

Mountrath – Ballyfin Parish News – 27th November 2022

Parish Visitation Dec.

Thurs. 1st Ballyfin Parish
 Tues. 6th Mountrath Country
 Wed. 7th Mountrath Town

1st Sunday of Advent Year A

St. Fintan's Parish, Mountrath - Ballyfin

Sat. 26th - Sun. 27th Nov. 2022

1st Sunday of Advent Year A

Fr. P.J. Fitzgerald C.C. 087) 605 5783

Fr. Joe (087) 2411 594

Mountrath Parish Radio transmits on FM 104.5

www.ballyfinparish.ie www.mountrathparish.ie -

Email jmbrophy2@gmail.com

Enrolment in Mountrath - Ballyfin

Enrolment for 1st Holy Communion children takes place on this Sat. evening. (26th Nov) during our 7.00 pm Vigil Mass

Enrolment for 1st Holy Communion takes place on this Sunday during our 10.00 am Sunday Mass

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This weekend, We welcome all our 1st Holy Communion children and their families to our Enrolment Masses

Mountrath – Ballyfin Parish App. available to download on iPhone and Android

Safeguarding Children Parish Reps.

Ballyfin Parish Triona O'Rourke and Peter Byrne

Mountrath Parish Caroline Moore and Pachelli Walsh

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person: Ms Kathleen Sherry

Deputy Diocesan Liaison Person: Ms Michelle Hughes,

c/o Bishop's House, Dublin Rd, Carlow Ph: 085 802 1633



The Painting of Mountrath Church

Work has begun on the Painting of Mountrath Church

The scaffolding out of the Sanctuary area was completed during the week
 Thanks to John Brophy of J N L Scaffolding and to his team who erected the scaffolding -
 so efficiently - Stephen, Conor, Kevin, Liam and Christopher.

Thanks to everyone - Mountrath G.A.A. and the fine team of helpers who brought the
 scaffolding into the church on Monday evening last.

Thanks to Mountrath Community School, to Seamus Moloughney and friends for providing
 and erecting a platform in front of the altar rails and preparing for the temporary altar -
 and indeed for moving out the altar and ambo for us.

Thanks to Tommy Ferns for accommodating us with the P.A. System.
 The prep. work for the painting will begin on Monday next, Please God

 Our Picture shows the completed scaffolding in place in the sanctuary area

Mountrath Mass Times – Anniversaries Sat. 19th - Sun. 27th Nov.

Sat 26th Nov. 7.00 pm Elizabeth Sinnott (Nee Hensey) Shannon Rd., 9th Anniv.
Angela and Patrick Wallace, Patrick St.,

Sun. 27th Nov. 9.00 am The Hollow Church. 1st Sunday of Advent. Year A

11.30 am Paddy Carter, St. Fintan's Terrace. 1st Anniv.
(also Paddy's wife, Philomena)

Mon. 28th Nov. 10.00 am

Tues 29th Nov. 10.00 am

Wed. 30th Nov. 10.00 am Patrick and Michael Doheny, Patrick St.,

Thurs. 1st Dec. 10.00 am John (Jack) Hetherington, New Line Rd., 9th Anniv.

Fri. 2nd Dec. 10.00 am Altar List of the Dead.

Sat. 3rd Dec. 7.00 pm Brigid Dunne, (nee Lalor) Woodbrook 1st Anniv.
John Keenan, Beech Lawn, 1st Anniv.

Gerry and Elizabeth McMahon, Fr. O'Connor Cresc.

Sun. 4th Dec. 9.00 am The Hollow Church. Julia and Nora Phelan, Clonard.
Jerimiah Delaney, Clonard

11.30 am Patrick (Patsy) O'Connor, Kiln Lane. 1st Anniv.

Mary Redmond (Nee Bergin) Redcastle 4th Anniv.

Peter Bennett, The Square. 5th Anniv.

Fergus Beere, Clonkeen R.I.P.

We pray for Fergus who died peacefully at his home on Sat. 19th Nov. Fergus' Funeral Mass was celebrated in Peter and Paul's Church, Portlaoise on Tues. 22nd Nov. followed by Committal Service at Newlands Cross Crematorium. We extend sympathy to Ailish, brothers George, Jimmy, Peter and Hughie and all their families, nephews, nieces, relatives, neighbours and friends

May Fergus rest in the peace of Christ.

