

Mountrath Ballyfin

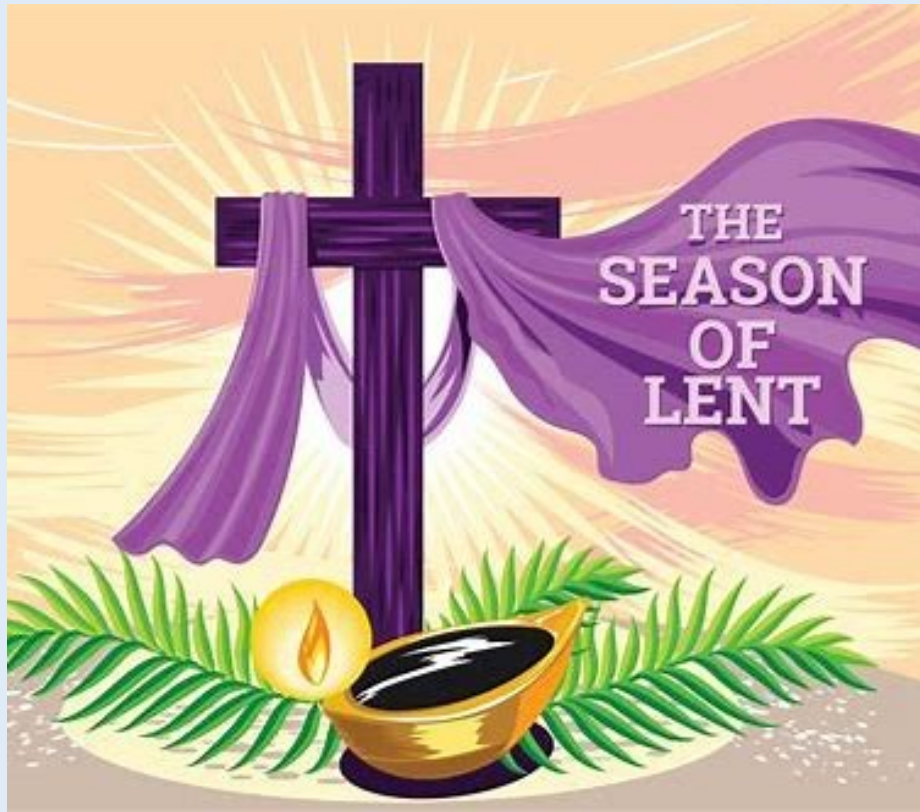
Online Newsletter

8th - 9th March . 1st Sunday of Lent

5th Anniv. of Covid

This week we mark the 5th Anniversary of the outbreak of the Covid 19 Coronavirus in March '20. Once again we keep in our thoughts and prayers and remember in a special way this weekend, loved ones taken from us because of the Coronavirus and their families who suffered great loss and indeed continue to grieve such great loss.

Once again too, we remember and express our gratitude for the generosity and selflessness of so many good people who went far above and beyond the call of duty in their efforts to keep us all safe and secure during that very difficult time.



The Season of Lent 2025

—

Lent is What We Do

Mountrath Ballyfin Online Newsletter

(Online from Saturday mornings)

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

Fr. Joe Brophy P.P. (087) 241 1594

Website www.mountrathparish.ie

Email jmbrophy2@gmail.com

Name of Parish App.

Mountrath and Ballyfin Parishes

Safeguarding Children Parish Reps.

Ballyfin Parish

Triona O'Rourke Peter Byrne

Mountrath Parish.

Caroline Moore Pachelli Walsh

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person

Ms. Ailish Higgins.

Deputy Diocesan Liaison Person:

Ms Michelle Hughes c/o

Bishop's Hse, Dublin Rd, Carlow Phone 085 802 1633



*Remembering Pope Francis
at this time*

Remembering
Pope Francis
at this time



Sunday Scripture Sharing

Lent '25

See Kandle.ie to access
this year's resource for reflecting on the
Sunday gospels of Lent,
featuring reflections from the
late Fr John Cummins
as well as prayer resources.

Jubilee Year

2025

“We are
Pilgrims
of
Hope”

Jubilee year
Pilgrims of Hope



Jubilee Year 2025.

We are "Pilgrims of Hope"

With the opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica on Christmas Eve, the Holy Year was begun. Across the world, the Jubilee Year began on the feast of the Holy Family. (Sun. 29th Dec. 2024) To echo the theme of hope, Pope Francis is calling on us all to renew the hope of Christ, using Saint Paul the Apostle as a guide for this special year.

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us,

Pilgrims of Hope,

a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

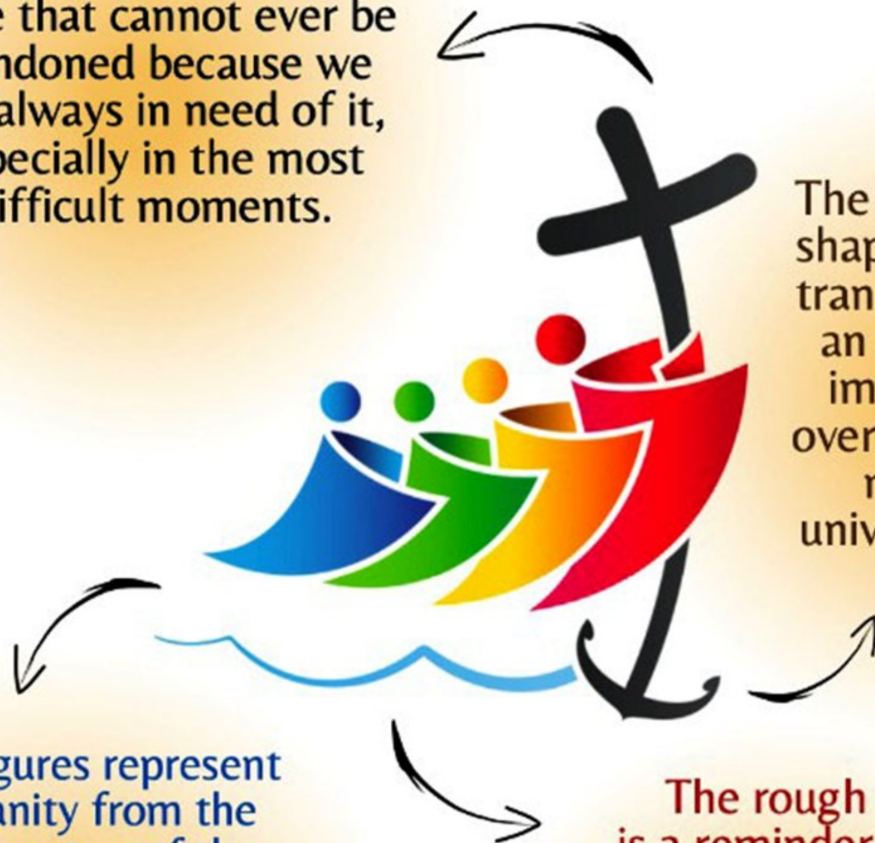
May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

*We are pilgrims on a journey, fellow travellers on the road
We are here to help each other, walk the mile and bear the load*

(From the Servant Song by Richard Gillard)

The cross of Christ is the hope that cannot ever be abandoned because we are always in need of it, especially in the most difficult moments.



The Cross, in the shape of a sail, is transformed into an anchor that imposes itself over the waves in motion. A universal symbol of Hope.

The figures represent humanity from the four corners of the World. They are embracing each other to illustrate the solidarity between the peoples, as the first holds onto the cross.

The rough sea is a reminder of the difficulties of the pilgrimage of life. Often, personal events as well as those of the world, press on us more intensely, demanding a greater hope.



The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son,

Jesus Christ, our brother,

and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts

by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope*

for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators

of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity

and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation

of a new heaven and a new earth,

when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,

your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us,

Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of

our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,

be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

Confirmation

2025

Ballyfin Parish

Confirmation Catechesis

with Confirmation Candidates and
their parents continues following
10.00 am Sunday Mass on the
following dates

23rd March

4th May 18th May

Ceremony of Confirmation in
Ballyfin Parish will be
celebrated in St. Fintan's Church,
Ballyfin

on Fri. 23rd May 2025

Ceremony will commence at 11.00 am

The Ceremony of Confirmation will be led by
Bishop Denis Nulty

Diocesan Pilgrimage for the Canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis

Coinciding with the Jubilee for Teenagers, during the Jubilee Year of Hope, the Diocese is travelling for the Canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis, 25th - 29th April.

This pilgrimage includes a day trip to Assisi, trips to the pilgrims' sites of Rome and of course the Mass on Sunday in St. Peter's Square when Blessed Carlo will be declared the first 'Millennial Saint.'

