

First Reading	<i>Ezekiel 18:25-28</i> It is possible to turn from sin and preserve one's life
Resp. Psalm	<i>Psalms 24 (25):4-9</i> A prayer to God for mercy.
Second Reading	<i>Philippians 2:1-11</i> Be like Christ who humbled himself and was exalted by God.
Gospel Reading	<i>Matthew 21:28-32</i> Jesus poses a question to the chief priests and elders, on the meaning of obedience.

Background on the Gospel Reading:

The context for today's Gospel is the mounting tension between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders. Jesus has entered Jerusalem and overturned the money changers' tables in the Temple. Jesus has caught the attention of the religious authorities; the chief priests and elders question Jesus about the source of his authority. Jesus refuses to name for these religious leaders the source of his authority. Instead, he questions the priests and elders through the parable we hear in today's Gospel. The answer given by the religious leaders is correct, but it convicts them for their failure to heed the call of John the Baptist and for their inability to recognise the Kingdom of God.

The situation Jesus poses is rather straightforward. Given the same task by their father, one son asserts his disobedience in words, but then obeys in his actions; the second son obeys with his words, but disobeys in his actions. The question that Jesus poses is pointed and direct: Which son did what the father wanted? All would agree that "actions speak louder than words" and that even if his words were disobedient, the son who did the work as ordered did the father's will.

Jesus' conclusion is also direct. The chief priests and elders, the ones who speak most often about God, did not act accordingly. They did not respond to the message of repentance announced by John the Baptist with a change of heart. Instead, John's message was heeded by those one would not expect to repent—tax collectors, prostitutes, and other sinners. Because of their actions, these sinners will enter the Kingdom of God ahead of the religious leaders.

Jesus could ask us the same question. Do our words indicate our obedience to God? If not our words, do our actions? God desires a full conversion of heart, that our actions (and our words as well) will give evidence of our love for God. *(Loyola Press)*

The Month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary

...primarily as October includes the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, October 7th. Since the time of Pope Leo XIII in 1889 the Holy Father has asked that a prayer to Saint Joseph be added to the end of the beautiful Rosary devotion especially during the month of October. The following prayer to Saint Joseph was composed by our present Holy Father, Pope Francis:-

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path
of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*



PARISH NEWSLETTER

01 OCTOBER 2023

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

October 1st: Feast Day of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux "The Little Flower"

*October 4th: Feast Day of Saint Francis of Assisi, patron saint of
ecology and the environment*

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Mike Cussen Tel. 061 353711 Mobile 087 1279015

Parish Office: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 11.30am to 3.30pm

Tel: 061 353454 Email pwbpparishoffice@gmail.com

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REMINDER - PARISH OFFICE CHANGE OF OPENING TIMES

Our Parish Office opening times have changed.

**The new opening times are Tuesday/Thursday/Friday
from 11.30am to 3.30pm.**

Faith Group “Going Deeper”

This weekend, Saturday September 30th/Sunday October 1st, Lay Pastoral ministers Ann Mulcahy and Nessa Breen will speak in Ballybrown and Patrickswell Churches at all Masses about a small Faith Group starting in Patrickswell Church hall on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm from October 10th to November 28th.

Milford Hospice Coffee Morning – Sunday 1st October - Ballybrown:

A Coffee Morning in aid of Milford Hospice will be held at 10.45am this Sunday 1st October in Ballybrown/Clarina Community Resource Centre. Your support would be greatly appreciated as we are all aware of the care and support provided to our community by Milford Hospice. Hosted by the Thursday Club.

