

## Out Of The Mouths Of Babes . . .

Humorous emails were circulated widely some time ago containing prayers written to God by children.

Their easy familiarity challenges us to ask whether we have made our own prayer too complicated:

- **‘Dear God, instead of letting people die and having to make new ones, why don’t you just keep the ones you’ve got now?’**
- **‘Dear God, I am an American, what are you?’**
- **‘Dear God, if you watch in church on Sunday I promise I will show you my new shoes.’**
- **‘Dear God, maybe Cain and Abel would not kill each other so much if they had their own rooms. It works with my brother.’**

## We Are Who We Are

Jesus had little success with the ‘professionals’ of his day. Yet in today’s Gospel he bursts into a prayer of thanksgiving for revealing wisdom to those who are considered ‘infants’.

In the context of these chapters of Matthew, it is stressed that the poor are the only ones who truly understand the wisdom of God and they do so under the weight of great oppression and demands placed on them by the religious authorities.

For example, the ‘wise’ place their particular interpretation of the law on the ‘ritually unclean’ by excluding them from meals (9:10-13) or place restrictions on the Sabbath that ignore human need (12:1-14). Jesus wants people to leave aside these oppressors and learn from him; find rest in him. His focus is on mercy, compassion and love.

This passage shows the tenderness with which Jesus welcomes and accepts. Jesus knows the reality of people’s suffering. He is not saying that there are no burdens in life; but that he will help people to find wisdom. This wisdom gives consolation, tenderness, acceptance and the rest for which the soul yearns.

Lowliness is humility, and that means down-to-earth realism. I accept myself as the raw material God has chosen to work through. For God can use me if I am ready to be me. God cannot do much with me as I wish I were, and even less with me trying to be someone else. In supple strength and cheerful self-acceptance lies the secret of a calm and restful spirit.

## ST JOHN’S PARISH <> KILKENNY



### *Pastoral Council*

Mary Brennan,  
Alan Burke,  
Margaret Cleere,  
Ann-Marie Ivers,  
Jimmy Kelly,  
Sheila O’Callaghan,  
Fr Seán O’Connor,  
Aidan Phelan,  
Fr Frank Purcell,  
Pat Ryan.

Fr Frank Purcell (086) 601 0001

Fr Seán O’Connor (086) 389 5911

T: (056) 772 1072 E: [stjohns@ossory.ie](mailto:stjohns@ossory.ie) W: [stjohnskilkenny.com](http://stjohnskilkenny.com)

SVP HELPLINE - 086 895 1239

## Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 6<sup>th</sup> July 2014

### Divine Mercy Apostolate

Service for *Healing of the Generations* (Family Tree Mass) takes place next Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> July, in St Brigid’s Church, Coon.

It is led by Fr John Delaney and team, commences with adoration at 6.30pm. Holy Mass at 7.30pm, concluding with Benediction.

### Day Care Centre

A Big Thank to Phil Curran and The Children’s Liturgy Group from all in the Day Care Centre for all the funds raised for the Centre from their recent Cake Sale. Much appreciated.

### Road Hurling

Road Hurling will take place on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm in Johnswell Village.

Teams of 3 €30. Under 14’s €15. Registration from 5.30pm onwards. Senior County hurlers, Brian Hogan and Tommy Walsh, will be in attendance.

## Deaths – Month's Minds – Anniversaries

**Deaths:** Sr Baptiste Casey, St John of God Convent.  
Jimmy Grace, Sion Road.  
Renee Murphy, Greenfields.  
Margaret Fitzpatrick, McDonagh Street.  
Carmel McGuirk, Robertshill.  
Michael Ruth, Laurel Drive, Loughboy. *Funeral Mass in St Fiacre's Church, 12.00 noon, Sunday.*  
Derek O'Connor, Mount Brilliant Rd., Greenshill. *Funeral Mass in St John's 12.00 noon, Sun. Interment in St Kieran's Cemetery.*

**Month's Mind:** Carmel McEvoy (11.00am).  
Jake Brennan.

**Anniv:** Patrick Shortt (6.30pm); Mick Butler (10.00am);  
Mary Carey (10.30am); Bridget & Nicholas Kavanagh (~~12.00 noon~~);  
Mary Fry; Lily Purcell; Jim Foley; Dermot Delaney; Jack & Josie Purcell;  
Edward Kennedy; Alice Gallagher; Ellen Hanlon.

## RISE

### Our Next Program St John's

The next programme is starting on the 14<sup>th</sup> July for 10 weeks in the Day Care Centre from 6.30pm to 9.30pm. See hand-outs in church porch: tel nos., etc.

### About Us

The RISE Foundation is a registered charity founded by Frances Black in 2009, focussed on family members of those with addictive behaviour (alcohol, drugs, gambling, food or sex addiction). At RISE (Recovery In a Safe Environment), we are dedicated to working towards helping family members to free themselves from the stress, anxiety and worry of having a loved one with addictive behaviour and to understand the nature of addiction and the profound effects it has on relationships.

### Our Vision

To free Ireland through cultural change from its unhealthy relationship with Alcohol and other Drugs

### Our Mission

To support families impacted by a loved ones addictive behaviour through awareness, education and therapy, and to combat the associated shame and stigma

### Our Aims

- Educate families about addiction and addictive behaviour
- Support families in their own recovery
- Break the cycle of addiction by helping the family member to care for themselves
- Help the family member to emerge from their powerlessness with strength and courage
- Raise awareness about the impact of addiction on families.

### St John's Prayer Group

St John's Prayer Group Mass will be held in the Day Care Centre at 8.15pm next Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup> July. All are welcome.

### Monthly Rosary

The monthly Rosary in James Green this Sunday at 3 O'clock.

### Ossory Vocations Promotion #32

*Many people are weary and find life burdensome. Could God be calling you to bring comfort, encouragement and refreshment to others?*

*Trust that Jesus can work through you. You can make a difference.*

If you think God is calling you to be a priest, visit our website at [www.ossory.ie/vocations](http://www.ossory.ie/vocations) or contact Fr. Willie Purcell at [ossoryvocdir@gmail.com](mailto:ossoryvocdir@gmail.com). Facebook: [ossoryvocdir](https://www.facebook.com/ossoryvocdir) Tel: 056 7770261.

## Eucharistic Ministers For Next Weekend – Panel 2 Readers for Next Weekend – Page 102

8.00am	Nora Webster & Margaret Leahy
10.30am	Seamus Brennan & Deirdre Dowling
12.00noon	Mary Lynch
7.30pm	Ann Marie Grace
Johnswell 10.00am	Josie Manning & Catherine Bergin
Dunmore 11.00am	Fiona McGearry & Nora Guilfoyle

### O'Loughlin Gaels Lotto

Numbers.12, 18, 25, 26. Bonus 11. No Jackpot winner 10 x €40 winners.