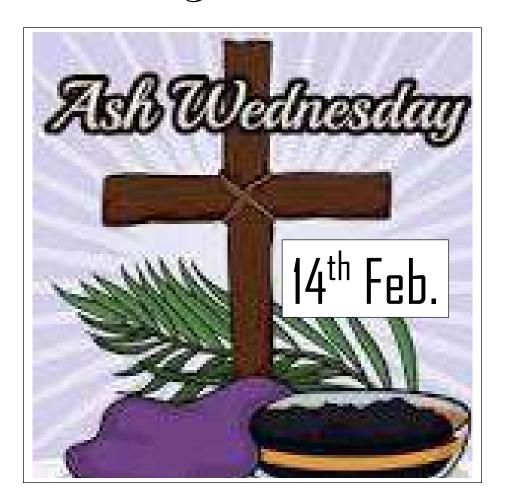
Events / Activities in Bloom HQ Pages 17 to 33

Mountrath Ballyfin Online Newsletter

Lent begins this Week



11th Feb. 2024

Mountrath Ballyfin Parish News 11th Feb. 2024

St. Fintan's Parish, Mountrath – Ballyfin

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Masses on Ash Wednesday

14th Feb. 2024

Mountrath Church 10.00 am

7.30 pm

Ballyfin Church 7.30 pm

Blessing and distribution of Ashes at all our Masses today

Lent is What We Do!

Trócaíre Boxes are now available to collect.

World Day of Prayer

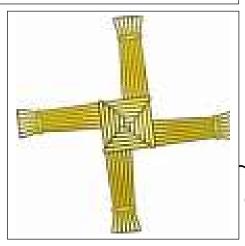
Fri. 1st March - 7.30 pm

Bloon HQ - Convent Chapel

You are most welcome to join us

St. Brigid's Crosses

Sr. Helan has asked me to express thanks, on her own behalf and on behalf of the pupils of Scoil Bhride, for the very generous response to the "Sale" of St. Brigid's Crosses on St. Brigid's Day when a total of £505 was donated.



/

Sun. 11th Feb.

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes - World Day of the Sick

You are most welcome to come forward for the Anointing of the Sick after our Mass on Saturday or Sunday this weekend, when we will celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick – If you or a family member is unable to attend this Ceremeony and would like either Fr. P.J. or myself to call to your home – or the home of a loved one, just let us know and we will be happy to attend you and celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick, with you.



Patrick (Paddy) Parkinson, Woodbrook. R.I.P.

We pray for Paddy who died peacefully at his home on Mon. 5th Feb. Paddy's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Mountrath on Wed. 7th Feb. followed by burial in Mountrath Cemetery. We extend sympathy to his family, John, Angela, Lucia, Patrick, Monica, Christine and Oliver and their families, sons-in-law Paul and Cathal, daughter-in-law Susan, grandchildren Brenda, Jacinta, Jennifer, Jean, Ciara, Kieran, Deirdre, Laura, Alison, Olivia, Peter, Seán, Elizabeth and Darren, great grandchild Lily, nieces, nephews, relatives and many friends.

Esther (Essie) Lanham (Nee Conroy) Upper Sconce. R.I.P.

We pray for Essie who died peacefully at Regional Hosp., Portlaoise on Sun. 4th
Feb. Essie's Funeral Mass was celebrated on Tues. 6th Feb. at St. Fintan's
Church, Ballyfin followed by burial in Ballyfin Cemetery. We extend sympathy
to Sheila, George, Stephen and Gus and their families, grandchildren, greatgrandchildren, nephews, nieces, son-in-law, daughters-in-law, extended
family, her many cousins, neighbours and friends.

May Paddy and Essie rest in the peace of Christ.

Prayer attributed to St. John Henry Newman

Lord, may you support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in your mercy, Lord, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last.



Some Parish Events during 2024

(Mountrath)



Ash Wednesday 14th Feb.

Mass in Mountrath Ch. 10.00 am and 7.30 pm

Blessing and Distribution of Ashes during both Masses

Easter Season

Palm (Passion Sunday) 24th March Blessing and Distribution of "Palm" at both Masses.

