



# *Riverstown Parish*

*Riverstown - Soeey - Gleann*




## **Riverstown Parish Newsletter**

### **Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### **August 07 / August 08, 2021**

[www.massonline.ie](http://www.massonline.ie)



*“I am the living Bread which  
has come down from heaven.  
Anyone who eats this Bread  
will live forever.”*

*John 6: 51*

Vigil Mass at 8 pm: 07 August – Riverstown  
Sunday Mass at 11 am: 08 August – Soeey

[www.riverstownparish.com](http://www.riverstownparish.com)

Riverstown Parish  
Riverstown | Soeey | Gleann

# Mass Schedule - Riverstown Parish

## Mass Times and Intentions

19th Week in Ordinary Time 2021

Sat Aug 07 Vigil Mass Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Riverstown	08 pm	Michael Murphy Michael O'Rourke & deceased members of O'Rourke & Feeney Families
Sun Aug 08 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sooley	11 am	Pat Foley
Tue Aug 10 Saint Lawrence	Riverstown	8 pm	John Naughton (First Anniversary)
Wed Aug 11 Saint Clare	Sooley	10.30 am	
Thu Aug 12 Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time	Riverstown	10.30 am	
Fri Aug 13 Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time	Sooley	10.30 am	
Sat Aug 14 Vigil Mass The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Riverstown	08 pm	Joe and Bridie Feeney, and the deceased members of the Feeney and Madden families Mary Kerins (Month's Mind)
Sun Aug 15 The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Sooley	11 am	

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*"In each of our lives Jesus comes as the Bread of Life - to be eaten, to be consumed by us. This is how He loves us. Then Jesus comes in our human life as 'the hungry one, the other', hoping to be fed with the Bread of our life, our hearts by loving, and our hands by sewing. In loving and sewing, we prove that we have been created in the likeness of God, for God is Love and when we love we are like God. This is what Jesus meant when He said, be perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect".*

*Mother Teresa*



## JESUS – THE BREAD OF LIFE

(A Short Reflection based on the Gospel Reading of the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time,  
Year B – John 6: 41 - 51)



The famous Brazilian writer Paulo Coelho in his novel ‘The Fifth Mountain’ depicts the life of Prophet Elijah as torn between love and duty. The prophet is bitter with God and confesses to Him his shortcomings and then he accuses God that He is also at fault. God in response invites Elijah to the peak of the fifth mountain to view the reality in a wider panorama, to understand the boundaries and horizons of human endeavours, to see beyond the individuality to comprehend the God of the universe. The gospel passages of these Sundays (John 6) are inviting us to climb the mountain of contemplation, to see beyond the obvious, to clasp God who permeates everything and who is the living bread that sustains us.

**Stop grumbling and start eating:** The Israelites did not appreciate their liberation from Egypt. They continually grumbled, initially about the army of Pharaoh that followed them, later about lack of food and water, then for the delay of Moses in returning from the mountain, for not having meat, onion, and other luxuries of Egypt. Although they ate food from God, and experienced the protection and presence of God, they could not stop grumbling. Jesus tells His listeners, ‘stop grumbling and be nourished by the bread of life, the abiding presence of God’. Like the Israelites who lived in the nostalgia of servitude, we too may lament about what we miss in our life hence making the vision of the reality at hand blurred. Jesus invites, at a deeper level, to eat of Him and share the life of freedom and communion that He offers. It is an invitation to live in the present, facing the challenges and opportunities with Jesus.

**No one can see God and live:** The statement of Jesus, ‘No one can come to me unless the Father draws him’ is not a statement of rejection, rather it is the guarantee that all who seek Jesus are guided by God. Jesus affirms that He is coming from God and has seen Him. The Old Testament often declared that no one can see God and live. It means that God always remains beyond the grasp of humans and ‘seeing’ Him, as He is ever impossible for us. It can also mean that those who see God will not be able to continue living the same life, for their lives will be transformed. The Israelites could not look at Moses after he spoke ‘face to face’ with God and they had to cover his radiant face with a veil. We find it true of all those who encountered God that their lives were no more the same; they were indeed dead to their old ways of life. Hence, while Jesus declares that He is from God, He invites His listeners to share the experience of Moses, to be transformed.

