

# Parish Newsletter

Twentieth Sunday  
Ordinary Time  
Year A

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## It's a Test

If it is a test, the Canaanite woman passes with flying colours! Her faith is impressive. When Jesus ignores her initial appeal, she tries again. And when he knocks her back, she replies with a witty retort: 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.'

I always find this exchange amusing. At first reading, it seems that the woman has got one up on Jesus. He attempted to fob her off, and her quick wit has caught him out. We can imagine him chuckling as he concedes 'Woman, you have great faith'.

But the exchange also makes me wonder: what was Jesus really up to? By the end of the conversation, he is clearly impressed with the woman's faith, her wit and her wisdom. But why the test? Why does he try to fob her off, and why the dog reference?

In the Gospels, Jesus often tests his followers. He certainly tests Peter and the other disciples. He challenges them to think, and to come up with the right answers. Perhaps he is testing not only the woman's faith but also his disciples'. In using the analogy of a 'house-dog', he may well be giving voice to the thoughts of his disciples. They would have little time for this Canaanite woman, a Gentile. They certainly would not have expected her to demonstrate such faith.

Perhaps it was an exchange that would come back to them at a later date as they expanded their mission to the Gentiles. Paul would later talk of God's mercy 'to all mankind' A far cry from 'house-dogs'!

Triona Doherty



<p><b>St. Peter's Church, Milford</b></p> <p><b>Saturday 16th</b> 7: 30 pm Kathleen Magee (Anniv)</p> <p><b>Sunday 17th Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 11: 00 am Intention</p> <p><b>Tuesday 19th</b> 7: 00 pm Intention</p> <p><b>Thursday 21st St. Pius X</b> 10: 00 am Intention</p> <p><b>Friday 22nd The Queenship of Mary</b> 10: 00 am Intention</p> <p><b>Saturday 23rd</b> 7: 30 pm Kathleen Grier (Anniv)</p> <p><b>Sunday 24th Twenty- First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 11: 00 am Intention</p>	<p><b>Eucharistic Adoration</b> <u>Tuesdays - Kerrykeel</u> 9: 00 am – 8: 00 pm</p> <p><u>Thursday's - Milford</u> 10: 00 am – 10: 00 pm (Directed Holy Hour from 9: 00 pm every second Thursday of the month)</p> <p><b>Confessions</b> <u>Milford</u> After 7: 30 pm Mass every Saturday</p> <p><u>Kerrykeel</u> 5: 30 pm on Saturday's</p>	<p><b>Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel</b></p> <p><b>Saturday 16th</b> 6: 00 pm Cassie McFadden (Anniv)</p> <p><b>Sunday 17th Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 9: 30 am Intention</p> <p><b>Wednesday 20th St. Bernard</b> 10: 00 am Intention</p> <p><b>Saturday 23rd</b> 6: 00 pm Intention</p> <p><b>Sunday 24th Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 9: 30 am Denis Deeney (Anniv)</p>
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**Please Remember in your Prayers:**

**Kathleen Hagan**, Mount Marian, who died on Monday and whose funeral took place in Milford on Thursday.

**And all those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially:**

Katie Mc Daid, Cassie Mc Fadden, James Friel, Kathleen Magee, Bernard Mc Brearty & Charlie Ferry.



**Local SVP number 086 0611040**

**Tax Relief Scheme Forms**

If you have not yet returned your form please do so as soon as possible.

**Kerrykeel Country Market**

Kerrykeel Country Market takes place every Saturday in the Old School, Kerrykeel from 11am until noon. Featuring a wide array of locally produced items including art, crochet, home baking, plants/flowers, crafts, cooked meals, meat, jams, jewellery, eggs, honey, vegetables etc. Tea/Coffee room open also.

**Rosary**

There is a rosary every Tuesday at 3pm in St. Peter's Church, Milford. All welcome, tea served.