Holy Thurs. 28th Mch Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30 pm Renewal of Commitment of Ministers of Holy Communion during Mass Good Friday 29th Mch Liturgy of the Passion 3.00 pm Stations of the Cross - 7.30 pm Holy Saturday 30th March Easter Vigil 8.00 pm

Easter Sunday 31st Mch

The Hollow Church Mass of the Resurrection 9.00 am Mountrath Church Mass of the Resurrection 11.30 am Renewal of Baptismal Promises at both Masses

Ceremony of Confirmation Fri. 26h April

Ceremony in Mountrath Church 11.00 am
Ceremony in Ballyfin Church 2.30 pm

1st Holy Communion Days

The Hollow Ch. Sun. 19th May 9.00 am Mountrath Church Sun. 26th May 11.30 am

Some Parish Events during 2024



(Ballyfin Parish)

Ash Wednesday Wed. 14th February
Mass in Ballyfin Ch. 7.30 pm
Blessing and Distribution of Ashes during Mass



Easter Season

Palm (Passion Sunday) 24th March

Blessing and Distribution of "Palm" at both Masses.

Holy Thurs. 28th Mch Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30 pm Renewal of Commitment of Ministers of Holy Communion during Mass

Good Friday 29th Mch Liturgy of the Passion 3.00 pm Stations of the Cross 7.30 pm

Holy Saturday 30th March Easter Vigil 8.00 pm Easter Sun. 31st Mch Mass of the Resurrection 10.00 am

Renewal of Baptismal Promises at both Masses

Ceremony of Confirmation Fri. 26h April

Ceremony in Mountrath Church 11.00 am

Ceremony in Ballyfin Church 2.30 pm

Bishop Denis will lead us in both Ceremonies

1st Holy Communion Days

Sun. 19th May 2.00 pm Sun. 26th May 2.00 pm

Fr. Liam Lawton's New Mass "Mass of St. Brigid"

Will be used at the Chrism Mass this year (Cathedral, Mon. 25th March)
Rehearsals for Chrism Mass Will be on the following dates Sts. Peter and Paul Church,
Portlaoise Mon. 11th March - 8.00 pm Carlow Cathedral Thurs. 14th March 8.15 pm

Please let Christine in FDS know if you plan to attend and indicate which venue, by phoning 059-9164084 or emailing fds@kandle.ie.

We Hold and Keep in our Thoughts and Prayers

People, their families and carers, who are ill or unwell – at home, in hospital or Nursing Home or undergoing any surgical or medical procedures.
We wish them a speedy recovery

Mountrath Parish

Distribution of Parish Envelopes for 2024

Thank you if you have taken your box of Envelopes for this year.

We appreciate your continued generous support. I ask if you have not already done so - to please put your name and address on just one envelope before you return it - so we can keep track of all your contributions to Parish Funds.

Safeguarding Children Parish Reps.

Ballyfin Parish Triona O'Rourke and Peter Byrne

Mountrath Parish Caroline Moore and Pachelli Walsh

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person: Ms. Ailish Higgins.

Deputy Diocesan Liaison Person: Ms Michelle Hughes,

c/o Bishop's House, Dublin Rd, Carlow Ph: 085 802 163

Ballyfin Anniversaries

Mass Times Anniversaries Fri. 9th - Sun. 18th Feb

Fri. 9th Feb. 5.00 pm Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament.

Sat. 10th Feb. 8.00 pm Daniel Dunne, Catholes.

Pauline McManus, Briscola

Joe and Kathleen Lanham. Upper Sconce.

Sun. 11th Feb. 10.00 am Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

World Day of the Sick - Annointing of the sick after Mass

On Sat. evening only (Because of Funeral on Sunday)

Mon. 12th Feb. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification.

Wed. 14th Feb. 7.30 pm Ash Wednesday

Blessing and Distribution of Ashes during Mass

Fri. 16th Feb. 5.00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Sat 17th Feb. 8.00 pm Pat and Ellen O'Rourke, Coolnamona

Paddy and Maureen Fitzpatrick, Pallas Little.

Dan and Maisie Tynan, Clonkeen

Sun. 18th Feb. 10.00 am 1st Sunday of Lent

Mon. 19th Feb. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification.

Month's Mind Mass

Sat. 24th Feb. 8.00 pm Anne Holohan (Nee Kane) Springfield

Mountrath Anniversaries

Mass Times Anniversaries Sat. 10th - Sun. 18th Feb.

Sat. 10th Feb. 7.00 pm Peter and Molly Rice,

Val and Vera Rice. Rosie Kenny.