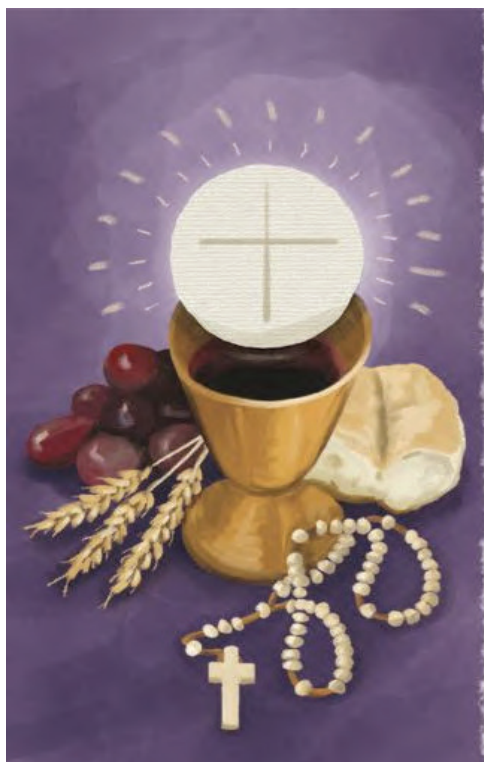
**Jesus is the bread of sustenance:** Although the Israelites ate bread from heaven for forty years, except Joshua and Caleb no one entered the Promised Land. Jesus instead offers Bread that gives eternal life, which is the participation in the life of God. It is interesting to note that Jesus here uses ‘flesh’ (not body) as in ‘word becoming *flesh*’ (John 1:14) hence indicating to His incarnation. That is to say, His incarnation is the source of our lives and means of sustenance for us all. As Elijah was nourished by God to face the purpose of His life, Jesus points that He is our nourishment to face our daily challenges.

As Shakespeare says in Macbeth, life will be “a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing”, if we are not sustained by Jesus. He is the living Bread that gives meaning to our lives.

**Very Rev Mathew Kuthanapillil, SDB**

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The First Holy Communion Masses for the children of our Parish will take place on Saturday, 18 September 2021.



*Date* : **Saturday, 18th September**  
*Time* : **11 am**  
*Church* : **Riverstown**  
*School* : **Ardkeeran NS**  
*Presider* : **Fr. AB O' Shea**

*Date* : **Saturday, 18th September**  
*Time* : **11 am**  
*Church* : **Sooney**  
*School* : **Sooney NS and Kilross NS**  
*Presider* : **Fr. Yashin Jos**

## CONFIRMATION MASSES

*Receive the Holy Spirit*



*Date* : **Friday, 10th September**  
*Time* : **04.00 pm**  
*Church* : **Riverstown**  
*School* : **Ardkeeran NS**  
*Presider* : **Fr. Yashin Jos**

*Date* : **Saturday, 11th September**  
*Time* : **11 am**  
*Church* : **Riverstown**  
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## DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK



The annual diocesan pilgrimage to Knock will take place on Sunday 15th August. Bishop Kevin will celebrate Mass in the Basilica at 3.00pm and you can join in prayer live via [www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie)



## RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTEERS FOR ACCORD MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAMME

JOIN ACCORD  
AS A MARRIAGE  
PREPARATION  
PROGRAMME  
FACILITATOR

Email [info@accord.ie](mailto:info@accord.ie)  
for an application form



Closing date for applications  
Friday 27 August 2021

Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators. Accord is seeking registration of interest from those who have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church and the enthusiasm to be part of a team supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally in accordance with best practice. Contact Aisling on 01 505 3112 or by email to [info@accord.ie](mailto:info@accord.ie). The closing date for receipt of registration of interest forms to be included in Selections for this year is Friday 27 August.

