

MASS INTENTIONS for the week ahead:*Sat Vigil: Connie & John Kellaghan**Sun 9am: John McKiernan**Sun 11.30am: Paddy & Kathleen Lynch**Sat Vigil: Movee & Teresa McCormack**Sun 9am: Mattie Smith***WEEKDAY MASSES:** *Sat 10am***MINISTERS OF THE WORD** for next weekends' Masses are: *Vigil (Oct 29th) Teresa Doherty 11.30am (Oct 30th) Jim Brogan***MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST** for next weekends' Masses are: *Vigil (Sept 29th) Deirdre McAnarney, Madeline Bracken 11.30am (Sept 30th) Frances Walsh, Kathleen Nee, Rose Leavy, Paul Farrell & Don O'Doherty.***COLLECTIONS:** *Athboy €1590, Rathmore €120, Rathcairn €185. Thank you for your generous support.***ADORATION OF BLESSED****SACRAMENT:** *on Friday commencing at 9am and continuing throughout the day until late.***FEASTDAYS in the week ahead:***Tues Sept 25th – St Finbarr**Wed Sept 26th – Ss Cosmas & Damian, Bl Paul VI**Thurs Sept 27th – St Vincent de Paul**Fri Sept 28th – St Wenceslaus, St Lawrence Ruiz & Companions**Sat 29th – Ss Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels.***REST IN PEACE:** *Your prayers are requested for Andrew Fitzpatrick, Naas (Mai Hayes' brother), and Tom McGuinness, Clonmellon, (Mary Martin's brother) whose funeral takes place in Clonmellon this Sunday.***TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Sunday September 23rd 2018****OFFERING DAY:** Today Sunday September 23rd is an Offering Day for the support of the priests of the parish. (Transport Collection)**CONFESSIONS** every Saturday at 5.45pm beginning next Saturday evening Sept 29th.**BAPTISMAL MEETING:** The next baptismal meeting for parents who wish to have their babies baptised takes place on Monday October 1st at 8pm in the Parochial House. Please enrol in advance to the Parochial House.**ALTAR SERVERS:** The current Altar Servers rota has now finished. Fr Padraig will recruit new servers in October. If you will permit your child to serve at Mass, training will be provided and a rota will be distributed. Many thanks to the Altar Servers, particularly those who have gone to secondary school and their parents for their dedicated service throughout the year.**CELEBRATING PENANCE AND HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE FIRST TIME:**Registration meeting on Wednesday 10th October in O'Growney National School, Athboy at 7.30pm for parents of children in Second Class in the parish schools who would like their children to receive the Sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion for the first time. Please bring the Enrolments forms to this meeting. "Do This in Memory" candles will be for sale, for use during the coming year, as we prepare the children celebrating the sacraments. On Sat 13th & Sun 14th Oct children who wish to receive Sacrament of Penance and Holy Communion for the first time are invited with their parents to an Enrolment Ceremony at the weekend Masses.**FR PAT'S MASS & PRESENTATION:** The committee would like to thank everyone both in the parish and beyond, who contributed so generously to the collection for Fr. Pat and attended in such large numbers in the Church and in the hotel afterwards.**ORDINATION:** Deacon Fergal Cummins will be ordained a priest on Sunday 30th September by Bishop Tom Deenihan in Ashbourne. Please keep Fergal and his family in your prayers in the days ahead and our three Seminarians in Rome and all the priests of the Diocese of Meath.**ENVELOPE SERIES:** The current series of envelopes finishes on September 30th. The committee are currently preparing the new series of boxes for distribution.**SEAN NÓS DANCE CLASSES** re-commence on Wed 26th September at 9pm in the Convent Community Centre, Kildalkey Rd., Athboy. Beginners welcome.**IRISH LANGUAGE CLASSES** for adults starting Monday 24th September at 8pm – Ráth Chairn Community Centre. Beginners and intermediate level.**FAMILY ADDICTION SUPPORT NETWORK** is hosting a ten-week programme in Kells commencing 4th October. This programme is designed as a safe and secure space in which family members who are affected by the addictive behaviour of another can begin a process of recovery and healing. More info at www.fasn.ie.**RETOUVAILLE – A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES:** Do you want to improve communication with your spouse? Do you feel lost, alone, bored in your marriage? The Retrouvaille programme can help marriages at all stages. Next programme starts 5th – 7th October. For information contact Tony & Anne 01 4953536 or visit www.retrouvaille.ie. Completely confidential.

The great Indian philosopher and poet Tagore says, "Only in the deepest silence of night the stars smile and whisper amongst themselves." A lighthouse has no function in the daytime; a beacon shines only when there is darkness. To discover the light that is within us, we must go through the darkness. When Christ said that he was the light of the world, he was not talking only about the external, prophetic light, but about an internal light that was the light at the heart of the universe and the light at the heart of every living person. When he called Christians to let their light shine before the world, he was talking about the light that shines from our innermost being, that part of us where God has written his name on us.

There is an oriental proverb that says, "Pearls lie not on the seashore; if thou desirest one, thou must dive for it." Similarly, to find our true light, the light that beckons and enlightens, we must go deep into ourselves, and the deeper we go, the brighter will be our light. It is then that we can be true lights to the world. We can't all be blazing lighthouses or glaring neon lights. Many of us are just flickering wicks that need to be pared and cared for, very gently, carefully and confidently. Still, even flickering lights can lead people to their true selves.