Bishop Denis will join us for the pilgrimage as well as Fr. David Vard. Places are limited and can be booked through Marian Pilgrimages or forms and itinerary can be collected in Portlaoise Parish Centre.

Schools

News

CPSMA says “Thank You”

“Thank You” Boards of Management
Celebrating 50 Years of Service 1975-2025

Celebrate your Board of Management.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Boards of Management. Boards are made up of nominees from the community, the teaching staff, the parents and from the school patron. These people are from our communities, from our schools, our parents and from our patron and bishop of our diocese. After 50 years of service, it's time to say:

“Thank You”

"Do This In Memory"

Masses

This Weekend

8th / 9th Feb.

Sat. 7.00 pm (Mountrath)

Sun. 10.00 am (Ballyfin)

Parish

News



Clean Up Laois Week

Ballyfin Community Alert have registered to take part in Clean Up Week - Monday 31st March – Friday 4th April. Collection point for bags of litter is yard behind Deadmans Inn and collection date for Ballyfin is Tuesday 8th April.

Contact Sheila 086 1570145

for bags and gloves.

Mountmellick Drama Festival

Fri. 7th Mch. - Fri. 14th Mch.

Fri. 7th Mch. The Weir - Conor McPherson Upstage, Claremorris

Sat. 8th Mch. The Snapper Roddy Doyle Clann Machua

Sun. 9th Mch. The Blackwater Lightship Colm Tobin Ballyduff Drama Group

Mon. 10th Mch. Rathmines Road. Deirdre Kinahan Thurles Drama Group

Tues. 11th Mch. Skylight David Hare Wexford Drama Group

Wed. 12th Mch The Beacon Nancy Harris Bubclody Kilmishall Drama Group

Thurs. 13th Mch Dancing at Lughnasa Brian Friel Sliabh Aughty Drama Group

Fri. 14th Mch. Class Iseult Golden and David Horan Glenamaddy Players

info@mountmellickdramafestival.ie

Call us for more information: [087-7942994](tel:087-7942994)

Booking eventbrite.ie

Curtain up at 8.00 pm each evening.

Best Wishes to everyone involved

We wish you every success

Some 2025 Diary Dates

St. Brigid's Day Sat. 1st Feb.

Patron Saint of Kildare and Leighlin

Our No. 1 - Ireland's No. 2

Ash Wednesday 5th March

Mass in Mountrath 10.00 am 7.30 pm

Ballyfin 7.30 pm

St. Patrick's Day Mon. 17th March

Ireland's National Saint

Masses The Hollow Ch. 9.00 am

Mountrath 10.00 am

Ballyfin 10.00 am

Thursday 17th April Holy Thursday 7.30 pm

Ministers of Holy Communion Renewal during Mass

Good Fri. 18th April

Liturgy of the Passion 3.00 pm

Stations of the Cross 10.00 am - 7.30 pm

Easter Sunday 20th April

Lent is what we Do.

Trócaire Boxes are available to collect from the Churches from Ash Wednesday onwards... This year, meet Lima, Julio and their family who live in a rural village in Guatemala. Their eldest daughter, Miriam, would like to go to secondary school but with climate change and erratic weather destroying their crops, they have less food to feed their family and can't afford their children's secondary school education.

By cutting out on snacks or some other unnecessary expenditure each day in Lent and placing the money saved into your Trócaire Box, you can help families adapt to climate change and build resilience for their future.

Sunday Scripture Sharing

Lent '25

See [Kandle.ie](https://www.kandle.ie) to access this year's resource for reflecting on the Sunday gospels of Lent, featuring reflections from the late Fr John Cummins as well as prayer resources.

Pioneer Lenten Challenge and Invitation

Pope Francis has invited us this Lent to
"journey in hope together".

A short-term pledge is available via

www.pioneerassociation.org

for parishioners who wish to become
a "pilgrim of hope" for people who are living
under the shadow of addiction.

A very sincere *Thank You*

to you and your family -

for your very generous support of

and continued commitment

to Mountrath and Ballyfin Parish

Funds

And

Mountrath and Ballyfin Parish Lottos

Cemetery Masses

in

Mountrath

Ballyfin

Parishes

Cemetery Masses

2025

Ballyfin Cemetery Sun. 8th June (2nd Sun. June)

Mountrath Cemetery Fri. 27th June (Last Fri. Jun)

Clonenagh Fri. 11th July (2nd Fri. July)

Cemetery on Right - Mountrath to Portlaoise

Clondarrig Wed. 6th Aug. (1st Wed. August)

Boghlone Wed. 3rd Sept. (1st Wed. Sept)

All Cemetery Masses commence at 7.00 pm

Ballyfin NS

Football

Forecasting

Competition

Ballyfin National School Football Forecasting Competition

Round 1, Jan 25th/26th

1st place,

Sean Larkin: 14 points

2nd place,

Greg Kerrigan: 13 points

3rd place,

Niall Westman, John Maher, Michael McNamee: 12 points

Thanks to all participants.

It's not too late to join the fun – sign up by contacting the school

or at <https://forms.gle/BAD6WzZkSD37Bft47>

Ballyfin National School,

Roll Number: 15537E

Ballyfin, Co Laois R32 N920

Ballyfin National School

Football Forecasting Competition

Round 2 1st / 2nd Feb

1st Place

George Lanham, John Farrell: 14 points

2nd Place

Colleen Quinn, Pauric Carroll, Tom Glynn: 13 points

3rd Place

Aiden & Deirdre Heffernan, Anna Rowney, Brendan Quigley, Conor Sweeney, Darren Hanlon, Declan Looby, Greg Kerrigan, Laura Ruane, Mark Gavin, Martina Kelly, Paraic Crone, Patrick Larkin, Stephen McGlynn, Timmy Quillinan, Tom Behan, Tom Finn, Tori Holohan, Vinnie Collins: 12 points

Thanks to all participants. It's not too late to join the fun – sign up by contacting the school or at <https://forms.gle/BAD6WzZkSD37Bft47>

Ballyfin National School

Football Forecasting Competition

Round 3 15th 16th Feb

1st Place:

Colette Duff, Dan Molloy, Dylan Liam Linden, Marc Byrne, Michael McNamee,
Nigel Sweeney, Seán Larkin, Timmy Quillinan:

13 points

2nd Place:

Alison Groves, Anna Rowney, Colin Connolly, Darren Hanlon, John Dowling,
John Farrell, Laura Ruane, Laz Molloy, Michael O'Sullivan, Ollie Cronin,
Patrick and Molly Ryan, Paul Finn, Tommy Doyle,

12 points

3rd Place:

George Lanham, Greg Corcoran, Greg Farrelly, Helen Stack, Jean-Marc Gasche,
John Byrne, John Joe O'Connor, Kieran Cuddy, Mark Gavin, Michelle Fitzpatrick,
Seán Bell, Tom Finn, Tom Glynn, Vinnie Collins, Bernadette Spillane,
Cathal Phelan, Ciaran Linden, Colleen Quinn, Conor Sweeney,
Declan Looby, Diarmuid Farrell, Gary Moore,

11 points.

Ballyfin NS Football Forecasting Competition

Round 4 22nd/23rd Feb

1st place:

John Maher, 11 points

2nd place:

Gerard Reynolds, John Clare, Lianne McGrath,
Pauric Carroll, 10 points

3rd place:

Adrian Molloy, Berna Bennett, Brigid Meade ,
Brigid Bennett, Cora Gorman, Donal Scanlon,
Ger Lowry, Greg Corcoran, Greg Kerrigan,
James Finn, John Farrell , Mark Gavin, Martina
Downey, Martina Kelly, Michael O Sullivan,
Michelle Fitzpatrick, Ollie Ryan, Paul Phelan,
Peter Brady, Tiernan McBride, Tom Behan,
Tom Finn, Tori Holohan, Yvonne Thompson,

9 points

Ballyfin NS Football

Forecasting Competition

Round 5 1st - 2nd March

1st place:

Diarmuid Fennell, Damien Piggot,

14 points

2nd place:

Adrian Molloy, Niall Westman, Ollie Ryan,

13 points

3rd place:

Michelle Fitzpatrick, Pat Swaine,

12 points

Ballyfin NS Football

Forecasting Competition

Round 5 1st – 2nd March

1st place: Diarmuid Fennell, Damien Piggot,

14 points

2nd place: Adrian Molloy, Niall Westman,
Ollie Ryan,

13 points

3rd place: Michelle Fitzpatrick, Pat Swaine,

12 points.