Christmas Carol Services

Mountrath Community School Wed. 14th Dec. 12 Midday (Mountrath Ch)

Scoil Bhride (Girls School) Fri. 16th Dec. 12 Midday (Mountrath Ch)

Ballyfin Church Wed. 14th Dec. 7.30 pm (Cup of Tea afterwards in School)

Ballyfin - Mass Times Anniversaries Fri. 25th Nov - Sun. 4th Dec.

Fri. 25 th Nov.	5.00 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
.	7.30 pm	Altar List of the Dead
Sat 26 th Nov.	8.00 pm	Owen Heffernan, Redgates. 3 rd Anniv.
.		Gus Hade, Boghlone.
Sun 27 th Nov.	10.00 am	Brendan Breen, Craydon Court 6 th Anniv.
Mon 28 th Nov.	7.00 pm	Apostolate of Sanctification
Fri. 2 nd Dec.	5.00 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
.	7.30 pm	Altar List of the Dead.
Sat. 3 rd Dec.	8.00 pm	Liam Lindon, O'Moore Forest. 4 th Anniv.
Sun. 4 th Dec.	10.00 am	Deceased Members of Ryan Family, Cappanrush
Mon. 5 th Dec.	7.00 pm	Apostolate of Sanctification.
Thur. 8 th Dec.	7.30 pm	Feast of The Immaculate Conception
.		Mary Gorman, Cappagh North. 15 th Anniv

Fri. 9th Dec. 7.30 pm Carmel Croke (Nee Conroy) Pallas 1st Anniv.

Fri. 16th Dec. 7.30 pm Mary Thompson (Nee Kenna) Irey. M. M.

In November We Remember

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine

upon them – May they rest in peace, Amen

We keep in our Prayers

People, their families and carers, who are ill – at home,
in Hospital or in a Nursing Home or undergoing any surgical procedures,
at this time

Christmas 2022

The First Sunday of Advent is this weekend

We will be starting all over again with

Year A of the 3 year Cycle. - Year A is the Year of Matthew

Man Available

for Garden Maintenance
and General Handywork

085 176 5423

Excellent References Available

Child Safeguarding Review

A letter from Bishop Denis regarding the Review
by the National Board for Safeguarding Children in
the Catholic Church in Ireland was issued on 21st

November. This review will commence in our

Diocese on Mon. 12th Dec. See our Online

Newsletter for copy of this letter, below

Irish Guide Dog For The Blind.

Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind are again selling

Christmas Cards and 2023 Calendars to support our fundraising efforts.

These can be purchased at Aidan Byrne's shop Main St.

or give Seán a ring at 087 767 6318.

Your continued support is very much appreciated

Ballyfin Church Choir

Ballyfin Church Choir has now begun rehearsals for our Christmas Carol Service (Arranged for Wed. 14th Dec) and for our Christmas Masses.

If you would like to join Ballyfin Church Choir you are invited to ring 087 901 5014 or – if you prefer, join the choir practice this coming week – The next choir practice is arranged for this coming Wednesday at 8.00 pm in Ballyfin Church.

Everyone is most welcome to come along and join in





Christmas Fair

in aid of Mary's Meals

in

**Ballyfin Community
Centre**

on

Sunday 4th December

11am ~ 3pm

Variety of Stalls to suit all ages
Cake Sale Christmas Raffle

*A great day is guaranteed – your
support is always appreciated*

For more information, or to donate unwanted gifts or other items,
please contact Kathleen Dunne at 086-1024752, Sheila Dowling at
086-1570145 or Margaret Bradford at 087-9823109



Mary's Meals is a global movement that sets up school feeding programmes in some of the world's poorest communities, where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education.

*It costs **€18.30** to feed a child in a place of education for an entire school year.*

*Mary's Meals currently feed **2,279,941** children each school day.*



Ballyfin Community Alert Seniors Alert Scheme

Grant aided personal monitored alarms are available to people aged 65 and over. If you know of a family member, friend or neighbour in Laois who could benefit from this scheme please contact Sheila on 086 1570145 for information/application form.

