

It helps if you remember that everyone is doing their best from their level of consciousness. (Deepak Chopra)

You are not Alone

ALONE is a national organization that strives to enable older people to age at home, safely and securely, for as long as they wish. If you are an older person who would like to learn more about this service, please call ALONE's National Support Line on 0818 222 024. Available seven days a week from 8am to 8pm.

Domestic Abuse

You do not have to live with control and abuse in your home. Support is right here in your community. Visit www.safeireland.ie to find your local service or call the National Abuse Helpline 1800 341 900

Diocesan Child Protection Services

New Child Protection Services Update: We wish to thank Seamus for his dedicated and faithful service as our Representative in Kilmore for many years and we now welcome Paul to this new Role which he begins this week. To seek support or advice, or to report any concerns you may have with regard to child protection matters, please contact the following parish safeguarding officers: Paul: 087 7745546 (Kilmore area), Pat 087 278 5156 (Tomhaggard/Mulrankin area) and John 087 914 8009 (Kilmore Quay area).

Samaritans Helpline

Call Us Free, From Any Phone. Find Out More Now. You Talk, We Listen. Call Us Free on 116 123.

Bereavement Support Line

If you or someone you know is struggling at this time, we are here to help you. It's free to call our Bereavement Support line 1800 80 7077 Monday to Friday 10am to 1pm.

Pieta House, Preventing Suicide and Self Harm

If you have any concerns, please contact our team on 0818 111 126. Pieta Crisis helpline 1800 247 247 or text Help to 51444

Women's Refuge

For women in crises there is a 24-hour Free Helpline 1800 220 444

Alzheimer Society of Ireland

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland's National Helpline Service is open six days a week. Call 1800 341 341 or email helpline@alzheimier.ie

You can be a good person with a kind heart and still say no.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL LEAVING CERT STUDENTS!

You've reached a huge milestone—be proud.

you are worth more than any set of points

There are endless paths ahead. College, work, travel, creativity—whatever you choose, make it yours. Chase what excites you, and don't let comparison steal your joy.

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF. DREAM BOLDLY. THE FUTURE IS YOURS TO SHAPE.

Scout News

Congratulations to the Scout Team who achieved a Gold Standard at last week's National Scoutcraft Competition The Phoenix, in Limerick. The team of 8 were marked on all activities over 4 days, independent of adult help, including: Campcraft, Scoutcraft, Programme Challenges, Cooking and Eating, Log Books, Teamwork,

Sustainability etc. 86 teams involving almost 700 12-15 yr olds took part. After years of coming close there were huge celebrations when the team and leaders arrived back at Tomhaggard Social Centre.

The Venture team have their National Competition this weekend in Wicklow when 5 Kilmore members join forces with 3 from Blackwater to take part in the Sword Fri-Sun. They are marked on similar skills over the weekend. They won Gold Standard last year and hope to do well again this year.

Scout Registration

Scout leaders are meeting next week to plan for Registration Night and resumption dates for each section. It has been a hectic few months for all sections. We badly need some new Volunteer Leaders age 18+ to help deliver the Scouting Programme due to existing leader work schedules etc. Currently we have spaces in Beaver, 6-8 Cub 9-11 and Venture 15-18 age groups. Contact Breda Hayes 087 6858480 for details

Community Lotto – one lucky winner

The numbers drawn in this week's Lotto were 1. 5. 17. 21. There was one lucky winner of the jackpot receiving €10,400. Congratulations to the winner. There were 8 match 3 winners each receiving €25. Next week's jackpot starts at €3000

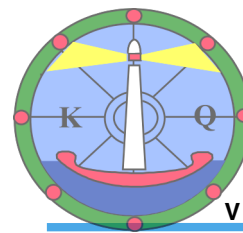
Kilmore Parish journal

The AGM of Kilmore Parish Journal will take place on next Wednesday, August 27, 2025 in AOH hall, Bridgetown at 8.00 pm. New members are welcome to attend the AGM and assist with the publication of Journal No. 54 in December 2025.

Bridgetown Public Library

Bridgetown Public Library is open 2 – 4pm Monday to Wednesday.

Whenever we recognize an outsized emotional response, we can be pretty certain that we are over-identified with something or our shadow self has just been activated and exposed. If we are ultimately incapable of detaching from an emotion, we are far too attached! (Richard Rohr, *Daily Meditations* extract).



NEWS & REFLECTIONS

St Peter's Church

Kilmore Quay

Co Wexford

V Rev Fr. Patrick Mernagh: 086 2256794



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time – 24th August 2025

Reflection on the Gospel for the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



The 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time emphasizes the importance of making a clear choice and the commitment required to follow God fully. It encourages believers to trust in Jesus even when things are hard and to stick with Him even when it costs something. This Sunday serves as a reminder that real faith means enduring and persevering in the face of the challenges of life.