James and Kathleeen Tynan, Patrick St.,

World Day of the Sick tomorrow. Sacrament of Anointing after Mass tonight

Sun. 11th Feb. 9.00 am - The Hollow Church

11.30 am Tom Lalor, R.I.P. Portlaoise Rd., Funeral Mass

Gerard (Gerry) Halpin, R.I.P. Ballyfin Rd., Month's Mind

Peter Redmond, R.I.P. Redcastle, Month's Mind

Tues. 13th Feb. 10.00 am People who are ill in the Parish.

Wed. 14th Feb. 10.00 am and 7.30 pm Ash Wednesday

7.30 pm Mass in Ballyfin.

Blessing and distribution of Ashes at all our Masses today

Thurs. 15th Feb. 10.00 am Martin Ruane, Derrylusk, 11th Anniv.

Fri. 16th Feb. 10.00 am Alfie Hurson, Dublin.

Sat. 17th Feb. 7.00 pm Paddy Murphy, Spa Hill, 3rd Anniv

Mary Tynan, Fr. O'Connor Cresc. 12th Anniv.

Sun. 18th Feb. 9.00 am The Hollow Ch. Brendan Fitzpatrick, Clonboyne

Brendan died 14th Feb. 2000 - Aged 19 years

11.30 am 1st Sun. of Lent

Month's Mind Masses Sat. 24th Feb. 7.00 pm

Lila Lynch (Nee Nolan) Kiln Lane - Bill Sinnott, Shannon Rd.,

1st Anniv. Mass Sat. 2nd March 7.00 pm Adan Kirwan, Derrough

"Do This in Memory" Programme

1st Holy Communion Preparation Programme in Mountrath Ballyfin **Enrolement Ceremonies**

Mountrath Parish Sat. 30th Sept. Mass 7.00 pm All Schools Ballyfin. Sun. 1st Oct. Mass 10.00 am Both Schools

"Do This in Memory" Children's Masses

- 1. Sat. 11th Nov Mountrath Church, 7.00 pm Sun. 12th Nov. Ballyfin Church 10.00 am
- 2. Sat. 9th Dec. Mountrath Church 7.00 pm Sun. 10th Dec. Ballyfin Church 10.00 am
- 3. Sat. 13th Jan. Mountrath Church 7.00 pm Sun. 14th Jan. Ballyfin Church
- 4. Sat. 10th Feb. Mountrath Church 7.00 pm Sun. 11th Feb. Ballyfin Church 10.00 am
- 5. Sat. 9th Mch., Mountrath Church 7.00 pm Sun. 10th Mch. Ballyfin Church 10.00 am
- Sat. 13th Apr. Mountrath Church 7.00 pm Sun. 14th Apr. . Ballyfin Church 10.00 am
- Sat. 4th May Mountrath Church 7.00 pm Sun. 5th May Ballyfin Church 10.00 am

(The) Sacrament of 1st Penance

will be celebrated in March. Arrangements for the celebration of this Sacrament will be put in place in due course in conjunction with the Schools.

Dates for Celebration of 1st Holy Communion

Sun. 5th May The Hollow Church 9.00 am With Children of Gaelscoil Thromaire

Sun.26th May Mountrath Church - 11.30 am

With Children of all Mountrath Schools -- Note Change of Date

Sun. 19th May Ballyfin Church 2.00 pm

With children of Ballyfin National School

Sun. 26th May Ballyfin Church 2.00 pm With Children of Barnashrone National School

Mountrath Parish Lotto 8th Feb.



Numbers Drawn 3 18 20 24

No Jackpot Winner

14 Match 3 Winners Rec. € 72 Each.

1 Local Winner

Colm and Noel McGrath - Promoter Margaret McGrath

New Jackpot - €12,000

A very sincere thank you - for your very generous support of and continued commitment to Mountrath Parish Lotto throughout the year.

Ballyfin Parish Lotto 7th Feb.

Nos. Drawn 7 9 14 17 1 Jackpot Winner - Rathvilly / Kiltegan Parish 20 Match 3's won €50 ea. -

2 Local Winners

Derbhla Allen - Promoter, Harry Allen
Carol Mooney - Promoter, Ann Heffernan.
New Jackpot€ 10,000

A very sincere thank you - for your very generous support of and continued commitment to Ballyfin Parish Lotto throughout the year.



