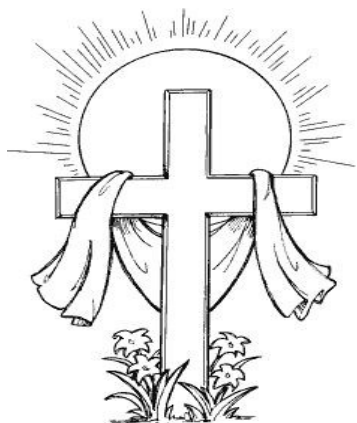




St. Colman's Parish

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

12th & 13th September 2026

Forgiveness: The Hardest and Greatest Calling

This week marks the 25th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. On that terrible day, thousands of innocent people lost their lives, families were devastated, and the world watched in shock as hatred and violence brought unimaginable suffering.

In the years that followed, many spoke about justice, security and national healing. Yet another challenge also emerged, one that touches the heart of today's Gospel: how does a person find the strength to forgive after experiencing great hurt? While forgiveness never removes the pain or excuses evil, it remains one of the greatest demands of the Christian faith.

The readings for this Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time invite us to reflect on forgiveness, mercy and reconciliation. They remind us that while forgiveness is never easy, it is the path that Christ himself walked and the path he asks us to follow.

In the First Reading from Sirach, we hear strong and challenging words:

"Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight."

Sirach understands human nature well. When we are hurt, we often cling to anger. We replay old wounds and carry grievances for years. Yet God's Word asks: *"Could anyone nourish anger against another and expect healing from the Lord?"* If we seek God's mercy, we must be willing to show mercy ourselves.

The Second Reading from St. Paul reminds us that we belong to the Lord.

"Alive or dead, we belong to the Lord."

Continued back page...

Fr. Timothy Kiplagat Chebii (087) 0009181
Parish Residence: 18 Ballyoughtragh Heights, Milltown
Parish Office Opening Hours: Wed & Thru: 9:30am – 2:00pm | Sat: 9:30 – 12:30pm | Tel: 066 9767312
Email: milltown@dioceseofkerry.ie
Safeguarding Children: Contact No (087) 6362780

All Weekend Masses will be streamed online via www.milltownlistryparish.com or churchmediatv.ie. The webcam in Milltown and Listry church captures images of individuals who sit in the first two seats of the church. Please sit in another part of the Church if you do not wish your image to be broadcast in this way.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place every Friday in Milltown Church from 6:00p.m. -7:00p.m.
Confessions - Friday – Milltown: 5:10 p.m. – 5:40 p.m.
Confessions – Saturday – Listry: 5:10pm – 5.40 p.m.

Masses & Intentions

Mon. Sept 14 th			<i>No Mass.</i>
Tues. Sept 15 th	Listry	7:00 p.m.	<i>The People of the Parish.</i>
Wed. Sept 16 th	Milltown	10:00 a.m.	
Thur. Sept 17 th			<i>No Mass.</i>
Fri. Sept 18 th	Milltown	7:00 p.m.	<i>James Murphy (months mind) Callinafercy & Leitrim.</i>
Sat. Sept 19 th	Listry	6:00 p.m.	<i>All the deceased members of the Lyne Family.</i>
Sun. Sept 20 th	Milltown	11:15 a.m.	<i>Maureen Cronin (First Anniversary) Clonmore.</i>

Eucharistic Ministers

Listry Saturday September 19th Margaret O' Sullivan
 Milltown Sunday September 20th Doherty Casey & Fionnuala O' Leary

Minister of the Word

Listry Saturday September 19th Rosemary O' Callaghan
 Milltown Sunday September 20th Joe Tyter

September Offertory Collector: Liam Ryan

Flower Arranger: Joan Allman | **19th September – 2nd October**

Fr Timothy Update: We keep Fr. Timothy and his family in our prayers at this time. Fr. Timothy returned to Kenya on Tuesday after receiving news that his mother had taken ill and is in Hospital. Fr Timothy arrived safely in his home city of Eldoret on Wednesday morning.

We pray for his mother's recovery and ask God's blessing, strength and comfort upon Fr. Timothy and all his family during this difficult time. Please remember them in your prayers.

Anniversary Mass Bookings 2027: The diary for **2027 First Anniversary Masses** will open next week. Families wishing to book a First Anniversary Mass are invited to contact the Parish Office from  **Wednesday, 16 September.**

The following week from  **Wednesday, 23 September** the diary will open for all other Mass intentions.

First Anniversary Masses will be accommodated as the sole intention at a Mass. However, due to the number of requests received, other anniversary Masses may need to be shared with a Month's Mind or any another intention.

Please contact the Parish Office during opening hours or by email at any time with booking requests or enquiries.

Parish Office Contact Details:

Opening Hours: Wednesday & Thursday: 9.30am to 2.00pm | Saturday: 9.30am to 12.30pm

Telephone: 066 9767312 | **Email:** milltown@dioceseofkerry.ie

Sunday Refreshments: Please join us for refreshments after 11:15am, Sunday Mass in Milltown this weekend.

Envelope No. 282: If you are **Envelope No. 282**, could you please contact the Parish Office when you have a chance. Thank You.

Free HSE Information Evening: Learn about Fair Deal, Enduring Power of Attorney, Sage Advocacy, Age Friendly Homes and more.

 **Tuesday, 15 September**, RDI Hub, Killarney Road, Killorglin (V93 KP68). *Information stands from 7.30pm, talks begin at 8pm.*

Killarney Alzheimer's Memory Walk 2026: taking place on  **Sunday, 20th September.** Join Alzheimer's Memory Walk, supported by Aviva, as communities come together in over forty locations across the country to remember and honour those living with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia, and the families who stand beside them every step of the way. 📌 Killarney's Meeting Point is at the entrance of **The Killarney National Park opposite St Mary's Cathedral** at 11.00am. Walk is 5KM. Go to www.memorywalk.ie to register.

The Gospel brings us to Peter's famous question:

"Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?"

Peter probably thought he was being generous. But Jesus goes far beyond Peter's calculation:

"Not seven, but seventy-seven times."

Jesus is not asking us to keep count. He is teaching us that forgiveness should become a way of life.

The anniversary of September 11 reminds us how difficult forgiveness can be when wounds are deep. Most of us will never experience suffering on that scale, but we all know other hurts, family disagreements, broken friendships, harsh words, old resentments and misunderstandings that linger for years. Sometimes the deepest divides are not between nations but around kitchen tables and within families.

As we grow older, we often come to realise that life's greatest regrets are not the arguments we lost, but the relationships we lost. Today's Gospel encourages us not to carry unnecessary burdens into the future. The stone of resentment becomes heavier with time. Forgiveness, while difficult, brings freedom.

Forgiveness does not mean forgetting. It does not mean saying that wrong actions do not matter. It does not remove the need for justice. Rather, forgiveness means refusing to allow hatred and bitterness to have the final word. It means placing our hurts into God's hands and allowing His grace to heal our hearts. let us ask the Lord for the courage to be people of mercy. May we remember the words we pray so often: "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us."

Last Weekend's Offertory Collection | **€1085.00**
Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

Killorglin Pastoral Area
Priest on Duty this Weekend
Kevin Sullivan (087) 6277638