Additional information is available on [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie)

## YOUTH 2000 SUMMER FESTIVAL – SLIGO

YOUTH 2000

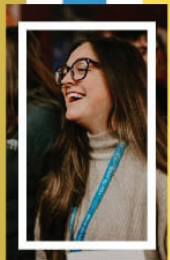
SUMMER FESTIVAL

13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

'I KEEP THE LORD IN MY SIGHT, SINCE HE IS  
AT MY RIGHT HAND, I SHALL STAND FIRM.  
PSALM 16:8

SLIGO  
ST. ANNE'S CHURCH

Friday Mass- 8.00pm  
Saturday Mass- 4.00pm  
Saturday Healing and Reconciliation Service-  
8.30pm  
Sunday Closing Mass- 2.30pm



This year the Youth 2000 Summer Festival will take place both ONLINE and IN PERSON! All talks, testimonies, Liturgies, prayer and worship will take place online for the course of the weekend and it is here that you can watch, engage with and participate in the Summer Festival in its entirety. However, in line with government and church regulations, this year we are able to add in person elements once again to our Summer Festival. These in person elements will be held at multiple satellite locations around Ireland. **Sligo: St Anne's Church.** Friday Mass – 8.00pm; Saturday Mass – 4.00pm; Saturday Healing and Reconciliation Service, – 8.30pm; Sunday Closing Mass – 2.30pm. See [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie) for more details and other venues around the country.

## STAR OF THE SEA RETREAT CENTRE – MULLAGHMORE



For a list of all events and retreats at Star of the Sea, Retreat & Conference Centre, Mullaghmore, see [www.staroftheseacentre.com](http://www.staroftheseacentre.com) For information and bookings please contact Louise or Frank at [staroftheseacentre@gmail.com](mailto:staroftheseacentre@gmail.com) or on 071 9176722.



## THE FAITH CAFÉ FOR GRANDPARENTS

# GRANDPARENTS' FAITH CAFÉ

An online social and spiritual space for grandparents

**TUESDAY 10 AUGUST 2021 V/A ZOOM**

**7.30pm local time to UK and 1.30pm Central time USA and Canada**

**THEME: 'THE JOY OF THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH'**

Special guest for August is JOHN MICHAEL TALBOT, a multi-platinum selling, award winning contemporary Catholic Christian music pioneer, whose music has been the soundtrack to the faith journey of millions of believers throughout the world!



Registration is open now and is free.

Email us to receive the Zoom log in details

[info@catholicgrandparentsassociation.com](mailto:info@catholicgrandparentsassociation.com)



The Faith Café is an initiative of the Catholic Grandparents' Association which was introduced during the Covid-19 pandemic as a social and spiritual space for Grandparents to meet online once a month to chat, to offer prayers and intentions and to just be together in the spirit of faith. It has been a lifeline for so many people during this time of pandemic and has connected Grandparents across the world from Ireland to the USA, from the UK to Australia. The next Faith Café will be on **Tuesday 10th August from 7.30pm to 8.30pm** and the speaker is Christian singer John Michael Talbot. Register for the Faith Café by email to [info@catholicgrandparentsassociation.com](mailto:info@catholicgrandparentsassociation.com) Once you register for the Faith Café, you will receive the details of how to connect in for the gathering on Zoom.

## ACCORD – RELATIONSHIP COUNSELLING

Accord is open for relationship counselling in these difficult times. Professional Counsellors are available to help explore any difficulties you may have in your relationship in a safe and friendly atmospheres. Please contact Ann at 087-6765425 for more information. All HSE guidelines observed for Counselling.





Pope Francis releases the prayer intention for the month of August, inviting everyone to work for a transformation of the Church - a work that begins with “a reform of ourselves” through an experience of prayer, charity and service, inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Pope Francis reminds the faithful that “the vocation of the Church is evangelization,” and even more, “the Church’s identity is evangelization.” In this month, the Holy Father reflects on the situation of the Church, its vocation and its identity, and calls us to renew it “by discerning God’s will in our daily life,” and “embarking on a transformation guided by the Holy Spirit.”