**Lourdes Pilgrimage**

Pilgrimage to Lourdes leaving Knock on the 28th August 2014. Five nights full board, €689 per person inclusive, on a room sharing basis in Hotel Agena, led by Fr James Gillespie. There are still some places remaining, for details and bookings, please contact Kathleen Mc Keague on 074 9121551.

**Public Meeting- Kerrykeel Church**

A public Parish meeting will take place in Kerrykeel Church on Monday 18th August at 8pm. Everyone welcome.

**Youth Alpha**

During the Winter months we hope to provide an Alpha course for young people of our parish. An Alpha Course is for people to explore and discuss their faith and it's relevance for us in our world today. It is open to all Christian Churches. Johnny Summerville, Youth Alpha Co-Ordinator for Ireland will be providing training for those who wish to be leaders for Youth Alpha on Tuesday 2nd Sept. from 7pm —9.30pm, in Milford Oratory. More info contact 086 3369095. More info is available on [www.alphayouth.ie](http://www.alphayouth.ie)

**Mass for Expectant Families**

Annual Mass for Expectant Families will take place in St Eunan's Cathedral, Letterkenny on Tuesday 8th September 2014 at 7.30pm. Celebrant: Bishop Philip Boyce, O.C.D. Everyone welcome.

**Trócaire**

Trócaire thanks you most sincerely for your generosity in supporting the organisation's work with people affected by conflict in the Middle East. Trócaire echoes the call of Pope Francis for your prayer for Christians and all other populations that are suffering at the present time, and for dialogue and reconciliation as the basis for peace. We remember especially people affected by conflict in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Israel.

**Farewell Fr. Paul**

A function has been arranged for Sunday 24th August in the Rossnakill Hall @ 8pm to mark the departure of our C.C. Fr. Paul McGeehan. A community collection and presentation will be made on the night and all donations towards this are very welcome. Everyone is invited to come along and enjoy a night of music, dance and refreshments. Any home baking for this event would be much appreciated. If further information is required, please contact 086 3061430 (Massmount area) or 086 8259870 (Ballyheerin area).

**Lough Derg Family Day Retreat**

Lough Derg invites you to a Family Day Retreat on Friday 22nd August. Prayer & Reflection time for Parents, Grandparents, Aunts & Uncles Scripture-based children's activities, lunch & Family Mass. A faith and fun filled day out for all the family before school starts. 9:30am until 4:00pm. For bookings & further information contact Maureen - telephone 071 9861518 or email [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org)

**Milford Parish- Public Meeting**

A public Parish meeting will take place in Milford Church Oratory on Tuesday 19th August at 8pm. Everyone welcome.

**Church Collections for last weekend were:**

Milford: €1,257.00  
Kerrykeel: €375.00

Many thanks for your contributions to the Parish.

*Thought for the Week*

Do not expect others to guess how you feel

**Milford Hall Bingo**  
Bingo Sunday Night at 8:30pm, in the Hall.  
**Snowball tonight is:**  
€8,000. 00  
**Second Snowball**  
€4,050. 00



*Church Ministries*



**Milford**

**Ministers of the Word**  
**Sat 23rd August**

E. Gallagher & R. Gallagher  
**Sun 24th August**  
D. Mc Cafferty & S. Ramen

**Ministers of the Eucharist**

**Sat 23rd August**  
K. Logan, W. Friel,  
M. Mc Nulty, O. Gallagher  
**Sun 24th August**  
K. Ferry, C. O Sullivan,  
C. Mc Gettigan & M. Mc Fadden

**Children's Liturgy**

*The Children's liturgy are on holidays for the summer months and will resume in September.*

**Kerrykeel**

**Ministers of the Word**  
**Sat 23rd August**

Kay Mc Grory  
**Sun 24th August**  
Cabrine Friel

**Ministers of the Eucharist**

**Sat 23rd August**  
Noreen Mc fadden  
**Sun 24th August**  
Moira Stilvern