Next Week's



Ballyfin € 10,000

Mountrath € 12,000

Fr. Liam Lawton's New Mass

"Mass of St. Brigid"

Will be used at the Chrism Mass this year (Cathedral, Mon. 25th March - 7.30 pm)

An Invitation from Fr. Diam

Kildare & Leighlin Faith Development Services

Cathedral Parish Centre

College Street

Carlow Co. Carlow

Rooted in Christ, Faith Development Services is a coordinated team directed by the Bishop of Kildare & Leighlin to encourage, resource, facilitate and support the people of the Diocese to know, live and pray their faith

Tel: 059-9164084 Fax: 059-9164020 E-Mail: fds@kandle.ie

6th February 2024

Dear Friends I wish to invite you to Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Portlaoise on Monday, 11th March, at 8.00pm or Carlow Cathedral on Thursday, 14th March, at 8.15pm to rehearse my new Mass, the Mass of St. Brigid, and other music for the annual Chrism Mass, which will take place on Monday, 25th March, at 7.30pm in Carlow Cathedral.

Please inform Christine in FDS if you are attending and indicate which venue. You can do this by phoning 059-9164084 or emailing fds@kandle.ie.

Yours, Fr. Liam Lawton

Diocesan Director of Music The Parochial House, St. Mary's Road, Edenderry, Co. Offaly.

Divine Mercy Conference

The conference will take place in the RDS this year on the 23rd, 24th and 25th February 2024. Friday (FREE) 6.00pm - 9.00pm, Saturday 10am - 8pm and Sunday 10am -5pm. The conference will be broadcast online through our website www.divinemercyconference.com free of charge and on churchservices.tv. It will also be available (audio only) on www.RadioMaria.ie and on Saorview 210 or dial up listening service 01 4373277 and also on www.ShalomWorld.org.

The theme of this year's Conference is: "Jesus I Trust In You.". This is a call to trust in God. Trust is the opposite of fear. Our speakers for this year are: Bishop Alphonsus Cullinane D.D. Fr Pat Collins C.M, Fr. Eunan Mc Donnell SDB, Fr. Brendan Walsh SAC, Fr Jaimie Twohig SAC, Sr. Mary Claire Kenneally OLM and Sr. Donata Farbaniec OLM.

Tickets: €40 weekend, Saturday €35 and Sunday €25, available through PayPal on our website; from 22 Castle Grove, Clondalkin, Dublin D22Y2W9; or at the RDS door.

Ballyfin Community Alert Seniors Alert Scheme

As darker evenings are upon us please be aware that grant aided personal 24/7 monitored alarms are available to people aged 65 and over. If you know

a family member, friend or neighbour in Ballyfin or Laois area who may qualify please contact Sheila on 086 157 0145 for information or for application form

A Note from Edel Moloney, Supervisor, Mountrath CE Scheme

We have the following upcoming vacancies:

Caretaker - MYT - Mountrath CES 2308848

Caretaker - GAA - CES 2301698

Env Worker - Mountrath Town - CES 2254234

Env Worker - Castletown Village - CES 2268516

Shop Assistant - Vincents Mountrath - CES 2315874

Hours 19.5 hours per week.

Application Details:

Eligibility to participate on CE is generally linked to people who are 21 years or over and in receipt of a qualifying social welfare payment for 1 yr. or more or 18 years and over for certain disadvantaged groups. Eligibility will have to be verified by the Department.

You can register your interest by selection "Register your interest" on JobsIreland.ie, or you can contact a case officer in your local Intreo Centre quoting the relevant reference number above.

You can also call into our office on Patrick St, Mountrath or email mrtacpecoltd@gmail.com

Arts & Craft Classes



6 week program starting 28th February

Wednesdays 5-6 pm



- *painting
- *clay
- *print making
- *textile art

contact Rhiannon 089 211 5183

6 weeks € 30 only 12 places



Book online at https://mountrathgym.squarespace.com/memberships/kidsartcraft



Brigidine Convent, Patrick St, Mountrath R32 DT9F



Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu/BJJ in Mountrath



Thinking about learning self-defence and the Art of Jiu-Jitsu? A sport that suits all ages from 8 years.

