warms the heart and makes it sensitive to the needs of brothers and sisters with sharing and participation - Pope Francis

**Today's Gospel - Small beginnings:** Everything starts small. The mustard seed was a tiny seed that grew into a flowering bush; it was not mustard as we know it, but only a bush to give beauty and shelter. It can remind us of the beauty of creation, and of the caring shelter we can give to others. It is also a reminder that each of us began as a seed in the mother's body, and grew with the plan of God. The love of God grows like that – it begins small with birth and with baptism, and then grows wide so that we share our love of God. It is the same with marriage – love begins and then grows so that children and grandchildren and others may shelter in love. Love grows when love is given, in our immediate circle, and in our care for the wider world. Good friendship and love spreads out to many. We want the kingdom of God on earth and God is saying that it grows slowly. It grows as we try to grow love, peace, justice and compassion. The shelter of the mustard bush is the mercy of God, encouraging our parish to be 'an oasis of mercy' (Pope Francis). It is not easy, as love and care for the really needy of-ten meets with opposition. The kingdom of God grows with the help of God, and without this help, our efforts are in vain

**Celebrating 50 Years of our Church**

**Next weekend:**

**Readers: Sat. 8pm.** P. Cosgrave. **Sun. 10am.** P. Dempsey.

**Eucharistic Ministers: 8pm.** M. Howley, A. Heffernan.

**Sun. 10am.** B. Downey, R. Maguire.

**Altar Society:** M. Murray, P. Brady. **Cleaners:** A. O'Neill

**Collectors: Sat. 8pm.** J. Jordan, M. Jordan, D. Downey.

**Sun. 10am.** S. Dempsey, K. Halton, N. Howley.



**Parable of the Mustard Seed**