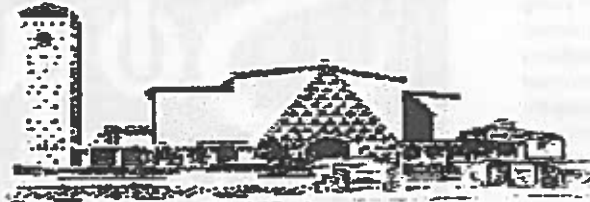


NEXT BAPTISM PREPARATION MEETING
 - will be at 8pm, on Tuesday, 6th Sept. 2016, for the celebration of Baptism on Sunday, 11th Sept.



CHURCH OF OUR LADY
 MOTHER OF DIVINE GRACE

Phone: (01) 831 3232
 e-mail: info@rahenyparish.ie
 Website: www.rahenyparish.ie

MASS INTENTIONS

Vigil	6.00 pm	Kathleen Gleeson (1 st Anniv.)
Sun.	8.30 am	Altona Costelloe O'Connor (Anniv.)
	10.00 am	Frank Magann (Anniv.) Catherine Sinnott (Anniv.)
	11.30 am	Pauline Fagan (M. Mind)
Mon.	10.00am	Molly Dolan (Anniv.)
Tues.	10.00am	Special Intention Jean & Aedan Robinson (Anniv.)
Weds.	10.00am	Health Intention
Thurs.	10.00am	Eleanor Ryan (Anniv.)
Fri.	10.00am	Niall Smyth (Anniv.)

CHURCH GATE COLLECTION: On 11th Sept. in aid of St. Vincent de Paul.

The Deep End • 'Counting the Cost'

Today's Gospel is troubling. Does Jesus really expect us to hate our families, friends and even ourselves in order to be his followers? Jesus is making a point here about how we attach ourselves to things and to people, even to images of ourselves. Attachment can cause all sorts of suffering in our lives. If we are to grow, we move on from the comfortable, we let go of the familiar, and that can often be painful. Today, we can ask ourselves: 'What is it that I need to let go of?'

The two parables in this story remind us to think things through and weigh up the cost involved. This Kingdom of God journey involves sacrifice and sometimes it feels like '20,000 against 10,000'. A disciple of Jesus must be ready to carry the burden not only of tensions with one's family but even the burden of legal consequences. This was the experience of Luke's community and it is still the experience of many Christians in the world today. So this passage is a call to conversion and we read it from the various forms of discipleship that we are in: parenting, advocacy, political life, social work, friendships, community building...

Jesus 'turned to them', he is speaking from experience. Jesus' words are harsh, but spend time with this text today; his words can be interpreted as passionate, urgent, and focused, and can even offer us a great freedom and encouragement in whatever journey of discipleship we are on.

Jane Mellett (Email mellettj@gmail.com)

Rest of the week in Church calendar:

Thurs. 8th: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Fri. 9th: St. Ciaran, abbot, Clonmacnois

Embracing the Kingdom of God – a call to give all that we are!
 Today's Gospel calls us to a radical awakening; a taking stock of what it means to follow Jesus. We are called to be prepared; that embracing the Kingdom is not a passive experience, or indeed a ticking of a box exercise; I went to Mass – tick; I gave money to charity – tick. Jesus demands more of us; He is asking for our very being – All that I am! We are to put God first and surrender all our attachments to Him – our family, power, possessions. It is not so much that we aren't to love them; rather, we have the freedom through God to be in the right relationship with the world when we put God first. Embracing the cross is daunting and frightening at first sight, however, God wants the best for us; we are not left alone if we choose to follow Him.
 Siobhain Tighe, Parish Pastoral Worker, Archdiocese of Dublin with responsibility for Youth Evangelisation

Legion of Mary Annual Pilgrimage from Raheny to Knock Shrine will take place on Sunday, Sept. 25th. Cost €32 includes coach, snack & light hot meal. Leaves from the church at 7.30am. For more information, contact Sean at 8313951 or 087 6435936

Please remember in your prayers: Rita Rochford & Veronica Wolverton - both of whom who died recently.

Pilgrimage to San Giovanni Rotondo for St. Pio's feast day, 21st -26th Sept. (5 nights); Spiritual director Fr. Paul Dunne. Cost €699pps. For more information, contact Jackie 8470382 or 087 0691009

READINGS Next Sunday 24th Sunday Ordinary Time

Ex. 32:7-11, 13-14
 Ps. 50
 1 Tm 1:12-17
 Lk 15:1-32