### **Evangelization and a more missionary option**

Pope Francis begins with the specific vocation of the Church, which is to evangelize. The Holy Father dreams of an even more missionary option: “one that goes out to meet others without proselytism and transforms its structures for the evangelization of today’s world.” He emphasizes that he is not talking about proselytism but rather a reform of the Church through “a reform of ourselves, without prefabricated ideas, without ideological prejudices and rigidity.” To make progress in this regard, Pope Francis invites all to move forward based on spiritual experience: “an experience of prayer, an experience of charity and an experience of service.”

### **Reforming the Church**

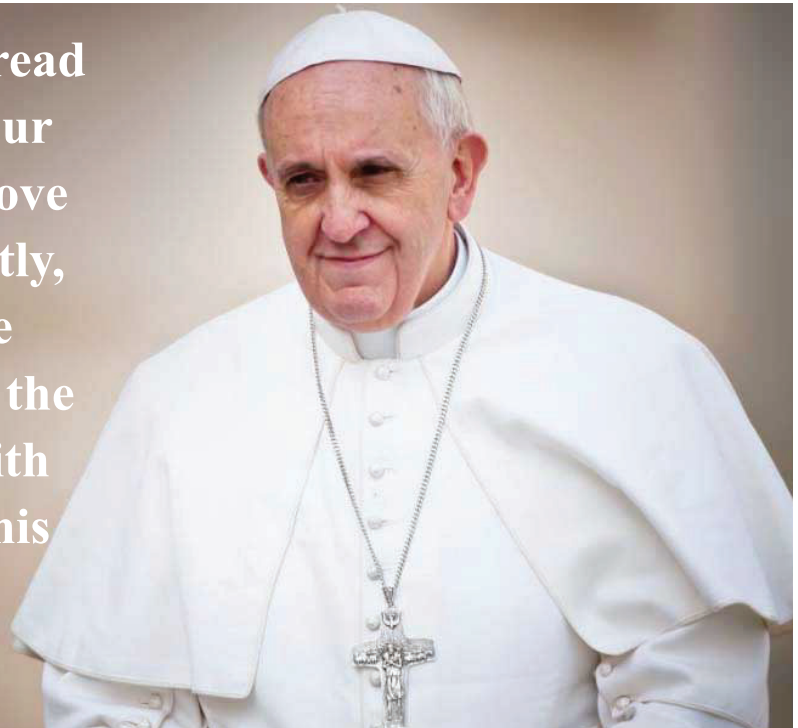
“Let us remember that the Church always has difficulties,” the Pope said, explaining that the Church goes through crises because she is alive; not like the dead who do not go through crises.

“A reform... does not consist in words but in attitudes that have the courage to face the crisis, to assume reality whatever the consequences may be. And every reform begins with oneself. The reform in the Church was made by men and women who were not afraid to enter into crisis and let themselves be reformed by the Lord,” the Pope said.

The Holy Father invites all to pray for the Church, “that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.”

**“Let us welcome Jesus as the Bread of life and, starting out from our friendship with Him, learn to love each other freely and abundantly, looking to the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary who lived the most beautiful story of love with God and can help us receive this grace.”**

**Pope Francis**





# BREAD OF LIFE, YOU FEED US

Bread of Life, You feed us  
through word and sacrament.  
The bread we share  
a remembrance  
of Your presence with us.  
Strengthen us for service,  
that seeds we sow  
in fertile places  
might grow and flourish,  
that food we share  
in fellowship  
might nourish and revive,  
that words we share  
in our daily walk  
might glorify Your name.  
Bread of Life, you feed us  
through word and sacrament  
that we might feed others.  
Blessed be Your name!



## NOTES FOR NEWSLETTER

All submissions for inclusion in the Newsletter to be submitted  
by 12 midday on Thursday

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089-4528630 ☎

*God bless you all!*  
**Fr. Yashin**