The door that Jesus invites us to enter through is himself. He extends an invitation to us to go to him, to pass through this the narrow door to a life of a full, reconciled and happy life. He awaits each one of us, no matter what sins we have committed and

offers us his forgiveness. He alone can give full meaning to our existence, giving us true joy. When we encounter the love and mercy of God, we will see a genuine change in ourselves.

A prayer for Hope in a time of War

God of hope and peace, bring healing to nations ravaged by war. Restore broken cities, shattered communities, and wounded hearts. Pour out Your mercy on those who suffer loss and trauma. Help nations rebuild with justice, love, and hope. Compassionate God, protect the innocent caught in the crossfire of war—women, children, the elderly, and the vulnerable. Shelter them from violence and provide for their needs. Give them hope amid despair and courage to endure. Let justice prevail for those who suffer injustice. Amen



The Jubilee celebration for Marian Spirituality

On Sunday the 31st August, Our Lady's Island will host the Jubilee celebration for Marian spirituality. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Nash at 3pm Guest speaker, Alice Doyle, Deputy President of the IFA. Creation Walk at 5pm: Beginning in the church, the walk will make its way around the island stopping at various points along the way, pilgrims will be invited to ponder on the gift of creation. As we ponder the gift of life we will give thanks for all that we have received. To end our day, we will conclude with adoration of the blessed sacrament at 6pm

Our Lady's Island Pilgrimage

Sunday, 24th August

Mass 3pm - Testimony and Song with Celine Byrne, Soprano. (Book Launch of Vol. 12 & 13 in *Wood You Believe* series).

Sunday 31st August

Mass 3pm – A Diocesan Celebration for the Jubilee Year.

- ☞ Daily Mass during the season will be at 3pm and 7.30pm in the Church. Rosary will begin at 7pm on Mondays.
- ☞ Prayer around the cross on Fridays after 7.30pm Mass
- ☞ Blessing of the Sick each Wednesday and Friday after 3pm Mass.
- ☞ Availability of Confessions will depend on priests present.





WE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR

KILMORE QUAY: Saturday: 6.00 pm.

✚ **Aug 23rd:** We pray for all those returning to school this week, may God guide them in their studies.

✚ **Aug 30th:** We pray for all those lost at sea.

TOMHAGGARD: Saturday: 7.30pm.

✚ **Aug 23rd:** We pray for the soul of **Anna Mary Cogley**, Whitehill, whose anniversary occurs now.

✚ **Aug 30th:** We pray for the soul of **Trevor Furlong**, Tomhaggard, whose 20th anniversary occurs now.

KILMORE: Sunday: 10.00 am.

✚ **Aug 24th:** We pray for the soul of **Mary Winters**, Mill Road, whose 4th anniversary occurs now, **Johnny Sinnott**, Lanagh, whose 11th anniversary occurs now and all the **deceased members of his family** and **Seán Keating** and **Statia Bates**, The Village, whose anniversaries occur now.

✚ **Aug 31st:** We pray for the soul of **Jo Matthews**, Ballyhealy, **Daniel and Kathleen Fenlon**, Wexford Town, and **Tommy and Johnny Roche**, Newtown, all whose anniversaries occurs now.

MULRANKIN: Sunday 11.30am

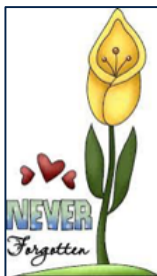
✚ **Aug 24th:** We pray for the souls of the **Rankin families**, Sheephouse, Bridgetown, whose anniversaries occur now. We also pray for the soul of **Mary O'Brien, (Nee Cullen)** Wexford Town and late of Longridge, Bridgetown who died during the week, sympathy to her family and friends. May she Rest in Peace.

✚ **Aug 31st:** We pray for all those lost at sea.

✚ We also remember and pray for our loved ones who have gone before us and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they all rest in peace

"I believe that when death closes our eyes, we shall awaken to a light of which our sunlight is but the shadow." (Schopenhauer)

When our earthly life is over, all that matters is the love you shared and the difference you made.



Reflection

Let us look at our shortcomings and leave other people's alone: There is no reason why we should expect everyone else to travel by our road. (Teresa of Avila).

Parish Office

The Parish office is open Tuesday to Friday after 10am Mass to 1pm for booking anniversary masses, baptisms etc. Mass cards, various greeting cards, baptismal candles and other religious objects on sale. Tel: 053 91 35181

Weekly Devotions

Please note there will be no devotions in St Mary's Church during the time of Pilgrimage in Our Lady's Island. They will resume after the 8th of September. The Rosary will be at the Grotto in Kilmore on Wednesday as usual.

Communion Calls for August

Wednesday 27th August: Kilmore Quay and Mulrankin
Thursday 28th August: Kilmore and Tomhaggard
If there is anyone in the Parish who would like to be added to our communion calls list, please let the Parish Office know, we would be delighted to accommodate you.
Phone 053 9135181.