Ballyfin National School

Astroturf Project

Dash to 44 Challenge

See following pages for

Route to our

Dash 44 Challenge

*Your support will be
much appreciated.*

			Arrive	Depart
1	Ballyfin National School	R32 N920 (T)	5.30am	5.45am
<i>Travel time 12 minutes</i>				
2	Rosenallis	R32 Y277	6am	6.10am
<i>Travel time 8 minutes</i>				
3	Clonaslee St Manman's	R32 FA33	6.18am	6.28am
<i>Travel time 16 minutes</i>				
4	Kilcavan	R35 DK73(Hse opposite)	6.44am	6.54am
<i>Travel time 15 minutes</i>				
5	Mountmellick	R32 AN88	7.09am	7.19am
<i>Travel time 5 minutes</i>				
6	The Rock	R32 YV48 (T)	7.24am	7.34
<i>Travel time 11 minutes</i>				
7	Portarlinton	R32 W202	7.45am	7.55am
<i>Travel time 5 minutes</i>				
8	O'Dempsey's, Ballybrittas	R32 DW98	8am	8.10am
<i>Travel time 7 minutes</i>				
9	Courtwood	R32 H6T1	8.17am	8.27am
<i>Travel time 8 minutes</i>				
10	Annanough (Vicarstown)	R32 RX67	8.35am	8.45am
<i>Travel time 12 minutes</i>				
11	Emo	R32 NV30	8.57am	
	20 minute break	(T)	9.07am	9.27am
<i>Travel time 6 minutes</i>				
12	The Heath	R32 HF72	9.33am	9.43am
<i>Travel time 7 minutes</i>				
13	Portlaoise (Rathleague)	R32 Y160	9.50am	10am
<i>Travel time 6 minutes</i>				
14	Clonad	R32 X403	10.06am	10.16am
<i>Travel time 9 minutes</i>				
15	Colt (Raheen)	R32 V085	10.25am	10.35am
<i>Travel time 7 minutes</i>				

1 6	Trumera	R32 K3HP	10.42am	10.52am
<i>Travel time 11 minutes</i>				
17	Shanahoe	R32 HP89 (T)	11.03am	11.13am
<i>Travel time 5 minutes</i>				
18	Abbeyleix, St Lazerian's	R32 H7WR	11.18am	11.28am
<i>Travel time 11 minutes</i>				
19	Ballyroan	R32 WE04	11.38am	11.48am
<i>Travel time 12 minutes</i>				
20	Ratheniska	R32 WR94	12pm	12.10pm
<i>Travel time 6 minutes</i>				
21	Timahoe	R32 A586	12.16pm	12.26pm
<i>Travel time 10 minutes</i>				
22	Stradbally	R32 AE40	12.36pm	
	30 minute break	(T)	12.46pm	1.16pm
<i>Travel time 8 minutes</i>				
23	St Joseph's (Ballintubbert)	R14 YH72 (T)	1.24pm	1.34pm
<i>Travel time 12 minutes</i>				
24	Ballylinan	R14 Y938	1.46pm	1.56pm
<i>Travel time 7 minutes</i>				
25	Barrowhouse	R14 K156	2.03pm	2.13pm
<i>Travel time 12 minutes</i>				
26	Arles Killeen	R93 YF67	2.25pm	2.35pm
<i>Travel time 5 minutes</i>				
27	Arles Kilcruise	R93 Y2R5	2.40pm	2.50pm
<i>Travel time 10 minutes</i>				
28	Graigecullen	R93 X298	3pm	3.10pm
<i>Travel time 8 minutes</i>				
29	Killeshin	R93 EE71 (T)	3.18pm	
	20 minute break		3.28pm	3.48pm
<i>Travel time 11 minutes</i>				
30	Crettyard	R93 N611	3.59pm	4.09pm
<i>Travel time 13 minutes</i>				

31	Spink	R32PW80 (T)	4.22pm	4.32pm
<i>Travel time 3 minutes</i>				
32	Ballypickas	R32 F642	4.35pm	4.45pm
<i>Travel time 4 minutes</i>				
33	Ballinakill	R32 DV78	4.49pm	4.59pm
<i>Travel time 9 minutes</i>				
34	The Harps, Durrow	R32 Y970	5.08pm	5.18pm
<i>Travel time 6 minutes</i>				
35	Clough Ballacolla (Ballacolla)	R32 R8HN	5.24pm	5.34pm
<i>Travel time 12 minutes</i>				
36	Rathdowney	R32 ET63	5.46pm	5.56pm
<i>Travel time 9 minutes</i>				
37	Errill	R32 DX89	6.05pm	6.15pm
<i>Travel time 15 minutes</i>				
38	Kilcotton	R32 R983 (T)	6.30pm	6.40pm
<i>Travel time 11 minutes</i>				
39	Kyle	R32 F6W6	6.51pm	7.01pm
<i>Travel time 6 minutes</i>				
40	Borris in Ossory	R32 WN26 (T)	7.07pm	
	20 minute break		7.17pm	7.37pm
<i>Travel time 7 minutes</i>				
41	Castletown	R32 DP77	7.44pm	7.54pm
<i>Travel time 4 minutes</i>				
42	Mountrath	R32 AE63	7.58pm	8.08pm
<i>Travel time 10 minutes</i>				
43	Camross Village pitch	R32YEF6	8.18pm	8.28pm
<i>Travel time 10 minutes</i>				
44	Slieve Bloom	R32 T990	8.38pm	8.48pm
<i>Travel time 10 minutes</i>				
45	Ballyfin GAA	R32 P642 (T)	8.58pm	
Refreshments in Ballyfin NS after final lap				

Get Well Wishes

We keep and hold 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 at this time.

We wish you a speedy recovery

Bingo

every Monday night

In St. Fintan's Hall at 8pm.

Come along and bring a friend!!



SeniorLine

Would like someone to talk to at this time ?

SeniorLine is Ireland's national telephone service for older people open every day of the year
10am-10pm,

Freephone 1800 80 45 91.

You may feel isolated, alone, bereaved or far from family.

SeniorLine's older volunteers are trained to listen,
to support and refer to other helpful services if necessary.

So don't be alone and lift the phone.

Phone SeniorLine 1800 80 45 91,
No problem too big or too small.

Table Quiz.

Presented by Class of 90 at Bloom HQ.

Thurs. 1st May

8.00 pm Sharp.

€ 10.00 per person. Tables of 4

All proceeds to

- Class of 90 Restoration Project.

Monster Raffle

Trophies for 1st 2nd 3rd

Winners

1st Holy
Communion
(1st Eucharist)
2025

1st Holy Communion Days in 2025

Mass Dates and Times

Gaelscoil Thromaire Sunday 4th May 2025

The Hollow Church - 9.00 am

Barnashrone National School Sunday 4th May 2025

St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin Time 2.00 pm

Scoil Bride, Mountrath.

St. Fintan's Boys School, Mountrath

Sunday 11th May 2025 St. Fintan's Church, Mountrath

Time 11.30 am

Ballyfin National School

Sunday 25th May 2025

St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin Time 2.00 pm

Dates of "Do This in Memory" Masses,
Mountrath and Ballyfin, 2024/25

Preparation Masses for 1st Holy Communion 2025.

"Do This In Memory" Masses

Mountrath

Sat 8th March

Sat. 5th April

Ballyfin

Sun 9th March

Sun. 6th April

1st Holy Communion Preparation - Continued

All candidates preparing to receive 1st Holy Communion in May of next year are required to attend all these Masses with their parents or guardian — family

Ref. Mountrath Parish

If, for whatever reason, you are unable to bring your child to Saturday evening Mass in Mountrath you are most welcome to bring you child to the Sunday morning Mass in Ballyfin Church at 10.00 am on the following morning.

Ref. Ballyfin Parish

If, for whatever reason, you are unable to bring your child to Sunday morning Mass in Ballyfin you are most welcome to bring you child to the Saturday evening Mass in Mountrath Church at 7.00 pm on the previous evening.

Arranging Anniversary Mass or Month's Mind Mass

The traditional way of arranging an Anniversary Mass remembrance was by visiting the Sacristy before or after Mass and making the necessary arrangement with the priest, who wrote the intention into the Anniversaries Diary, there and then.

However, since Covid this practice has changed.

Arrangements for Anniversary Mass remembrances and Month's Mind Masses are, more often than not, now arranged by email, text message, Whatsapp, by phone, among many other ways. Which is great.

On the down-side, it can be quiet difficult to keep track of all these ways. - Sometimes emails can go to folders on the computer other than the main folder and are not seen straight away. The same can apply to text messages and Whatsapp messages. This can cause a problem when I have no knowledge of these emails / messages coming in and are sometimes not detected at the time.

