

**NEXT BAPTISM
PREPARATION MEETING**

- will be on Tuesday, 11th June at
8pm, for Baptism on Sunday, 16th
June.



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	Deirdre Fitzgerald (Rec. Dec.) Rita Fahy (Anniv.)
Sun.	8.30 am	Doris Foy (Rec. Dec.) Loretta Duggan (Rec. Dec.)
	10.00am	June Tierney (Rec. Dec.) Brother Oliver Brady OFM Capuchin (Rec. Dec.) Health Intentions
	11.30am	Mass for Retired and Deceased Mem- bers of the 11.30 choir. Patricia Burke (M.Mind) Bridgie and Con Casey (Anniv.) Kathleen Flannery (Anniv.)
Mon	10.00am	Parishioners Intentions Andy Moran (Anniv.) .
Tues.	10.00am	Christopher Kennedy (Anniv.)
Wed	10.00am	Veronica Dummond (Rec. Dec.)
Thur	10.00am	Margaret and Austun O'Rourke (Anniv.)
Fri.	10.00am	Altar List of the Dead

The Deep End • O Captain! My Captain!

The final scene of the movie, Dead Poets Society, is one of the most moving in modern cinema. Beloved teacher, Mr Keating (played by the late Robin Williams), is saying a final farewell to his students, who have been inspired by his unorthodox teaching methods and his encouragement to make your lives extraordinary.' As he leaves the classroom, the students, in defiance of their strict headmaster, stand on their desks and salute him with the words, 'O Captain! My Captain!' – referring to a poem he taught them.

Goodbyes are often emotional, particularly if we know we might not see the other person again for a long time, if ever. In films and TV programmes, a farewell scene can be a pivotal moment, or even the climax of the drama. Sometimes, when characters say goodbye to each other, we see a shot of one of them left behind, bereft, gazing into the distance after their loved one. In this context, one line in today's first reading always grabs my attention: 'They were still staring into the sky.' The apostles had just witnessed Jesus being 'lifted up' and taken from their sight. They had lost him once with his death, and now they are losing him a second time, after precious time spent with him following his resurrection.

But the scene in today's first reading for the Ascension is no ordinary goodbye. It is not a dramatic scene written for a film script. In fact, Jesus does not seem to say goodbye at all. His last words are a promise to the disciples: the Holy Spirit will be with them as they set out on their mission. They have not been left alone.

(Triona Doherty, Athlone, Co Roscommon . Email trionad@gmail.com)

Next Sunday we celebrate the **Feast of Pentecost**. As one of the most important solemnities on the Church's calendar, it has a rich depth of meaning, but here is how Pope Benedict summarized it in 2012:

“This Solemnity makes us remember and relive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and the other disciples gathered in prayer with the Virgin Mary in the Upper Room (cf. Acts 2:1-11). Jesus, risen and ascended into Heaven, sent his Spirit to the Church so that every Christian might participate in his own divine life and become his valid witness in the world. The Holy Spirit, breaking into history, defeats aridity, opens hearts to hope, stimulates and fosters in us an interior maturity in our relationship with God and with our neighbour.”

**We remember all students taking examinations at this time.
Please add their names to our Exam Prayer Board at the back
of the church.**

PRAYER AT EXAM TIME

Ever loving and eternal God be with me as I prepare to sit my examinations.
Give me peace of mind and quietness of heart so that I may approach each exam with confidence and trust.
Open my heart to believe that with you all things are possible and because you have created me I am worth much more than all the exams in the world.
Teach me Lord that there will be many opportunities for using my gifts and talents in the future.
Bless that future and be with me, my family and my friends especially when the road is difficult,
and when all is going well may I give thanks for your care and love through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Anthony (Tony) Lawlor who died recently.

**READINGS Next Sunday
(PENTECOST SUNDAY)**

Acts 2:1-11
Ps. 103
Rom. 8:8-17
Jn. 14:15-16, 23-26



READERS at MASS: The Parish needs more readers for Sunday Masses. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office. Training will be provided.