Mountrath Lotto 24th Nov

Nos. Drawn 19 21 23 25

2 Winners Shared Jackpot of
€20,000

4 Match 3 Winner. Rec. € 250

Next Week's Jackpot €12,000

*Thank you for your Generous and continued
Support of all our Parish Collections*



Ballyfin Parish Lotto

23rd Nov.

Nos. Drawn 4 9 21 22

23rd Nov. **No** Jackpot Winner

18 Match 3 Rec. Each € 56.00

Next Week's Jackpot € 12,000

Thanks to everyone involved in
Ballyfin and Mountrath Parish
Lotto for support and your
generosity

- *A Word of Thanks*

Once again, I want to renew my appreciation and gratitude for the ways in which you have found to support the parish and us, the priests of the parish, over the past year. We are deeply grateful. It has and continues to be a most challenging time for so many; families, self employed, hospitality and so much more. By and large we are not doing too bad, thanks in no small part to your generosity. I wish to acknowledge your support given via the weekly envelopes (2023 boxes are ready for distribution at present). Contributing to the Parish by envelope allows us to keep track of your donations for the whole year and, where possible, (and totally at your discretion) claim the additional 45% back from Revenue under the charity donations scheme at no cost to yourself. If you are not as yet, part of this scheme – and would like more information, please contact me when you get a chance. Thank you for your continued support and generosity - it is very much appreciated.

Different ways of supporting your Parish:

⇒ Weekly Envelopes ⇐

⇒ Direct payment - Cash/Cheque ⇐

If contributing by cheque please make cheques payable to "Mountrath Parish" - or "Ballyfin Parish"

Please indicate - Parish Fund or Clergy Fund (for support of the priests of the Parish)

Cheques can be posted to – Parish Office, Parochial House, Ballyfin, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

⇒ Online Facility (See Diocesan Website – www.kandle.ie) ⇐

⇒ Standing Order or Transfer directly to our Accounts ⇐

The following are our Bank Account Details

Mountrath Parish - Bank Account Details (Portlaoise Branch)

Name - Mountrath Parish Current Account

Account number - 7274 7250

IBAN - IE93 BOFI 9018 2972 7472 50

BIC. - BOFIE2D

Ballyfin Parish - Bank Account Details (Portlaoise Branch)

Name - Ballyfin Parish Pastoral Council

IBAN - IE44 AIBK 9332 7900 203030

BIC. - AIBKIE2D

Please include your own name as the reference.

⇒ Support Mountrath and Ballyfin Parish Lottos ←

If you have any queries or would like to speak with us regarding donating to the Parish or participating in the charity tax donation scheme, just ring me on 087 241 1594 (Fr. Joe)

Stay connected with us!

Parish Website www.mountrath/ballyfinparish.ie - Links to Webcams on
Home Page
Visit our Parish App. Mountrath Ballyfin Parish

ALONE

The Organisation that supports Older People to Live Independently.

"ALONE supports older people to age at home, combatting loneliness and isolation. Would you like to volunteer from the comfort of your own home?
? We are seeking volunteers to make Support and Befriending calls to older people. Please visit our website at www.alone.ie or call our National Support and Referral line on 0818 222 024 to find out more about volunteering

Would you like to read the Catechism in a year?

We are a friendly group that reads and discusses a section of the Catechism of the Catholic Church each week. In 2023, we will follow The Catechism in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz.

<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear>

Join us on Mondays at 8.00pm in the Parish Centre,
Prosperous. Contact Alice 087 6505803

The National Board for the Safeguarding of Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland (the National Board) will be commencing their review of safeguarding practice in the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin on Dec 12th . This review is to assess the safeguarding practice in the Diocese against the Catholic Church in Ireland's current standards as detailed in Safeguarding Children - Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2016.

If you would like to know more about safeguarding in your parish, please speak with your Local Safeguarding Representative(s) (INSERT NAME(S) HERE) or look at the Safeguarding section on www.kandle.ie.

If you ever wish to report a child or vulnerable adult safeguarding concern, please contact the Diocesan DLP on 085 8021633 or the statutory authorities of the Gardai, TUSLA, HSE.

Review by the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland.

21 November 2022

Review by the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the
Catholic Church in Ireland

I am pleased to announce that the National Board for the Safeguarding of Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland (the

National Board) will be commencing their review of safeguarding practice in the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin on December 12th.