- *mobility improvement
- *improve full body strength
- *better cardio
- *helps weight loss
- *improves flexibility

8 yrs- 18 €35 per month Adults €45 per month

Saturdays

Kids 10- 11 am Teens /Adults 11 am -12 pm

Wednesdays

Kids 7-8 pm

Free Trial this week 14th & 17th Feb









Roadcraft Motorcycle Training

Mick Smith is teaching the new

RSA approved Motorcycle Initial Basic Training (IBT)

here in BloomHQ, the old Convent Mountrath.

For more details and to book see:

www.roadcraft.ie

www.facebook.com/roadcraft.ie



Music Teachers wanted



for Mountrath Music School

*soundproof rooms

*free parking

*waiting area for parents



contact Lucy 087 259 7895

Activities suitable for Senior Citizens in Mountrath

Mature Movers 50 + Mondays & Wednesdays 11 am





Bowls inclusive 11 am Tuesdays Bowls 8 pm Thursdays

Mountrath Men's Shed Tuesdays 10 am- 1 pm Thursdays 2 pm- 4 pm contact 085 705 3855





Activator Poles Inclusive Thursdays 11 am

contact Ruth 086 3262 570



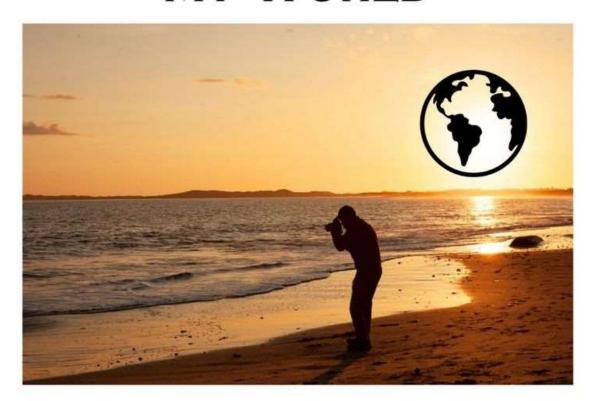








"MY WORLD"



PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

by Mountrath & District Camera Club

Opening 7pm Friday 2nd February in the

Gallery of Divine Inspiration

Bloomhq, Mountrath

All Welcome Photos will be on display for the month



VIOLIN LESSONS

by Irene Ramos

- Discover the joy of music and unlock your creativity
- · Weekly individual and ensemble classes for all ages
- From 3-year-olds to adults
- Studio based Mountrath

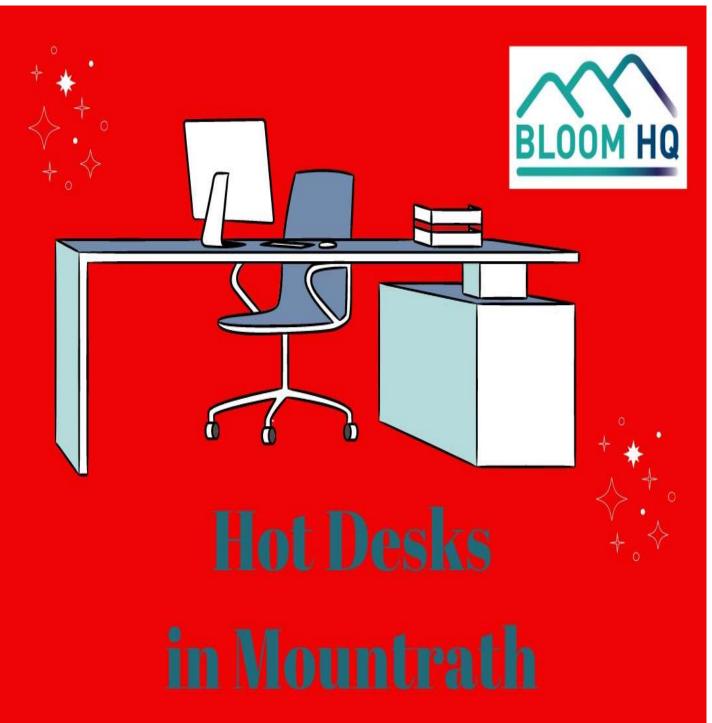
FOR RATES AND/OR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT ME

Phone: 0773222323

Email: iramos.violinstudio@gmail.com







Need somewhere to work for a day with fast broadband? Free parking, canteen onsite.