Can I ask you -

if you send me an email, text message or a message on Whatsapp, or any way, other than visiting the Sacristy, requesting an Anniversary Mass remembrance or arrangements for a Month's Mind Mass and don't hear from me or don't see the relevant name / names in the Newsletter,

please give me a call on 087 241 1594

*If you wish to contribute directly through your Bank account
to Parish funds*

Here are our Bank Account details

Ballyfin Parish - (A.I.B. Portlaoise Branch)

Lyster Square, Portlaoise.

Name of Account - Ballyfin Parish Pastoral Council

IBAN - IE44 AIBK 9332 7900 203030

BIC. - AIBKIE2D

Mountrath Parish - Bank Account Details

(Bank of Ireland) (Portlaoise Branch)

Name - Mountrath Parish Current Account -

Account number - 7274 7250

IBAN - IE93 BOFI 9018 2972 7472 50 -

BIC. - BOFIE2D

**If contributing to Parish directly through our bank account please include
your own name as the reference.**

Anniversary Masses

Mountrath Ballyfin Parishes

Sat. 8th to Mon. 17th March

Lord, for your faithful people,

Life is Changed, not ended

Ballyfin Anniversaries

Anniversary and Mass Times

Fri. 7th - Mon. 17th Mch

Fri. 7th Mch.. 5.00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Sat. 8th Mch. 8.00 pm James Horan, Deerpark, 8th Anniv.

Joseph and Kathleen Dowling, Cavansheath,

Sons, Martin and Ollie and Thomas Fitzpatrick

Deceased members of Fitzpatrick Family, Barkmills

Sun. 9th Mch. 10.00 am John Hearn, Hillview. Month's Mind.

Maura Dunne (Nee Dunne) Deerpark, 1st Anniv

Sadie Breen, Croydon Court, 11th Anniv.

David Fitzgerald, Cappinacraigh. 11th Anniv.

Mon. 10th Mch. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification.

Fri. 14th Mch. 5.00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Sat. 15th Mch. 8.00 pm Joe Connolly, Esker. 2nd Anniv.

Alan Price, Templeogue. 7th Anniv.

Sun. 16th Mch. 10.00 am Micheál Conroy, Pallas Little. Month's Mind.

Mon. 17th Mch 10.00 am St. Patrick's Day.

William Bennett. Campclone.

Lord, for your faithful people, life is changed, not ended.

We keep and hold in our Thoughts and Prayers, people who are ill

Mountrath Anniversaries

Mass Times Anniversaries

Mass times as listed below are for Mountrath Church unless otherwise indicated

Sat. 8th - Mon. 17th Mch

Sat. 8th Mch. 7.00 pm "Do This In Memory" Mass

Michael Dunne, Clonard 1st Anniv.

Michael's parents, Martin and Brigid Dunne.

Tom Kelly, Main St.,

Matthew Keenan, Derrylusk, 12th Anniv.

Sun. 9th Mch.. 9.00 am The Hollow Church. 1st Sunday of Lent

Kieran and Anne Cullen (Redcastle)

Agnes Gallagher (London)

11.30 am Betty McCormick, Dublin. Month's Mind.

Kathleen Mc Donald, Kiln Lane. 5th Anniv.

Mary Tobin, Fr. O'Connor Cresc. 11th Anniv.

Jane and Johnny Power.

Tues. 11th Mch. 10.00 am

Wed. 12th Mch. 10.00 am Annie Hill, St. Fintan's Terrace 4th Anniv.

Thur. 13th Mch. 10.00 am

Fri. 14th Mch. 10.00 am Altar List of the Dead.

Mountrath Anniversaries

Mass Times Anniversaries

Sat. 8th - Mon. 17th March

Continued from previous page

Sat. 15th Mch. 7.00 pm

Sun. 16th Mch. 9.00 am **The Hollow Church**

11.30 am Martin Lowry, Lower Sconce. 4th Anniv.

James and Kate Fitzpatrick, Forest

Deceased members of Fitzpatrick Family, Forest.

Mon. 17th Mch. 9.00 am The Hollow Ch. **St. Patrick's Day**

Josephine Grehan, Derrylusk 1st Anniv.

Lord, for your faithful people, life is changed, not ended.

Parish Lottos



Ballyfin Parish Lotto,

Wed 6th March

5 16 17 21

No Jackpot Winner

24 Match 3 's Rec € 42 each

3 Local Winners

Winner - Promoter

Ann Phelan Sheila Dowling

Mgt. Cashin Kathleen Dunne

Frank Ryder Mary Hooban

Jackpot €15,000

Mountrath Parish Lotto

Thurs. 7th March

Numbers Drawn 6 13 21 23

No Jackpot Winner

13 Match 3 Winners

Received € 77.00 each

Next Week's Jackpot € 13,000



A note of thanks

to everyone involved in
Mountrath and Ballyfin Parish Lottos
Organising Committees, Promoters,
Shops and others who facilitate the sale
of Lotto Tickets
and most importantly,
you,

who purchase a Lotto ticket every week.

I extend a very sincere "thank you"
for your continued support and generosity.

Mountrath Ballyfin Lottos

Next Week's



Mountrath € 13,000

Ballyfin € 15,000

Kilkenny Bereavement Support Service

Kilkenny Bereavement Support invites you to an evening with Fr. Jim Cogley, Thursday, 20th February, from 7.00pm to 10.00pm, In Newpark Hotel. Admission is free.

Fr. Jim will present his renowned approach to grief and healing through his use of wooden symbols. Fr. Jim is Parish Priest and Director of Pilgrimage at Our Ladys Island (Wexford) and author of 12 books in the 'Wood You Believe' series and facilitates retreats and seminars on Spirituality, Human Development and Healing in his own unique way.
(Website www.jimcogley.com).

The Kilkenny Bereavement Support Service provides free one to one listening support to people who are bereaved and can be contacted on 086 0670566 website:
www.kilkennybereavementsupport.com .

2023

Parish

Finances

Tax Back Scheme (Ballyfin Parish)

Once again, I want to renew my appreciation to you for the ways you support the Parish and us, the priests of the parish, over the past year. We are deeply grateful.

Donations to Ballyfin Parish of over €250 via the Parish envelopes have the potential to increase your contribution to Parish funds by 31% through participation in the Tax Back Scheme.

"Thank you" to everyone who has joined this scheme - it is very much appreciated.

In 2023, the Tax Rebate scheme augmented our Parish finances by almost € 23,000

If you are not, as yet, part of this scheme and would like more information, please contact me at your convenience. *(Fr. Joe)*

Tax Back Scheme Mountrath Parish

Once again, I want to renew my appreciation to you for the ways you supported the Parish and us, the priests of the parish, over the past year. We are deeply grateful.

Donations to Mountrath Parish of over €250 have the potential to increase your contribution to Parish funds by 31% through participation in the Tax Back Scheme. It is of huge benefit to the Parish if we know the amount parishioners donate and the name of the donors. Hence this year we are sending out numbered boxes to all households in the Parish.

We sent out CHY3 Forms to eligible parishioners (who donated over € 250) for the first time in 2023 and we were able to claim back over € 13,739 for the years 2021 and 2022 . This is of immense benefit to the Parish. Thank you to everyone who has joined this scheme - it is very much appreciated.

If you receive a CHY3 Form later on in the Spring please consider completing the details and returning it . If you would like more information please contact me.

If you are already part of the Tax Back Scheme — *Thank You*

If you are not yet part of the tax back Scheme, I ask you to consider becoming part of it - It is of huge benefit to the Parish

Thank you for your cooperation in this regard.

Ballyfin Parish Statement of Account 2023

Income		Expenses	
Basket Collection	€16,305	Pastoral Programmes	€1,720
Envelope Collection	€25,986	Insurance	€5,775
Shrine Income	€876	Security	€273
Rental Income	€5,800	Light/Heat	€17,570
Fundraising	€3,141	Cleaning	€264
Donations	€1,050	Rates/Water/Waste	€422
Tax Refunds/Rebate	€22,807	Maintenance/Repairs	€21,532
Church Bookings	€460	Diocesan Levy	€6,576
Lotto Income	€13,898	Diocesan Retirement Fund	€1,000
Other Income	<u>€ 2,421</u>	Printing/Missalettes	€1,870
Total:	€ 92,744	Altar/Shrine	€3,657
		Telephone/Broadband	€1,379
		Computer/servicing	€2,750
		Accountancy Fees	€1,000
		Youth/Community	€640
		Bank Charges	€863
		Donations	€200
		Loan Interest	<u>€485</u>
		Total:	€67,976

A very sincere "Thank You" for your continuous and generous support of Ballyfin Parish

