

**NEXT BAPTISM  
PREPARATION MEETING**

- will be at 8pm, on Tuesday, 28th March, for the celebration of Baptism on Sunday, 2nd April.



**CHURCH OF OUR LADY  
MOTHER OF DIVINE GRACE**

Phone: (01) 831 3232

e-mail: [info@rahenyparish.ie](mailto:info@rahenyparish.ie)

Website: [www.rahenyparish.ie](http://www.rahenyparish.ie)

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Vigil</b>	<b>6.00 pm</b>	Valerie Brophy, R.D. John & Kathleen Forristal, Anniv.
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>8.30 am</b>	John & Ellen Hunt, Anniv. Fr. John Leahy, Health Intention. Special Intention.
	<b>10.00 am</b>	Mary McCann, Anniv. Eilish Lyons, Anniv. Fiona Kirwan, Anniv.
	<b>11.30 am</b>	Philomena Faye, M.M. Paddy Daly, Anniv. Christy Bolger, Anniv.
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	Valerie Brophy, R.D. Brian Kelly, Anniv.
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	Eddie Eaton, Anniv. Health Intention
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	Health Intention.
<b>Thur</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	Tom Hayes, Anniv. Bob Bucci, Anniv. Birthday Remembrance
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	John, Bridget & Jack Byrne, Anniv.

**THE DEEP END: We are not blind, surely?**

What a convoluted Gospel we have today. The healing of the blind man unleashes a chain of chaos and confusion. His neighbours are dumbfounded, the Pharisees are suspicious and at war with one another, and the Jews are cynical, even calling in the man's parents as witnesses.

The character of Jesus, and of the blind man, are called into question as everyone tries to figure out what has happened. Jesus and the man who has been healed are both accused of being sinners. The interrogators even ridicule the man, asking, 'Are you trying to teach us, and you a sinner through and through?'

But things are simple for the man who has experienced Jesus' healing. He knows what he has witnessed, and is ready and willing to attest to it. 'If this man were not from God,' he says, 'he couldn't do a thing.' He understands that his encounter with Jesus was extraordinary.

Jesus finally clears up the confusion, turning everything on its head, as is often His way. It is the man who had been blind who sees who Jesus is: 'Lord, I believe.' The Pharisees who think they see things clearly are the ones who are really blind to the truth. 'We are not blind, surely?' is the question facing all of us as we advance through Lent. Are we open to the Good News and the healing power of Jesus?

*Triona Doherty, Athlone, Co Roscommon. Email [trionad@gmail.com](mailto:trionad@gmail.com)*

Frances Kelliher is promoting the *Sacred Heart Messenger* today. Why not try the complimentary copy - something for everyone in it! Special offer of €18 for an annual subscription

**READINGS Next Sunday  
5th Sunday of Lent**

**Ez. 37 12:1-4**  
**Ps 129**  
**Rom 8:8-11**  
**Jn 11:1-45**



**CATECHESIS TO PREPARE FOR  
WMOF2018 *Amoris: Let's talk family,*  
*Let's be family* Programme & National  
Novena to Our Lady of Knock**

A one-year programme of preparations for the World Meeting of Families 2018 will be formally launched during this year's National Novena to Our Lady of Knock, from 14-22 June 2017. The Programme will consist of a phased family- and parish-based programme, to include opportunities for reflection / engagement and also catechetical moments drawing on themes from *Amoris Laetitia*. Team members are consulting with representatives of each Diocese to develop the programme and discuss how it can be made widely available to families and parishes.

**St. Joseph's Young Priests Society** will meet on Monday, March 27th, at 2.30pm in the Old Baptistry. Come along and pray for vocations.

***He Has Spoken Through the Prophets...***

*Viatores Christi* invites you to a talk series on renewal and the future of the Church during April, May and June. This will consist of a series of seminars with the following speakers: Bishop Willie Walsh - 4th April; Fr Mark Patrick Hederman - 3rd May; Patricia Coyle - 7th June.

**R.I.P.** Please remember in your prayers: John Patrick McPhillips and Patrick Tobin, recently deceased. May they rest forever in the Peace of Christ.

A DAY of REFLECTION in Mercy Centre, St. Brendan's Drive, Coolock in preparation for Easter. Fr. Patsy Kelly, MSC will focus on the renewal of Baptismal promises at Easter: on Sat. 1<sup>st</sup> April - 10am to 4pm, Cost €30. For further details contact: Tel: 848 7259; e-mail: [mercycoolock@eircom.net](mailto:mercycoolock@eircom.net)