Desks from 10 euro per day Book on https://connectedhubs.ie

Mountrath Men's Shed







Old School on Patrick Street



Tuesdays 10am - 1pm Thursdays 2pm - 4pm

Contact 0857053855







Karate Classes



Mondays & Thursdays 7 - 8 pm





Juniors and Adults

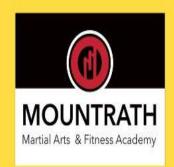


Okinawan Karate



Black Belt Instructors

contact Sensei Donal, 5th dan 087 760 7063 Martial Arts Centre, Old Convent, Mountrath, R32 DC58



HIIT Lunchtime class

High-Intensity Interval Training

Tuesdays & Thursdays

1.15 pm for 40 mins 5 euro a class or

part of your monthly gym package

Book with Ruth 086 3262 570











Classes for Primary School aged Children in Mountrath Health & Fitness Academy





Karate

Mondays & Thursdays 7 pm from 6 years up, €6 per class Sensei Donal: 087 760 7063

Fridays 5.30 pm 3-7 years, €7 Kickboxing 6.30 pm 8-12 years, €7 Shane: 086 339 9287

First trial class free



Brazilian Jiu-jitsu*

*starting 14th & 17th Feb with free trial

8-12 years,

Wednesdays 7-8 pm &

Saturdays 10-11 am

€ 35 per month

Jamie; 085 200 2497



Wednesdays 5-6 pm, 7-12 years € 30 for block of 6 classes Rhiannon: 089 211 5183

Thursdays 3.30 pm on. From 3 years - adult €20 for 30 min individual lesson

Irene: 089 981 8065



Saturdays from 11 am, 6+ years €8 for 30 min group classes Eabha 083 8566083

to book talk to the relevant teacher







Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu/BJJ in Mountrath



Thinking about learning self-defence and the Art of Jiu-Jitsu? A sport that suits all ages from 8 years.

- *mobility improvement
- *improve full body strength
- *better cardio
- *helps weight loss
- *improves flexibility

Come join our free trial Wednesday 14th & Saturday 17th February

8 yrs- 18 €35 per month Adults €45 per month

Wednesdays

Kids 7-8 pm
Teens /Adults 8-9 pm
contact Jamie 085 200 2497

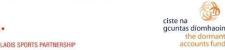
Saturdays

Kids 10- 11 am Teens /Adults 11 am -12 pm





Brigidine Convent, Patrick St, Mountrath, R32 DC58



Bowls All Inclusive 11am Tuesdays

St. Philomena's Hall, Brigidine Convent, Patrick Street, Mountrath

Contact Ruth 086 3262570













Irish Traditional

MUSIC

LESSONS

Whistle, Flute, Concertina, Accordion, Fiddle, Banjo and Mandolin



Clióna and Éabha Dowling McDonald

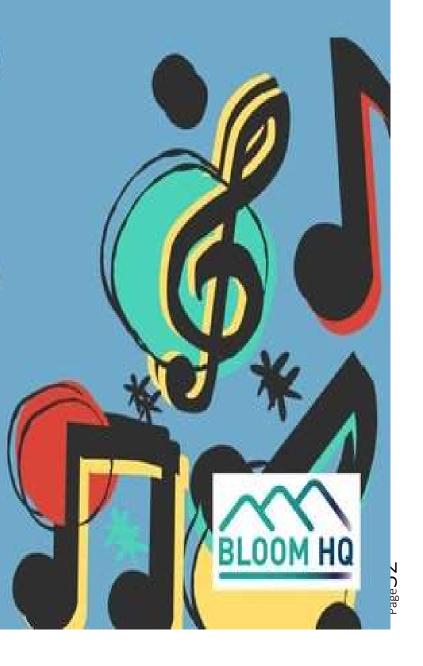
More Information: Contact 083 8566083



Music Classes in Mountrath

- Lessons in BloomHQ
- Violin Lessons by Irene Ramos
 0773222323
 iramos.violinstudio@gmail.com
- Irish Traditional
 Music. Whistle, Elute.
 Concertina.
 Accordion, Fiddle,
 Banjo and Mandolin
 Cliona & Eabha
 Dowling McDonald
 083 8566083

Contact the relevant teacher to arrange days/times/prices



School of Music - Mountrath



Please use your recyclable blue token to vote for us in the Tesco Community Fund.