Mountrath Parish Statement of Account 2023

Income		Expenses	
Basket Collection	€ 35,932.00	Pastoral Programmes	€ 721.00
Envelope Collection	€ 33,378.00	Insurance	€ 38,065.00
Shrine Income	€ 11,590.00	Security	€ 503.00
Rental Income	€ 30,890.00	Light/Heat	€ 23,349.00
Fundraising	€ 3,225 .00	Cleaning	€ 200.00
Donations	€ 71,400.00	Rates/Water/Waste	€ 579.00
Tax Refunds/Rebate	€ 3,121 .00	Maintenance/Repairs	€ 79,602.00
Church Bookings	€ 500.00	Diocesan Levy	€ 11,006.00
Lotto Income	€ 31,631.00	Loan Interest	€ 3.00
Office	€ 1,899 .00	Bank Charges	€ 926.00
Deposit Interest	€ 36.00	Diocesan Retire't Fund	€ 1,000 00
Other Income	€ 2,984 .00	Printing/Missalettes	€ 9,233.00
		Altar/Shrine	€ 10,616.00
Total:	€ 226,586.00	Telephone/Broadband	€ 600.00
		Computer/servicing	€ 5,051.00
		Accountancy Fees	€ 540.00
		Youth/Community	€ 260.00
		Hire of Equipment	€ 1,141.00
		Music/Choir	€ 250.00
		Legal/Professional	€ 828.00
		Donations	€ 1,700.00
		Total:	€ 186,173.00

A very sincere "Thank You" for your continuous and generous

Ballyfin Parish Third Party Collections 2024

Retired Priests € 1,525.00

Peter's Pence € 852.00

World Mission € 1,123.00

Trocaire € 2,462.96

Collection for Gaza (Good Friday) € 500.00

Total € 6462.96

I wish to thank you for your support of the work of Trocaire, the Missions, Peter's Pence Collection and the Retired Priests Fund throughout the year .

Mountrath Parish Statement of Account 2023

Income		Expenses	
Basket Collection	€ 35,932.00	Pastoral Programmes	€ 721.00
Envelope Collection	€ 33,378.00	Insurance	€ 38,065.00
Shrine Income	€ 11,590.00	Security	€ 503.00
Rental Income	€ 30,890.00	Light/Heat	€ 23,349.00
Fundraising	€ 3,225.00	Cleaning	€ 200.00
Donations	€ 71,400.00	Rates/Water/Waste	€ 579.00
Tax Refunds/Rebate	€ 3,121.00	Maintenance/Repairs	€ 79,602.00
Church Bookings	€ 500.00	Diocesan Levy	€ 11,006.00
Lotto Income	€ 31,631.00	Loan Interest	€ 3.00
Office	€ 1,899.00	Bank Charges	€ 926.00
Deposit Interest	€ 36.00	Diocesan Retire't Fund	€ 1,000.00
Other Income	€ 2,984.00	Printing/Missalettes	€ 9,233.00
Total:	€ 226,586.00	Altar/Shrine	€ 10,616.00
		Telephone/Broadband	€ 600.00
		Computer/servicing	€ 5,051.00
		Accountancy Fees	€ 540.00
		Youth/Community	€ 260.00
		Hire of Equipment	€ 1,141.00
		Music/Choir	€ 250.00
		Legal/Professional	€ 828.00
		Donations	€ 1,700.00
		Total:	€ 186,173.00

A very sincere "Thank You" for your continuous and generous

Mountrath Parish

Third Party Collections 2024

Retired Priests € 530.00

Peter's Pence € 550.00

World Mission € 615.00

Trocaire € 2, 615.00

Collection for Gaza (Good Friday) € 390.00

Total € 4,700.00

I wish to thank you for your support of the work of Trocaire, the Missions, Peter's Pence Collection and the Retired Priests Fund throughout the year .

Events

at

Bloom HQ

Table Quiz

Presented by Class of 90 at Bloom HQ.

Thurs. 1st May

8.00 pm Sharp.

€ 10.00 per person.

Tables of 4

All proceeds to
Class of 90 Restoration Project.

Monster Raffle

Trophies for

1st 2nd 3rd

Winners

February 2025 TIMETABLE

Monday

10 am Mature Movers
11 am School Program
2 pm Golden years club
7 pm Mixed Circuit Training
7 pm Karate*

Tuesday

10 am TRX
10 am Mother & Baby class*
11 am Activator Poles Inc
1 pm Lunchtime HITT
6 pm Kids Zumba*
6.15 pm Beginner TRX*
7 pm Advanced TRX

Wednesday

11 am Mature Movers
7 pm Mixed Circuit Training

Thursday

9 am TRX
11 am Seated Exercise Inc.
1 pm Lunchtime HITT
6.15 pm Beginner TRX*
7 pm Advanced TRX
7 pm Karate*
8 pm Bowls*

Friday

5.30 pm Kickboxing (3-7)*
6.30 pm Kickboxing (8-12)*
7.30 pm Kickboxing (13+)*

Saturday

11.30 am Pilates*

PAYG
and
Members
Always
Welcome

*These Classes
are not included
in the
Membership fee

For more info contact
Ruth on 089 2647761

Classes will be held in BloomHQ

Spacious, modern rooms Wifi

Sound proofed areas Free parking

Music stands And much more...