The National Board was established in 2006 to provide advice, services and assistance in furtherance of the development of the safeguarding of children within the Roman Catholic Church on the island of Ireland; and to monitor compliance with legislation, policy and best practice and to report on these activities.

The Diocese entered into an agreement with the National Board through signing a Memorandum of Understanding and committed to the *Safeguarding Children – Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2016* issued by the National Board.

To assess our compliance, I invited the National Board to undertake a review of practice this year. The Diocese was previously reviewed in 2012 under the *Safeguarding Children – Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2008*.

The purpose of this second review is to assess the safeguarding practice in the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin against the Catholic Church in Ireland's current standards as detailed in *Safeguarding Children – Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2016*.

In advance of this, I encourage anyone who has a child safeguarding concern or who wishes to report an allegation of child abuse to contact a Diocesan Designated Liaison Person or An Garda Siochana or TUSLA or contact the National Board (details below).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who encourage and facilitate children's involvement in parish activities and all those who contribute to safeguarding in their local parishes.

With every best wish,

+Denis Nulty - Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin

Contact Details

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP)

Ms. Kathleen Sherry Tel 085 802 1633

Email: dlp@kandle.ie

Deputy DLP's

Ms. Michele Hughes Tel 086 1710643 and

Fr. Mícheál Murphy Tel: 086 8244629

Garda National Protective Services Bureau

01 6663430/35

1800 555 222

Tusla Child & Family Agency

Kilkenny & Carlow area - 052 617 7302

Laois & Offaly - 044 935 3997

Kildare & West Wicklow - 045 839 300

HSE Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults

Carlow, Kilkenny: Tel: 056 778 4325

Email: safeguarding.cho5@hse.ie

Wicklow: Tel: 01 216 4511

Email: safeguarding.cho6@hse.ie

Kildare, Wicklow: Tel: 045 920410

Email: safeguarding.cho7@hse.ie

Laois, Offaly: Tel: 01 6914632

Email: safeguarding.cho8@hse.ie

National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church
in Ireland,

New House, Saint Patrick's College,
Maynooth, Co. Kildare.

Phone: 01 5053124 / 01 5053026

Email: admin@safeguarding.ie

Lock Up - Light Up

Burglary Prevention Tips from An Garda Síochána

As we approach the time of year when the clocks are set to go back, we are once again appealing to people to secure their homes and premises and to Lock Up and Light Up during the winter months.

Traditionally Burglaries increase by 20% over the winter months of October to March. Some simple methods can make your home and premises less vulnerable to Criminal Attack.

- *Lighting around the house on a sensor or photocell.*
- *Lighting inside on timers*

Natural Surveillance- trim shrubs down to 1m and trees up to 2 m.

- *Use Bogus Caller Cards*
- *Close Curtains during hours of Darkness.*

What Attracts the Burglar:

- *Signs of being unoccupied.*
- *Open Windows*
- *Hidden keys*
- *A build up of Post /Milk, etc.*
- *No alarms.*
- *High vegetation*
- *Ladders or tools in easy reach*
- *Easy access to the rear of your house*
- *Poor lighting or house lights on at the wrong time.*

See WWW.garda.ie for Home Security Tips and Advices.

Ossory Adult Faith Development Pilgrimage to Rome

The Eternal City has a remarkable array of religious works of art – frescoes, paintings, sculptures, mosaics, stuccos. Over the centuries these treasures have inspired, educated and uplifted countless people. Our itinerary will explore the religious and catechetical meaning of some of these masterpieces. Traveling dates March 9th – 14th 2023, €710 p.p sharing. For more information and to book your place please contact Kieran and Laura Troy, Myriam Tours at 057-9355050 or email info@myriam.ie

Mortgage Arrears / Abhaile Scheme

Are you in mortgage arrears? Are you worried about losing your home? If so, there is help. You may be entitled to Government support under the Abhaile Scheme.

For more information, feel free to contact Tatiana McGreal, Financial Solutions Ireland on 085 8674883 www.fsireland.ie

Bishop Denis' Prayer for the People of Ukraine

Bishop Denis invites this prayer for peace in Ukraine to be prayed at all our Masses

Loving God, We pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world
that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in need. Amen.

