

Parish Newsletter

Sixteenth Sunday
Ordinary Time
Year A

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The Mustard Seed Revolution

The mustard seed parable is often explained away by stating how God takes a tiny seed and makes a big tree out of it. There is, as usual, a lot more going on here. Matthew strategically places the mustard seed parable in the middle of a story about gardening. Jesus surprises his listeners by telling them not to cut the weeds out of the wheat. The mustard seed's growth could also be compared to wild weeds that grow through cracks in footpaths or a vine that vigorously takes over an area. There is an ancient text which forbade planting mustard seeds in Palestinian gardens because the shrub takes over, like how yeast works its way through dough! It is wild, out of control, and attracts unwanted birds. Author and activist, Shane Claiborne, compares it to kudzu, a wild vine that could blanket entire mountain areas, smother trees, even crack cement buildings. People of Jesus' time may have preferred the image of the lofty 'cedars of Lebanon' to explain God's kingdom, where the nations could build nests like the eagles do. Now that image may have gotten a few cheers from the crowd! Mustard plants however, only stand a few feet tall. Jesus is turning the ideals of power and triumph on their head again. The image we have here is of the unwanted, detestable birds who find a home in this little shrub which cannot be curtailed. It will grow even where it is not wanted.

Jane Mellett



MUSINGS

The Second Reading today reminds us that often 'we do not know what we ought to pray for'. In other words, should we always and on every occasion trust that we know what's best for us, and that God, acknowledging our far-sightedness, should simply respond positively to our every demand? Let's reflect for a moment on all that we have prayed for over the years. Had every request been granted precisely as we had requested it, how might our lives be different today? Indeed, as a line in one of Garth Brooks songs says: *'Sometimes God's greatest gifts are unanswered prayers.'*

Salvador Ryan

St. Peter's Church, Milford

Saturday 19th

7: 30 pm Mena & Kevin Begley (Anniv)

Sunday 20th Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

11: 00 am Intention

Tuesday 22nd St. Mary Magdalene

7: 00 pm Intention

Thursday 24th St. Declan

10: 00 am Intention

Friday 25th St. James

10: 00 am Intention

Saturday 26th St.'s Joachim & Anne

7: 30 pm Intention

Sunday 27th Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

11: 00 am Intention

3: 00 pm Tully Graveyard Mass

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays - Kerrykeel

9: 00 am – 8: 00 pm

Thursday's - Milford

10: 00 am – 10: 00 pm

(Directed Holy Hour from

9: 00 pm every second

Thursday of the month)

Confessions

Milford

After 7: 30 pm Mass

every Saturday

Kerrykeel

5: 30 pm on Saturday's

Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel

Saturday 19th

6: 00 pm Intention

Sunday 20th Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9: 30 am Intention

Wednesday 23rd St. Bridget of Sweden

10: 00 am Intention

Saturday 26th St.'s Joachim & Anne

6: 00 pm intention

Sunday 27th Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9: 30 am Margaret Dougherty (Anniv)

Please Remember in your Prayers:

Veronica Boyle, Glasgow/Gweedore, whose funeral took place in Gweedore on Thursday (*Aunt of Grainne McCafferty*)

Martin Shannon, **Aras Ui Dhomhnaill Nursing Home & England**, whose funeral took place in Milford on Monday

And all those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Mena & Kevin Begley, Chrissie Whoriskey, Frank Meehan, Elizabeth McLaughlin & John Meehan



Local SVP number 086 0611040

This is a dedicated confidential number, just leave a voicemail and a trained SVdeP volunteer will be in touch.

Tax Relief Scheme Forms

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

Keep our Graveyards Clean

While everyone is working hard to have the Cemeteries looking good at all times it would be appreciated if a special effort would be made to have them looking well for the annual cemetery Masses in the Parish which will take place in the next few weeks. Could everyone please ensure that they remove used wreaths and flowers from the graveyard and dispose of them at home. Please do not have old wreaths etc. left lying around the cemetery as it makes the place look untidy. Thank you for your cooperation.

Hospice Thanks

Donegal Hospice gratefully acknowledges receipt of your most generous donation of €420 from the recent Church Gate collection. Thank you to all who contributed and collected.

KIDS ART CAMP

4th-8th August and 11th-15th August
10am-12noon daily. €35 per child/€60 family of two. Contact Bernie on 087 2744974.

Rosary

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

Graveyard Masses

Tully Cemetery

Next Sunday

27th July 2014 @ 3pm

Milford Cemetery

Sunday 3rd August 2014 @ 3pm

Ramelton Heritage Tour

During the months of July and August there will be a guided walking tour of Ramelton on each Monday and Thursday morning at 11.30am. The tours will depart from the Visitor Information Sign at Gamble's Square and last approx. 1hr and 15 mins. Cost is €5.00 per person and accompanied children are free. Enquiries call 086 2421008

Lough Derg

Reflecting on a recent Three Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg a pilgrim wrote:- "A spirit exists in each group that is so special to those pilgrims - the intensity of the experience is almost unparalleled in life." Daily boats to the Island from 10.30am until 3:00pm 7 days a week until 13th August. No booking necessary. For further information contact 071 9861518 or email: info@loughderg.org

Dance in Social Activity Centre

The usual dance will be held in the Social Activity centre, Rathmullan on Fri 25th July. Dancing from 9pm - 11pm. Music by James Sandilands. Admission €5, refreshments served. All welcome, proceeds in aid of St. Vincent De Paul Social Activity Centre.

Rosknall Summer Camp

Rosknall Summer Camp Committee would like to thank everyone who helped out in the running of summer camp 2014. Over 130 children attended the 3 day camp and took part in various activities/outings which had been arranged. A special word of thanks to all the helpers that came along to assist with supervision, activities and supporting the group leaders... your contribution is very much appreciated. We look forward to seeing you all back next year. Thanks to Lawrence Blaney for the use of his field and to John Blaney and Bernie McConigley for their help in keeping the centre running smoothly. Could any items that were left behind during the camp be collected before the 25th of July as they will be donated to charity after this date. We hope that everyone enjoyed the summer camp and look forward to the 2015 Camp.

Fr. Stephen Gorman

Recently ordained Fr. Stephen Gorman will say Mass in our Parish on Saturday next, 26th July, at 6pm in Kerrykeel and 7.30pm in Milford.

Money Found

A small sum of money has been found in the grounds of St. Peters, please contact the Sacristy.



Church Collections for last weekend were:

Milford: €1,245.00
Kerrykeel: €440.00

Many thanks for your contributions to the Parish.

Thought for the Week

A weak faith is weakened by predicaments and catastrophes whereas a strong faith is strengthened by them.

Milford Hall Bingo
Bingo Sunday Night at 8:30pm, in the Hall.
Snowball tonight is:
€8,000. 00
Second Snowball
€3,850. 00

Church Ministries



Milford

Ministers of the Word

Sat 26th July

P. McLaughlin

Sun 27th July

A. Toland & B. Ward

Ministers of the Eucharist

Sat 26th July

M. McNulty, O. Gallagher,
M.E. Gillespie & E. Dyke

Sun 27th July

C. McGettigan, M. McFadden,
M. McRory & Bernie O'Donnell

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 26th July

B. McGarvey

Sun 27th July

Brid Dougherty

Ministers of the Eucharist

Sat 26th July

Noreen McFadden

Sun 27th July

Eileen McAteer

