



St. Colman's Parish
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
18th /19th July 2020

Giving us Time to Grow

There were people in Our Lord's time who wanted him to separate the bad from the good as well. John the Baptist expected Jesus to separate the cream from the skim, to have only holy people around him. John foretold that Our Lord would separate the chaff from the wheat. He said (Mt 3:12) "He will gather his wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out." That's precisely what Our Lord didn't do. He had all sorts of people around him, a rainbow coalition of people, the learned, the ignorant, the good-living, the bad-living, tax-collectors, prostitutes, the lot. 'What in God's name is he doing', they said. 'Why doesn't he get down to business? Why doesn't he weed them out?'

As any gardener knows, weeding can be the greatest threat of all to the life of the young seedling. At first, the problem is one of identifying which is which. The weeds must be left until the seedling can be clearly recognised. Even then, removing the weeds may pose an even greater threat. It might sever the seedling's root system. Often the weed brings the seedling away with it.

In the case of human beings, it is an even more risky business. Race, religion, colour, sex, politics are still considered ready-reckoners for identifying society's weeds. The unborn child, the seed of life is threatened with abortion. At the other end of life, euthanasia is proposed as the final solution for the old, the maimed, the incurables and the burdensome. Right through life, the weeding-out continues remorselessly.

Fr. Kevin Sullivan (087) 6277638

Parish Residence: 18 Ballyoughtragh Heights, Milltown

Rev. Conor Bradley (087) 3664057

Parish Office: open Tues. & Thurs 9:30-12:30 066-9767312

Email: milltown@dioceseofkerry.ie

Website: www.milltownlistryparish.com

Safeguarding Children: Contact No (087) 6362780

Masses & Intentions

Mon. July 20 th	Milltown	9:00 a.m.	<i>People of the parish</i>
Tues July 21 st	Listry	7:00 p.m.	<i>Brendan Tangney, (Months Mind) Listry Cross</i>
Wed. July 22 nd			<i>No Mass</i>
Thurs. July 23 rd	Milltown	9:00 a.m.	
Fri. July 24 th	Milltown	7:00 p.m.	<i>Minnie & Kathleen McCarthy, Corpus Christi</i>
Sat. July 25 th	Listry	6:00 p.m.	<i>Maureen & Maura McCarthy Steelroe/Lissivane</i>
Sun. July 26 th	Milltown	11:15 a.m.	

Eucharistic Ministers

Listry Saturday - July 25th Marie Donnelly
Milltown – Sunday – July 26th Mary Kelliher & Anna Clifford

Readers

Listry – Saturday -July 25th Michael F. O' Connor
Milltown – Sunday - July 26th Elaine O' Sullivan

Ushers

Listry – Saturday – July 25th Eamonn Donnelly & Deirdre Corkery
Milltown – Sunday – July 26th James A. Murphy. Elaine O' Sullivan & Tim Fleming

Cleaners/Sanitiser

Listry – Saturday – July 25th Breda O' Shea
Milltown – Sunday – July 26th Cynthia Flynn

Booking of Weekend Masses

If you have not yet contacted the parish office to attend any of the weekend Masses, please do so in one of the following ways:

- Email the parish at Milltown@dioceseofkerry.ie
- Text the parish mobile number. The number is (087) 6326989
- Leave a message on the voicemail of this number
- Ring the parish office during office hours on Tuesday and Thursday morning. The parish office number is (066) 9767312

Using email is the preferred option for making contact but we appreciate that not everyone is used to this way of communicating.

When you make contact, please give the following information:

- Your name and the number of people in your group. In order to accommodate the greatest number possible, it is hoped that families will attend together. Individuals will also be warmly welcomed if you wish to attend on your own.
- Your mobile number/landline so that you can be contacted to let you know the date of the Mass to attend.

Booking your place is necessary so that we do not exceed the safe number attending at any particular Mass.

We realise that it is such a strange thing to put our names on a list to attend Mass but if we do not receive the names, we are not in a position to limit the numbers in attendance.

Parishioners are asked to attend Mass on a weekday, if it is possible, to reduce the number who will attend on the weekend.

Weeding out is not confined to people we do not know. We are all tempted to try our hand at it. We are sharp at spotting the undesirables, the troublemakers, the misfits. One shudders to think of the people who might have been weeded out if God had not chosen to intervene. Probably most of the saints in the calendar. Peter, after denying Christ three times should have been banished for failing the leadership test. Strange isn't it, that Christ never weeded out Judas?

The parable of the weeds is starkly simple and yet widely ignored. To the question "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" the answer of Jesus is a categorical "No." And the reason is self-evident. Only God has eyes sufficiently discerning and fingers sufficiently gentle for this job. Weeding out is God's prerogative. Life would be so much better for everybody, if only we would leave it to him.

Volunteers

Thank you to all the people who have volunteered their support to date to help us to return to celebrating Mass once again in our Churches.

We are still looking for volunteers, so if you would like to assist as an usher, or help wipe down the seats after Mass, please contact the Parish Office during office times or ring Fr. Kevin at any time.

Graveyard Masses

It is a great source of disappointment that our parish Graveyard Masses have been cancelled for this year. Kerry County Council had asked the diocese to postpone the Masses in the interest of public health. As a result, the Masses organised for Milltown and Kilbonane Graveyards have been cancelled.

A sincere thanks to all who organised the Mass in Listry last Saturday evening. Also 'mile buiochas' to those involved in the Mass in The Abbey Graveyard. and The Abbey on Monday evening.