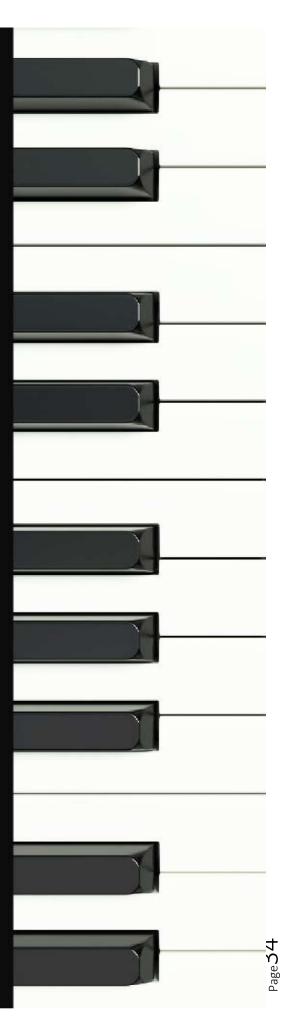
PIANO TEACHE ヒスタス



For our new Music Rooms Contact Lucy 087 259 7895

The Old Convent, Patrick St, Mountrath, R32 DC58





Mountrath Scouts



Looking for a way for your kids to learn new skills and spend time in the great outdoors why not try scouts!

For all ages from beavers to ventures and into leaders!

Friday nights

In the brigidine convent (Bloom HQ) Patrick street mountrath
R32 DC58

7:00 till 8:30

€5 pp

or

€4 per sibling

Scouts is a way to

- Meet new people.
- Learn new skills.
- Spend time outside.
- Make friends for life.

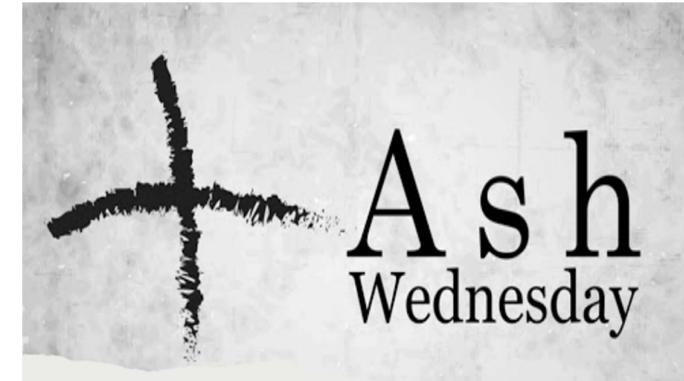


Date for the Diary

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in Mountrath / Ballyfin Parishes on Fri. 26th April 2024

The Ceremony in Ballyfin Parish Church will Commence at 2.30 pm

Bishop Denis will lead us in both our celebrations



A Prayer to begin my Lenten journey

Loving Jesus,

as I receive on my forehead the sign of your saving cross You say to me, repent and believe in the Gospel.

Walking into Lent

my heart is set on you.

May my *fasting* fill me with hunger for you,
May my *prayer* draw me deeper into your presence.

May my acts of charity bring your love to my home and community.

Lord of life,

grant that by turning back to you in these 40 days
I will re-awaken the joy of my Easter faith;
for you raise me up from fear and despair
and call me to hope and trust in God who is with me always.
With you, I will rise again. Amen.

Carlow Union of Parishes Lent - Easter Talks 2024

Living Faith

- 1. Thursday 22nd February 7.30pm "Lent/Easter, The Journey" Dean Tom Gordon, Cathedral Church of Saint Laserian's, Leighlin.
- 2. Wednesday 28th February 7.30pm "Prayer / Spirituality" Rev. Liam Dunne Chaplain, Carlow/Saint Patrick's College.
- 3. Wednesday 6th March 7.30pm "The Cross" Rev. Katherine Kehoe, Carlow and Kilkenny Methodist Church,
- 4. Wednesday 13th March 7.30pm "Triduum / Resurrection" Bishop Denis Nulty, Roman Catholic Bishop of Kildare & Leighlin
- 5. Friday 15th March 7.30pm "Songs of Prayer, Faith and Praise" with the Carlow Community Choir and their Director Mary Amond O' Brien.
- Wednesday 20th March 7.30pm "Grief and Loss A Christian Perspective" Rev. Paul Fitzpatrick, in conjunction with the Carlow Mental Health Association.

To care for those who once cared for us is one of the highest honors in life.

- Tia Walker