**MUSIC
TEACHERS
WANTED!**

Teachers on ALL instruments accepted

Contact Lucy on 087 259 7895

MEETING ROOMS

HOT DESKS

SERVICED OFFICES

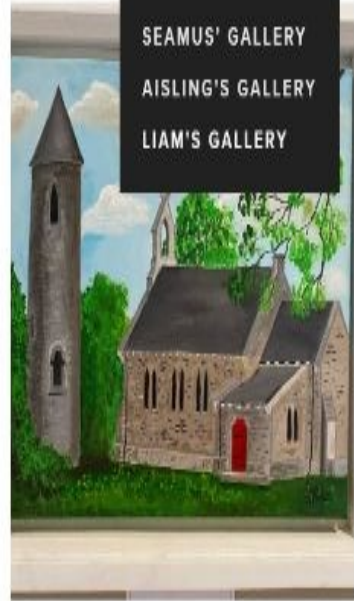
BOOK A DESK

BILLY'S GALLERY

SEAMUS' GALLERY

AISLING'S GALLERY

LIAM'S GALLERY



Canadian Rockies

Timahoe Church and Tower

ABOUT US

SPACES AND SHOP

CONTACT US

**Just a quick reminder,
you can explore the
paintings we have for
sale on our website!**

www.bloomhq.ie

MEETING ROOMS

HOT DESKS

SERVICED OFFICES

BOOK A DESK

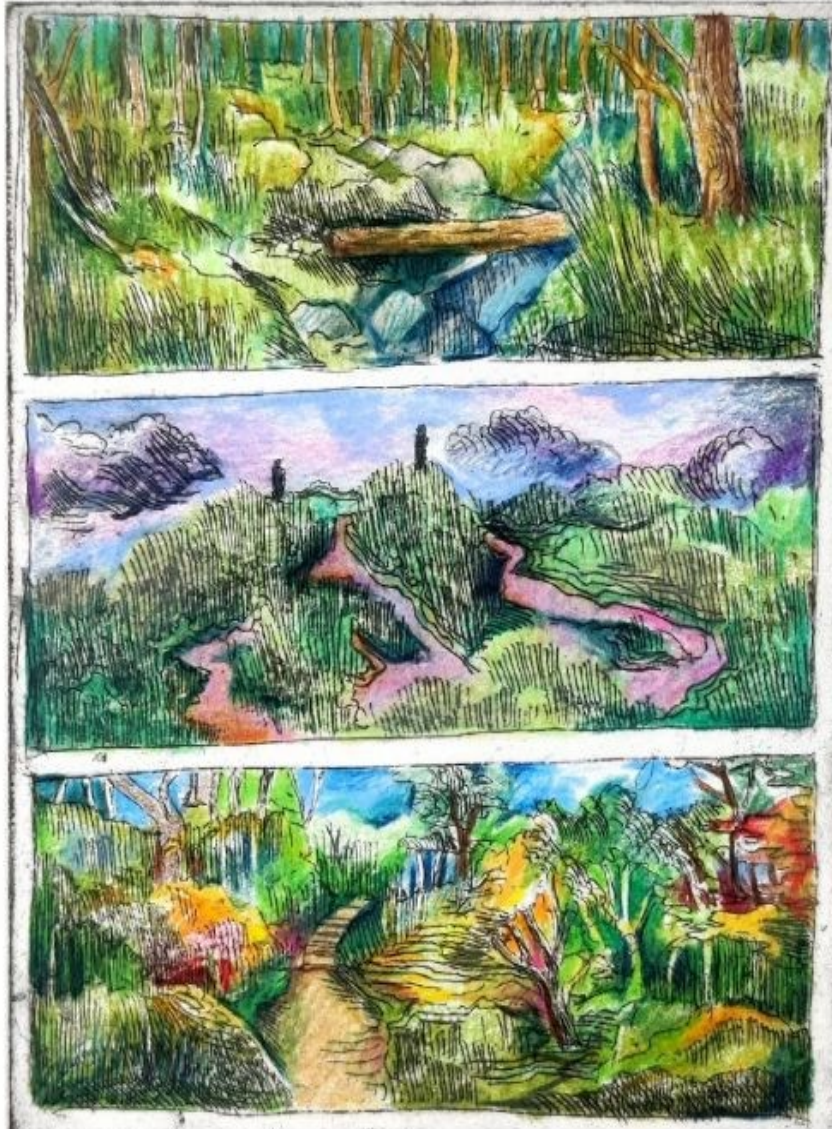
BILLY'S GALLERY

SEAMUS' GALLERY

AISLING'S GALLERY

LIAM'S GALLERY

NADIA RICE ARTIST Exhibition Opening



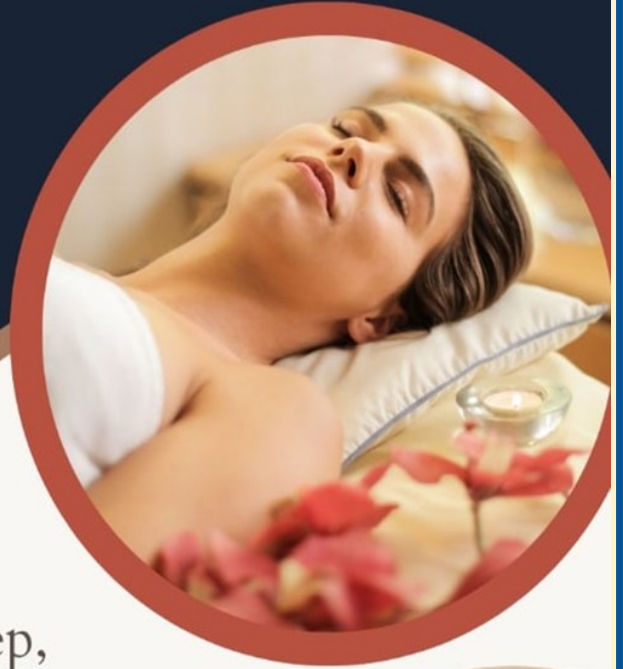
for the month of March, launching on
7pm, Friday 28th February

📍 Gallery of Divine Inspiration,
BloomHQ, Unit 1, Brigidine Convent,
Patrick Street, Mountrath, Laois,
Ireland, R32 DT9F

All are warmly invited to the opening of an
exhibition by Laois-born artist Nadia Rice.
The exhibition features a collection of
drawings and prints celebrating the beauty of
the Irish landscape and flora.

Revive Swedish Massage

— — — — —
REVIVE SWEDISH MASSAGE
RELAX AND REVIVE TODAY



Swedish Massage is gentle yet deep, it is used to aid relaxation, relieve tension energize the body and improve overall health.

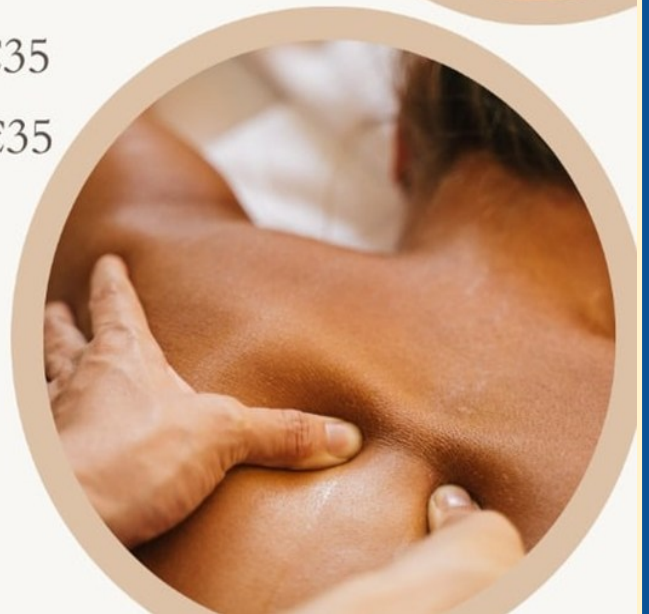
Our Services

- Full Body Massage 1 hour €50
- Upper Body Massage 45 minutes €35
- Lower Body Massage 45 minutes €35

 085 200 2497

 Bloomhq, Mountrath, R32 DC58

[Book Your Appointment](#)





White-Horse

Adults

INDOOR BOWLS

Every Thursday (8pm)
St Philomena's Hall -Bloom HQ

Beginners Very welcome
Come along and give it a try!
Runners or Flat sole shoes are all you need!



Feeling tired sitting at your desk all day?

LUNCHTIME HIIT WORKOUT



Tuesdays and Thursday @1.00pm

Contact Ruth 089 264 7761

Bloomhq, Patrick St, Mountrath, R32DT9F



LAOIS SPORTS PARTNERSHIP
COMHAR SPÓIRT NA LAOISE



ciste na
gcuntas díomhaoin
the dormant
accounts fund



SPÓRT ÉIREANN
SPORT IRELAND

French Grinds with native speaker



Games, conversation practice, writing, reading and help with homework



Available times slots :

- 5pm to 6pm Monday to Thursday
- 1pm to 2pm Friday

Group classes in Bloom HQ (min. 3 students) or one on one in student's home (Mountrath town centre)



Fees:

Group classes: 20€/hour
Private classes: 25€/hour

✉ Email:

youandfrench@gmail.com



Phone:

+353 89 491 3931
Myriam Schultz

OFFICES TO RENT IN LAOIS



FREE WIFI



SPACIOUS PARKING



CANTEEN ACCESS



089 2722885



www.bloomhq.ie



manager@bloomhq.ie



Mountrath Health and Fitness Academy



JOIN NOW

Ruth- 086 326 2570



www.bloomhq.ie



R32 DT9F, Patrick St.
Mountrath, Co.Laois



Class of 90 Presents

At Bloom HQ

Table Quiz

Thurs. 1st May

Starts at 8.30 pm

€ 10.00 per person

Tables of 4

All proceeds to Class of 90

Restoration Project

Looking for an office space to rent in Laois?



CONTACT 089 2722885 or

manager@bloomhq.ie

Visit our website www.bloomhq.ie

UNISLIM

Join Today!

Bloom Hq

Wednesdays 7-8pm

Class Talk 8pm

New members
always welcome!

9 stone
weight
loss



Mairéad McCaul
Unislim Member

Join Unislim for €25
Pay €12 weekly fee thereafter
For more info visit unislim.com



unislim.com | 1800 603020

Music Teachers wanted



for Mountrath Music School

***soundproof rooms**

***free parking**

***waiting area for parents**



contact Lucy 087 259 7895

LOOKING FOR AN
OFFICE TO RENT
IN LAOIS?

**FULLY SERVICED
OFFICES
FREE PARKING
CANTEEN
POSTAL ADDRESS
PHOTOCOPYING**

**CONTACT 089 272 2885
OR
MANAGER@BLOOMHQ.IE**



Bloomhq, Patrick St, Mountrath R32 DC58



CLASS OF 1990 PRESENTS

Bloom HQ
Mountrath

QUIZ

THURSDAY 1ST MAY
STARTS @8PM SHARP



SPECIAL QUIZ WITH TROPHIES FOR 1ST, 2ND & 3RD WINNERS.

€10 per person - Table of 4
All proceeds go to the
Class of 1990 Restoration Project

Monster raffle on the night !!



Music Classes in Mountrath



Trad Music

Saturdays from 11 am 6 + years

€ 8 for 30 min group class

Eabha 083 856 6083



Piano

Sunday mornings 5+ years

€20 per 30 min lesson

Heather 083 054 7772



LOOKING FOR AN
OFFICE TO RENT
IN LAOIS?

**FULLY SERVICED
OFFICES
FREE PARKING
CANTEEN
POSTAL ADDRESS
PHOTOCOPYING**

**CONTACT 089 272 2885
OR
MANAGER@BLOOMHQ.IE**



Bloomhq, Patrick St, Mountrath R32 DC58



Music Classes in Mountrath



Violin

Thursdays 3-30 pm on from 3 years -adult

€ 20 for 30 min individual lesson

Irene 089 981 8065



Trad Music

Saturdays from 11 am 6 + years

€ 8 for 30 min group class

Eabha 083 856 6083



Piano

Sunday mornings 5+ years

€20 per 30 min lesson

Heather 083 054 7772





**Brigidine Convent,
Patrick st,
Mountrath,
R32 DC58**

State of the Art Conference Centre with 7M Screen, projector, Full AudioVisual, Gigabyte Broadband





Meeting Room

"Rachel's Room"

Brigidine Convent,
Patrick Street,
Mountrath

- Broadband Wifi
- Ample free parking
- Canteen

Contact
manager@bloomhq.ie
089 2722885

LOOKING FOR AN
OFFICE TO RENT
IN LAOIS?

