

Sunday 16th July 2017

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle A Week 1 Newsletter Issue No. 993

St. Vincent De Paul Clothing Appeal

The Society of St. Vincent De Paul is seeking your help with its **Annual Clothing Appeal**. The Appeal is for clean, good quality clothes, bedclothes, curtains, shoes etc. Bags are available outside the Church after all Masses this weekend. The Society will collect the bags outside the Church after all Masses next weekend, 22nd & 23rd July.

The **Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind** would like to thank most sincerely the congregation of this parish for its generous contribution of €880 to their recent churchgate collection. Míle buíochas.

Light Out of Darkness Programme

This year's programme begins with an Information Meeting at 8p.m. on Tuesday 8th August in the Capuchin Friary, Raheny. It then continues every Tuesday until 5th December. The book **Light Out of Darkness** costs €10. Otherwise, the course is free. All are welcome. Places on the course may be limited, so enrolments will be at the Information Meeting only.

Youth 2000 Summer Festival will take place from 17th to 20th August 2017 in Cistercian College, Roscrea. This is an opportunity for young people aged 16-35 to experience Catholic faith and meet many new people. For further information, see www.youth2000.ie or tel: (01) 6753690.

The **Churchgate Collection** this weekend, 15th & 16th July will be in aid of the local conference of the **St. Vincent De Paul Society**. In two weeks time, on 29th & 30th July, it will be in aid of the **Lourdes Invalid Fund**. Your support will be greatly appreciated.



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THE DEEP END: The Generous Sower

Can you picture it? I love the image of Jesus sitting in a boat, addressing the crowds on the beach. He certainly knew how to hold their attention. And he knew they would understand him more clearly if he used the language of stories. Those listening would have been familiar with the cycle of planting seeds and waiting for them to produce a crop. One of the purposes of parables is to challenge the hearers to reflect and respond with faith. So this parable of the sower requires Jesus' audience to decide what kind of soil they are. There is a message of judgment for those who are hardened like the rocky soil and a message of hope for those who are receptive like the rich soil.

The figure of the sower is important too. The sower does not confine the seeds to soil that is fertile and ready for growth. Rather, the seeds are scattered everywhere – on the path, patches of rock, and among thorns. Jesus does not discriminate. His love is given out for all. He knows that some of it may be rejected, or accepted only on a superficial level, but he offers it anyway. That offer of love is never withdrawn. It might take a while to bear fruit, but it is always there. As Pope Francis said: 'Always there are doors that are not closed. Look for the doors that are at least a little bit open, enter and talk about common things and go on. Step by step.'

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Mass Intentions for this week

Sat:	6.00p.m.	Charlie McMahon (Anniv.) Pearse & Lucy Adams (Anniv.) Ned & Nan Lavelle and their daughter Anne (Anniv.)
Sun:	8.30a.m.	Caoimhe Flood (Anniv.)
	10.00a.m.	Gail Kelly (Rec. Dec'd)
	11.30a.m.	Doreen McManus (Anniv.) Kathleen & Patrick Cummins (Anniv.) Tommy Cooney & deceased members of the Cooney Family (Anniv.)
Mon:	10.00a.m.	Fr. John Leahy (Celebrating 27 years of priesthood)
Tues:	10.00a.m.	Catherine Kavanagh (Rec. Dec'd)
Wed:	10.00a.m.	Health Intention
Thurs:	10.00a.m.	Vincent Walsh (Anniv.)
Fri:	10.00a.m.	Health Intention

Next Sunday's Readings (Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time): Wis 12:13, 16-19. Ps 85:506, 9-10, 15-16, R/ v 5. Rm 8:26-27. Mt 13:24-43.

We welcome **Jamie Tuck, Joseph Coakley, Eoin Whittington and Grace Farrell** who will be baptised into our Christian community this weekend. We also remember their parents and godparents at this special time.



All services from our Parish Church are streamed live on our website www.rahenyparish.ie...just click on the **Watch Us Live** tab. The Parish Newsletter is also published weekly on the parish website.....click on the **Parish Bulletin** tab.