

First Reading	<i>Isaiah 45:1,4-6</i> The Lord chooses Cyrus to subdue the nations for the sake of Israel.
Resp. Psalm	<i>Psalms 95(96):1,3-10</i> Sing praise to the Lord.
Second Reading	<i>1 Thessalonians:1,1-5</i> Paul greets the Thessalonians, recalling the Gospel they received.
Gospel Reading	<i>Matthew 22:15-21</i> Jesus compares the Kingdom of Heaven to a wedding feast.

Background on the Gospel Reading:

In today's Gospel Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem continue their tense exchange of questions and challenges. At this point the disciples of the Pharisees, together with the Herodians, try to entrap Jesus by their question about the payment of taxes.

Matthew sets up an unusual partnership between the Pharisees and the Herodians. The Herodians were supporters of Herod Antipas, a Jewish political leader who collaborated with the Romans. Such collaboration would have required a compromised observance of the Mosaic Law. The Pharisees, on the other hand, taught scrupulous observance of the Mosaic Law and opposed Roman occupation. Herodians favoured the payment of taxes; the Pharisees opposed it. The Herodians and the Pharisees approach Jesus, asking that he take sides in their dispute. If Jesus answers with the Pharisees, he shows himself to be an enemy of Rome. If he answers with the Herodians, he offends popular Jewish religious sensibilities.

Jesus' response to this attempt to trap him exposes the guile of his questioners. From his first words to them, Jesus shows that he is very much aware of what they are trying to do. He asks to see a Roman coin, which is readily provided to him. It may have come from the hand of a Herodian, but the Pharisees show themselves to be quite willing to accept this compromise. Jesus has already exposed the Pharisees as hypocrites.

Jesus takes his response one step further. He asks that his questioners examine the coin. Agreeing that it is Caesar's image on the coin, Jesus tells them that it must belong to Caesar. Avoiding the question of lawfulness altogether, Jesus answers their question with simple logic. Then, going further still, Jesus tells them that their obligation is to pay to God that which belongs to God.

Jesus' response to the Herodians and Pharisees suggests the ethic that Christians ought to adopt. It reminds us of the importance of keeping things in their proper perspective. Do we attach ourselves to worldly things at the expense of the love and honour that we owe to God?

(Loyola Press)



PARISH NEWSLETTER

22 OCTOBER 2023

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

World Mission Sunday

'Hearts on fire, feet on the move'

(Luke 24:13-35)

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

Website www.pwbpparish.com

October: Mission Month / 22nd October: World Mission Sunday

World Mission Sunday is a globally celebrated moment of grace. It is a chance to pray and give to support our sisters and brothers in Christ who live in areas of poverty, conflict and oppression.

Every parish, school and community is invited to join this special event. And every euro, cent and prayer that you give helps missionaries everywhere to continue their work. **Please support missionaries through prayer and by donation through your Parish Envelope for Mission Sunday, or go to World Missions website <https://missio.ie/world-mission-sunday/>**

Mission Prayer for all children everywhere:

Lord, may all children in the world share love and friendship,
And live in the peace of your love,
Now and for ever. Amen.

“Do this in Memory Programme 2023/2024”

We welcome the children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion and their families to our Masses in Ballybrown & Patrickswell Churches this weekend.

November Desert Day – Remember your loved ones who are with God

Silent Retreat with Eucharist and Reconciliation. Step aside from the ordinary for a one-day silent retreat at Limerick Diocesan Centre. The focus of the day will be to **remember our loved ones who have died**. The retreat includes prayer, meditation, reflection, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Celebration of the Eucharist. €20 contribution requested. Facilitated by Sister Phyllis Moynihan and Bernadette Murphy. Booking is essential, contact Phyllis at 087 9636893 or email moynihanphyllis525@gmail.com

Date: Saturday November 4th, 10:30am to 5:00pm

Venue: Limerick Diocesan Centre, Saint Munchin’s, Corbally Eircode V94 925C
Please bring your own packed lunch. Tea/Coffee/Snacks provided.

Patrickswell National School Enrolment:

Enrolment to Junior Infants 2024/2025 - Enrolment process for Junior Infants 2024/2025 is now open. **Closing date for applications is Friday 3rd November, 2023 at 5.00pm.** Please note: Pupils wishing to enrol into other classes should email the school office directly. Email: info@patrickswellns.com

Annual November Remembrance Mass for Deceased Parishioners 2023

Saturday 4th November Patrickswell Church at 6.30pm. Ballybrown Church at 8.00pm.

Ballybrown Church Choir begin Christmas rehearsals on Tuesday Nov 7th at 8.00pm (please note time change). New members most welcome.



UMHL Annual Remembrance Service The University Maternity Hospital, Limerick wishes to invite parents and their families who have experienced the death of their baby, or pregnancy loss at any stage, together with hospital staff, to a Remembrance Service at Holy Rosary Church, Ennis Road, on **Sunday 5th November at 3.00pm.** *Every precious life forever remembered.*

Annual Cemetery Prayers: During November we especially remember all our departed relatives and friends. The following are the arrangements for Cemetery prayers:-

Clounanna - Sunday 5th November at 12.30pm

Patrickswell – Sunday 12th November at 12.30pm

Kilkeedy – Sunday 19th November at ~~12.30pm~~ 11.00AM

Donation Box available in the Graveyards.

Castlemungret – Sunday 5th November at 2.30pm

Old Graveyard Mungret – Sunday 5th November at 3.15pm

PARISH WEEKLY MASSES: 23rd October – 29th October

PATRICKSWELL: Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday & Friday: 9.30am (unless a funeral is scheduled).

Saturday (Vigil Mass) 6.30pm, 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 (Vigil Mass) 8.00pm, Sunday 10.00am.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Ballybrown:

Sat 21st Oct: Francis “Juicy” O’Reilly (1st anniv.); Patrick, Niamh & Chloe Hartigan.

Sun 22nd Oct: May Doolan

Patrickswell:

Sat 28th Oct: Liam Fenton

Sun 29th Oct: Bobby Collins

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

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.

Offertory Collection Last Weekend: € 1413

Thank You.