We ourselves are the universe, we ourselves are creation. The land we stand on, the created land, is holy ground, and we are connected to it and part of it

All we need in order to realise this is intense awareness of the connectedness of all things then we will also become aware of our connectedness with the creator of all things. (Sr. Stanislaus Kennedy, *Gardening the Soul*)

Madame Butterfly was dictated to me by God; I was merely instrumental in putting it on paper and communicating it to the public. (Giacomo Puccini).

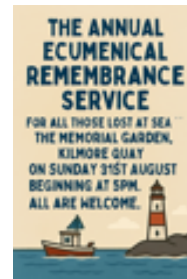
Newsletter Notes

Please email notes for the newsletter to Mary Archer at maryokeeffearcher@gmail.com or phone 087 2480288 before Friday noon. Thank you.

A Weed is a Flower in the Wrong Place

The weed is symbolic of those that we don't like, or those people that simply irritate us. These people, like a flower, also have their good qualities. But because we see them as a weed, they tend not to be welcome in our gardens. The following prayer might be useful today: "Lord it is hard to get on with everyone. In fact, at times it is nearly impossible! When someone is really annoying, help me to see the flower, rather than the weed. This may be difficult right now. But Lord, I do want to give it a go, knowing that there are times too when I'm not always a flower!" (James McSweeney)

Your job is not to judge. Your job is not to figure out if someone deserves something. Your job is to lift the fallen, to restore the broken and to heal the hurting.



Memorial Garden Remembrance Service

The annual ecumenical remembrance service for all those lost at sea at our Memorial Garden will take place on Sunday 31st August beginning at 5pm at the Garden. All are welcome.

Last Choir Summer Workshop

The Next Choir Workshop takes place on **Saturday 6th September**, in Kilmore Church, starting promptly at **11am**. We are so proud of all our church choirs and music teams here in our parish. We have something unique, and we should celebrate it well. The next workshop will focus on more new music and so if you are thinking of joining the choir or are curious and would like to take part in this great opportunity - simply speak to the music team or to any member of the choir.

Be sure to book your place soon.

Parish Pilgrimage to Our Lady's Island

The Parish Pilgrimage to Our Lady's Island for the combined areas of Kilmore and Piercestown will take place on Friday 5th September with Mass at 3pm. We would like to invite all choir members who are available to please come along on the day. We are happy to announce that we are also running a minibus on the day leaving Kilmore at 1pm. Anyone who wishes to avail of this service, please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible as seats are limited.

Ballycogley Players Drama Group

The 2025 AGM of Ballycogley Players Drama Group took place last night in Tomhaggard Social Centre & the following committee were elected for the coming year: Chairman - Gerry Mernagh, Vice Chairman - Nick Hayes, Secretary - Rory Cassidy, Assistant Secretary - Catherine Murphy, Treasurer - Jerry Gardner, PRO's - Trish Boyce & Cian Cassidy, Children's Officer - Laura Hayes, DLI rep's - Breda & Nick Hayes, Tomhaggard Social Centre reps - Annette Dupuy & Mary Doyle, Committee members - Celine Tracey, Fr Pat Mernagh & Sean Carthy. Here's to a successful & enjoyable year in all things drama for our group.



Back to School

Scoil Realt Na Mara will reopen on Thursday 28th. We welcome back in anticipation all the pupils and staff and wish them and all their parents a great new year of learning, friendship and fun. We, also, would like to wish all our past pupils the very best in their new schools, and wish them all the best of luck especially all the first-year students in Bridgetown. We ask God's blessing on all our school communities both in Kilmore and Bridgetown.

A Story where Actions speak louder than words

He is 85 and insists on taking his wife's hand everywhere they go. When I asked him why his wife kept looking away, he responded, "because she has Alzheimer's". I then proceeded to ask him, will your wife worry if you let her go? He then replied, "she doesn't remember anything, she doesn't know who I am anymore, she hasn't recognized me for years." Surprised, I said, "and you have continued to guide her every single day even though she doesn't recognize you?" The elderly man smiled and looked into my eyes and said, "she may not know who I am, but I know who she is, and she is the love of my life"



Prayer

There was once a woman who was religious and devout and filled with love for God. Each morning she would go to Church. And on her way children would call out to her, beggars would accost her, but so immersed was she in her devotions that she did not even see them.

Now one day she walked down the street in her customary manner and arrived at the church just in time for service. She pushed the door, but it would not open. She pushed it again harder, and found the door was locked.

Distressed at the thought that she would miss service for the first time in years, and not knowing what to do, she looked up. And there, right before her face, she found a note pinned on to the door. It said, "I'm out there!" (Anthony de Mello, *Prayer of the Frog*)