RENT FOR AN HOUR/A
DAY/WEEKLY

CONTACT 089 272 2885 OR
MANAGER@BLOOMHQ.IE



Music Classes in Mountrath



Violin

Thursdays 3-30 pm on from 3 years -adult

€ 20 for 30 min individual lesson

Irene 089 981 8065



Trad Music

Saturdays from 11 am 6 + years

€ 8 for 30 min group class

Eabha 083 856 6083



Piano

Sunday mornings 5+ years

€20 per 30 min lesson

Heather 083 054 7772





**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

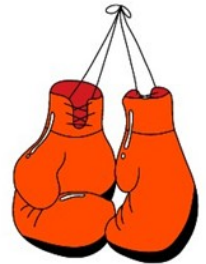
Fridays 5.30 pm 3-7 years, €7

Kickboxing

6.30 pm 8-12 years, €7

First trial class free

Shane: 086 339 9287



Brazilian

8-12 years,

Wednesdays 7-8 pm & Saturdays 10-11 am

Jiu-jitsu*

€ 35 per month or €5 per class

Jamie; 085 200 2497



Art & Craft

Wednesdays 5-6 pm, 7-12 years

€ 30 for block of 6 classes

Rhiannon: 089 211 5183

Violin



Thursdays 3.30 pm on. From 3 years - adult

€20 for 30 min individual lesson

Irene: 089 981 8065



Trad Music

Saturdays from 11 am, 6+ years

€8 for 30 mins group classes

Eabha 083 8566083



Piano

Sunday mornings €20 for 30 min individual

lesson Heather 083 054 7772

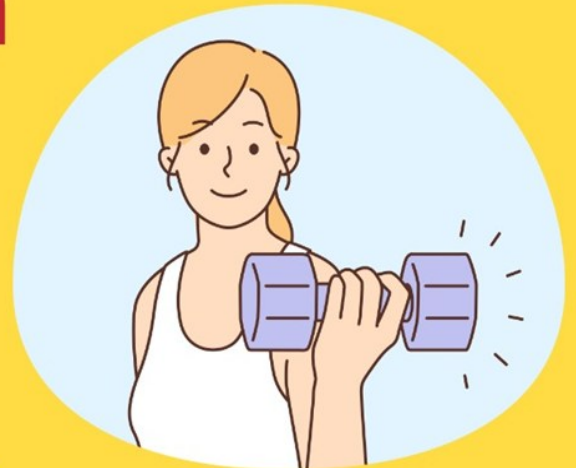
to book talk to the relevant teacher



Saturday Morning Circuit Training



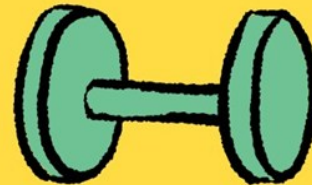
9-10 am



€ 7 PAYG

or

part of your monthly
membership



contact 086 3262 570

**The Old Convent,
Patrick St,
Mountrath, R32 DC58**



Mountrath Music Rooms

Lessons in BloomHQ



Violin Lessons

by Irene Ramos

089 9818065

iramos.violinstudio@gmail.com

Thursdays



Irish Traditional Music, Whistle,
Flute, Concertina, Accordion, Fiddle,
Banjo and Mandolin

Cliona & Eabha Dowling McDonald

083 8566083

Saturdays



Piano Lessons

by Heather Gavigan 083 054 7772

Sundays



Contact the relevant teacher
for times, prices etc

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

€5 per class for under 18's
€7 per class for Adults
or included in Monthly Membership

Wednesdays

Kids 7-8 pm

Teens /Adults 8-9 pm

Saturdays

Kids 10- 11 am

Teens /Adults 11 am -12 pm

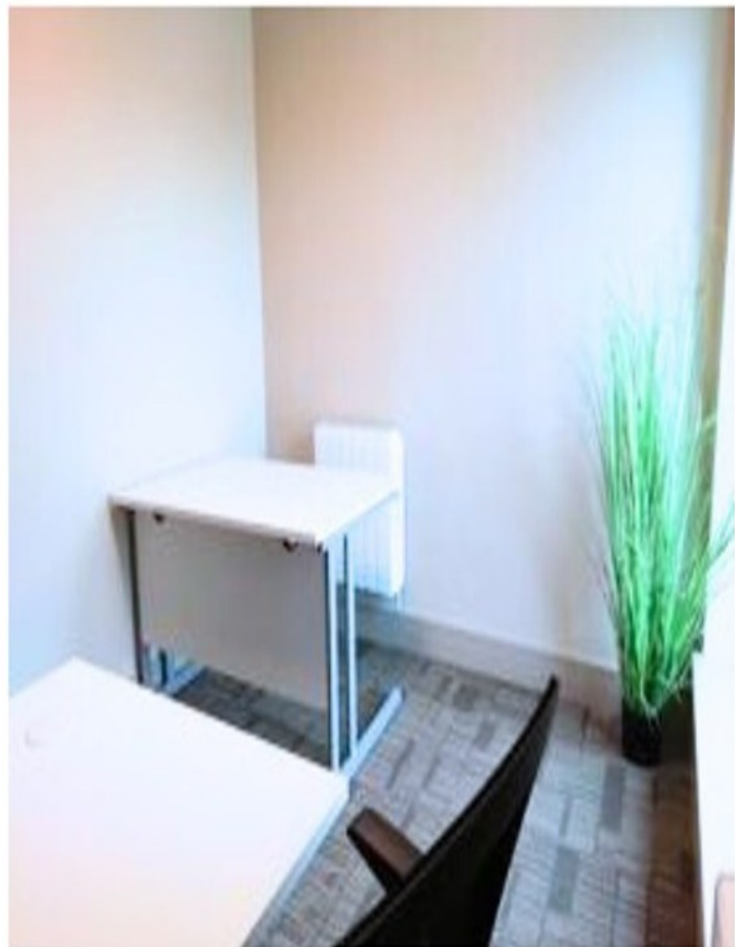
contact Jamie 085 200 2497



Brigidine Convent, Patrick St, Mountrath, R32 DC58



1 - 2 person offices for rent in our Social Enterprise centre in Mountrath



Contact 0892722885 manager@bloomhq.ie



Mountrath Music Rooms



**Contact 089 272 2885
or 057 930 0036**

***Soundproof rooms**

***From € 15 per hour**

***Perfect for music lessons, counselling or grinds**

***free easy car park**

***Waiting space**

Brigidine Convent,
Patrick St,
Mountrath R32 DT9F



Class of 90 Presents

At Bloom HQ

Table Quiz

Thurs. 1st May

Starts at 8.30 pm

€ 10.00 per person

Tables of 4

All proceeds to Class of 90

Restoration Project

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



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



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

FULLY QUALIFIED SUZUKI TEACHER & ABRSM DIPLOMA IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE

FOR RATES AND/OR MORE
INFO PLEASE CONTACT ME

Phone: 0773222323

Email: iramos.violinstudio@gmail.com

 Irene Ramos
VIOLIN STUDIO



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





Irish Traditional
MUSIC
LESSONS

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



Clióna and Éabha
Dowling McDonald

More Information :

Contact 083
8566083

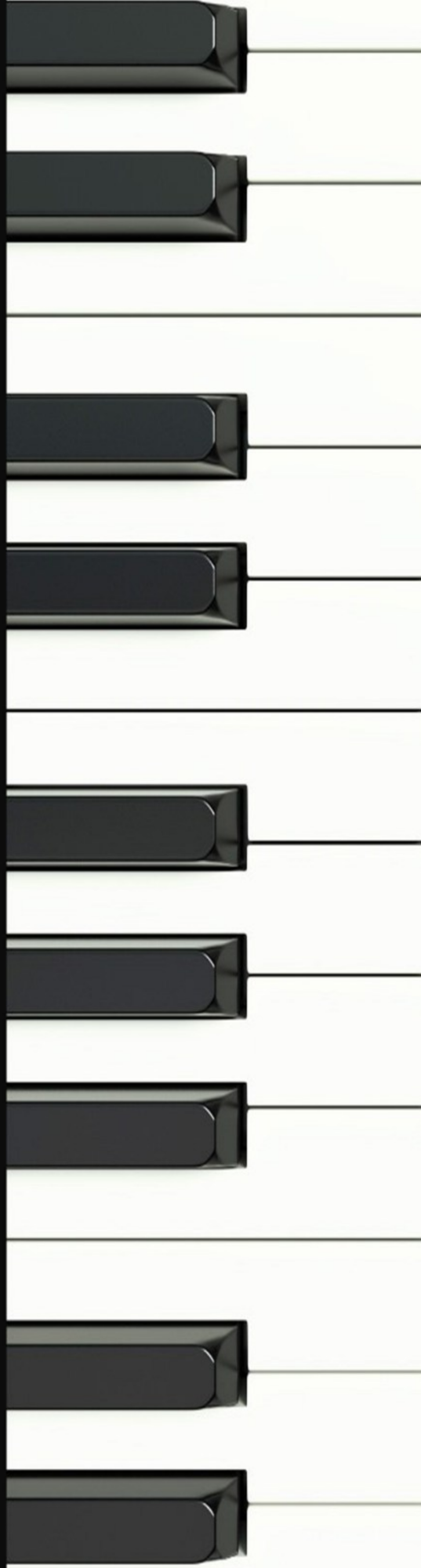


PIANO TEACHER WANTED



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 !