Apostolate of Sanctification

St. Fintan's Church, Church, Ballyfin Every Monday Starts at 7.00 pm

Intercession for Bishops and Priests, through Our Lady of Knock takes place each Monday night at 6.45pm in our parish church, St. Fintan's Ballyfin. All are invited to join in the two hour session which consists of community prayer, reciting -The Divine Mercy Chaplet, meditations on The Holy Rosary and a chaplet offered for our Bishops and priests in the presence of The Blessed Sacrament. When we pray for our priests, Our Lady of Knock blesses us and our families abundantly. All most welcome!

Transmitting Faith in Contemporary Culture

In processing the diocesan synodal reports the ACI steering group concluded that no issue seemed of greater concern than the growing absence of young people, including younger

parents, from regular weekly liturgies - even before the onset of the Covid 19 pandemic in the spring of 2020.

A zoom gathering has been organised by the Association of Catholics in Ireland takes place on Thursday October 6th, 2022 at 8.00 pm. Professor Michael Conway (Professor of Faith and Culture, Pontifical University, St Patrick's College, Maynooth) will present his own view of the issue of faith transmission today, and will be followed by open discussion. All are welcome to join in.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85073799955?pwd=VlpicXViUGlmT2FIQXlmOHVlWjFpZz09>

Meeting ID: 850 7379 9955 Passcode: 690623

Clane Parish Pilgrimage to The Holy Land

Accompanied by Fr Paul O'Boyle, travelling from 19th – 26th April 2023. Price per person, €1665, includes return flights from Dublin to Tel Aviv, 3 nights in Legacy Hotel Nazareth, 4 nights in Manger Square Hotel Bethlehem (all nights dinner bed & breakfast basis), all transfers, boat trip on Sea of Galilee and all admissions, tips and local taxes. For more details visit

<https://marian.ie/destinationIndiv.asp?id=Holy%20Land&tour=5893>

Pledge for November

Many people offer spiritual support to a relation who is struggling because of alcohol or an addiction problem. Parishioners who wish to take a short-term Pioneer pledge during the month of the Holy Souls are invited to visit www.pioneers.ie/pray

Date for the Diary:

Pope John Paul II Awards, 15 December, 7.30pm, Cathedral of the Assumption Carlow.



MIND AND BODY CLASSES. FEEL LIKE

NOBODY LISTENS ,

NO BODY UNDERSTANDS?

***Meet with like minded people in a safe , non judgemental
environment .***

Pick up some tools to improve Mental Health.

BLOOM HQ, MOUNTRATH.



WEDNESDAY'S , 7.30 PM.

Call/Text /Whatsapp

087 6100908.

Rome Itinerary 25th -31st May 2023



**Fr. Liam Merrigan,
Monasterevin &
Fr. John McEvoy,
Rathvilly.**

**Assisi 25th- 27th
May 2023 2 nights
Half Board**

Assisi Walking Tour including St Francis Basilica

Rome
27th May
-31st May
2023 4
nights
B&B



Visiting the Vatican Museums & Sistine Chapel

Irish college for Mass on Sunday

Catacombs of Rome & Ancient Appian Way

Walking Tour of the Pantheon, Piazza Navona, Trevi Fountain,

Spanish Steps and Colosseum

Papal Audience in the Vatican & visit St Peter Basilica

Total Price: €1265 per person/ Deposit: €150

Return air ticket including **10kg luggage** and taxes

Sharing twin rooms with private facilities for 2 nights in Assisi
on half board basis

Sharing twin rooms with private facilities for 4 nights in Rome on
B&B basis

Entrance tickets to the Vatican, Sistine chapel, Catacombs & the
Colosseum

Optional Extras

Travel Insurance up to the age of 69 years @ €35 subject to T&Cs

Single Supplement subject to availability for €195.00

For reservations phone: 059 9136100

FROM: POPE FRANCIS
TO: THE EARTH



THE LETTER

A MESSAGE FOR OUR EARTH

'The Letter' Film Screening

Venue: The Focolare Centre, Curryhills, Prosperous, Kildare

Date: Friday, 18th November

Time: 7.30 - 9:30pm

One of the cast Lorna Gold, will attend the screening and answer questions.

**"Right now, unity means saving mother earth,
 saving ourselves and saving our children"**
 - Pope Francis.



TheLetterFilm.org