Alpha Faith Exploration On-Line with Fr. Chris O’Donnell:

Fr. Chris is running an Alpha Course online in early October. *Is there more to life than this? How can I have faith? Who is Jesus?* Explore these and other areas of faith in a gentle online Alpha programme run over ten Mondays Oct 2nd–Dec 4th (approx) from 8.00pm to 9.30pm. For more information or to register your interest email chris.odonnell@limerickdiocese.org

Appeal For Blood Donations:

The Blood Transfusion Service will be at Limerick Greyhound Stadium, Dock Road, Limerick on Wednesday 4th October from 4.20pm to 7.40pm. This is an appointment clinic. Appointments may be booked on 1800 222 111. **New donors are welcome!** More info at <https://giveblood.ie/>

Online Public Information Meeting: Hip and Knee Replacement Surgery:

UPMC Sports Surgery Clinic Santry is hosting an **online** evening this coming Wednesday focusing on hip and knee replacement surgery. To view you can register here: <https://bit.ly/3Ln8nTW> This event is free of charge and open to the public. It is suitable for anyone considering joint replacement (orthopaedic) surgery in the future. **Date: Wednesday, 4th October. Time: 7.00pm to 8.00pm**

FIRST FRIDAY CALLS: Friday next 6th October is the First Friday. Fr. Mike will make his Communion Calls on Thursday 5th and Friday 6th. If you would like a visit, please contact the Sacristans or the Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: We welcome to our Christian Community the following who were baptised recently:

Patrickswell Church: Shane Mícheál Leo; Edward Harty;

Tadhg Denis Conway-O’Donnell; Ivy Noreen Conway; Aoife Ann Moynihan; Darcy Valentina Gillane; Oisín Luke Kelleher-Blake.

Ballybrown Church: Daniel Seán Halpin-O Meara; Samuel Laurence Tilley; Florence Teresa Hayes; Clíodhna Bernadette Kelly; Connor Anthony Toomey; Sienna Jopek; Elise Kathleen O’Leary.



Ballybrown Senior Citizens’ Christmas Party

Dear Parishioners, it is with regret that we the Christmas Party Committee due to a number of factors, have decided to disband after 25 years in existence. The party as we know it pre-Covid had become a wonderful annual parish event and the committee are very grateful for the support of our Clergy, our Guests, Ballybrown Choir, Ballybrown GAA, Entertainers, Johnny and Helen Quinn and Family. We would like to say a sincere thank you to our local businesses for their generous contributions and all those who donated spot prizes, hall decorators, our bakers and all our bag packers for fundraising during our reign. This committee concludes next weekend with our farewell meal with invited guests.

If anyone would like to take on the task or come up with new ideas or format for the future, please feel free to follow it up, and we wish you well, as we the committee have enjoyed our experience, made many friends and created many cherished memories.

GO RAIBH MÍLE MAITH AGAIBH GO LÉIR

PARISH WEEKLY MASSES: 2nd October - 8th October

PATRICKSWELL: Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday & Friday – 9.30am (unless a funeral is scheduled). **Saturday 6.30pm** (Vigil Mass), **Sunday 11.30am.**

Adoration: Saturday from 8.00am to 11.30am

BALLYBROWN: Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday & Friday – 10.30am (unless a funeral is scheduled). **Saturday 8.00pm** (Vigil Mass), **Sunday at 10.00am.**

Churches are open for quiet prayer from 11.00am to 5.30pm daily.

Baptisms may be booked monthly in advance with the Parish Office for Ballybrown or for Patrickswell Church you may book with the sacristan Maria.

Patrickswell Baptisms: Saturdays at 2.00pm and Sundays at 12.30pm

Ballybrown Baptisms: Saturdays at 3.00pm and Sundays at 12.30pm.



ANNIVERSARIES: We remember in prayer the following whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

Ballybrown:

Saturday 30th Sept: Jimmy Morrissey

Sunday 1st Oct: Elizabeth Halpin

Saturday 7th Oct: Christy & Jamie Cusack and deceased members of the Cusack family; Hugh O’Neill

Sunday 8th Oct: Brian Holland; Edmond & Nora O’Rourke

Patrickswell:

Saturday 30th Sept: Jason Griffin; John Gavin; Anthony Murray;

Bridie McNamara & her grandson Gerry

Sunday 1st Oct: Kevin Lynch (1st anniv); Anne Shinnors; John Kennelly; Ita & Eileen McNally

Saturday 7th Oct: George Buston (Month’s Mind); Eithne Cussen (Month’s Mind); Breda Murray; Thomas Kiely