Scouts is a way to

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

Friday nights

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

7:00 till 8:30

€5 pp

or

€4 per sibling



Other

News

Lovely LAOIS HOMECOMING FESTIVAL

“This is a call out to all our sports clubs in Laois to organize an event as part of the **Lovely Laois Homecoming Festival** on the weekend of September 5th, 6th and 7th”



Remember The Past

Organise a re-union event for past players, members and supporters from at home and abroad.

Return, Reconnect, Reunite. Regale past games and memories. Peruse old photographs and video clips. Enjoy each others company again.

Glimpse The Future

Perhaps combine the re-union event with juvenile games and activities. Let our past friends see our future stars in action.

Enjoy The Present

Put the icing on the cake by inviting local musicians, dancers and storytellers to join the festivities entertaining young and old.

You can use part or all of the above format or feel free to come up with other activities of your own. Should you organize an event please let us know so that we can include you in our Calendar of Events.

Laois Sports Partnership Office • Telephone: 0578671248


BURDOCHAS PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

Lovely LAOIS



HOMECOMING FESTIVAL

LITERARY EVENT

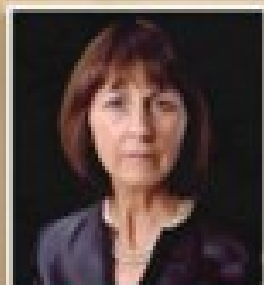
PRESTON HOUSE, ABBEYLEIX  *Preston House*
SATURDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2025



11AM-1PM

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

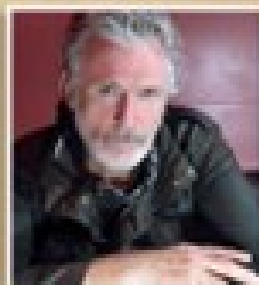
with Helen Moorhouse
Mountmellick native,
author of five
published novels and
Creative Writing Tutor,
Helen Moorhouse
hosts *First Steps
To Your Story* for
writers starting their
first novel.



2PM-4PM

PLAYWRIGHT WORKSHOP

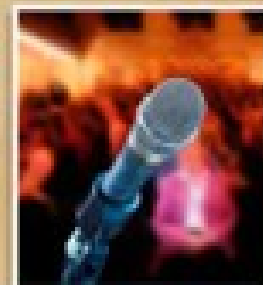
with Frances Harney
Prolific Ballyfin
playwright, author
and drama teacher,
Frances Harney, will
take aspiring writers
through techniques
for writing for the
stage.



4PM-5PM

AN AUDIENCE WITH PATRICK BERGIN

Distinguished Hollywood
actor whose screen
credits include 'Sleeping
With The Enemy' 'Robin
Hood' and 'Patriot Games';
and TV roles in 'Red Rock'
and 'Eastenders'; singer
and poet, Patrick Bergin
will read from his
extensive creative output
in an intimate audience.
An exclusive event not to
be missed!



5PM-6PM

OPEN MIC

Writers of all
persuasions, ages and
experience are invited
to share their stories
and poems in a five
minute slot before an
audience. Local poet
Arthur Broomfield and
storytellers Johnny
Thompson and Pat
Critchley will
participate - all
are welcome!

Please Note: Tickets for the Literary Event are FREE
However, you must book your place through [Eventbrite.ie](https://www.eventbrite.ie) (Places are limited)



BUIOCHAS PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

Lovely LAOIS

HOMECOMING FESTIVAL

GALA DINNER

THE MIDLANDS PARK HOTEL, PORTLAOISE
SATURDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2025

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- 4 Course Dinner
- Official Presentation to a well known Laois Celebrity
- Official Presentation to 4 unsung hero's from Lovely Laois
- Folk & Ballads by The Musketeers (Mick Foster, Billy Morrissey & TR Dallas)
- Dancing to Trudi Lalor, Shawn Cuddy & Damien Bowe

Doors Open 7pm
Dinner served
@ 8pm sharp

TICKETS
€59



Special Kildare/Carlow Pilgrimage
(Limited availability)
to Fatima EX Dublin Easter 2025

Flying with TAP Airlines

Also 13th June 2025 for Feast of Saint Anthony,

13th October 2025 for Miracle of Sun

Contact James Treacy 061921470

jamestreacyphotography@gmail.com

Payment can be made by instalments

Daily Itinerary

Day 1 - Holy Thursday (Apr 17th)

- Depart Dublin Airport at 05.35 a.m. and arrive into Lisbon Airport at 08.35a.m.
- On arrival transfer to Fatima where we will check into our hotel.
- Lunch will be provided at the hotel.
- Free time for optional activities.
- Dinner at Hotel.
- This evening we will attend Holy Thursday Mass.

Day 2 - Good Friday (Apr 18th)

- Following breakfast at our hotel we will walk the Way of the Cross.
- Lunch in Hotel.
- This afternoon, we will have a guided tour of the Sanctuary area visiting, the Capelhina, Rosary Basilica, the graves of the three children.

Day 3 - Holy Saturday (Apr 19th)

- This morning after breakfast we will visit the Parish Church, Valinhos and Aljustrel.
- Lunch in hotel.
- Following dinner we will attend the Vigil Mass in the Sanctuary.

Day 4 - Easter Sunday (Apr 20th)

- Following breakfast, we will attend the Rosary and international Mass in the Sanctuary on this Easter Sunday morning.
- Lunch in hotel.
- Afternoon is free for optional activities.
- Dinner in Hotel.

Day 5 - Easter Monday (Apr 21st)

- After breakfast, we will depart Fatima on our optional tour of Nazare & Bathala.
- A packed lunch will be provided.
- For those staying in Fatima, lunch will be provided in the hotel.
- Dinner and overnight.

Day 6 - Tuesday (Apr 22nd)

- We bid farewell to Fatima and make our way to Lisbon Airport.
- Enroute, we will have a short visit to Santarem and visit the Church of The Holy Miracle. We will have time for private prayer in this special place.
- We will then continue onto Lisbon Airport.
- Our flight departs Lisbon at 3.20pm and arrives into Dublin Airport at 6.10pm.





FATIMA PILGRIMAGE

**Barter's
Travelnet**

17th - 22nd APR '25

Group Leader: James Treacy

Escorted Tour

FATIMA where the Blessed Virgin appeared to the three children, Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta in 1917 is now one of the greatest Marian Shrines in the world.

VISITING: Chapel of the Apparitions - The Church of the Holy Trinity - Guided tour of the Sanctuary - Hungarian Stations of the Cross - Aljustrel - Partake in the Easter Celebrations

INCLUDES:

- Return flights ex Dublin to Lisbon
- 23kg checked in luggage per person
- Coaching as per the itinerary
- 5 nights full board basis staying at 3* Santo Amaro Hotel
- Religious itinerary with a guided tour of the Sanctuary area and excursion to Aljustrel
- Taxes and Charges

EXTRAS:

- Single room supplement: €200.00 for duration (first come first served basis)
- Travel Insurance*: €50 per person up to 79 years of age and €75 per person between 80 & 94 years of age
- Items of personal nature.
- Additional meals not listed.
- Valid Passports are required.
- Optional Day Trip - prices will be given locally by our guide.

**Any person taking our travel insurance must get a form signed by their GP at time of booking and this form must be taken to Fatima with you.*

HOTEL SANTA AMARO:

Located a 5-minute walk from the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Fatima, Hotel Santo Amaro is the place where comfort and well-being are privileged. Hotel Santo Amaro offers you services of the highest quality so that you can enjoy your stay to the fullest. Our two excellent restaurants, where you can taste the typical cuisine of the region, are worthy of special mention. The hotel also has a chapel, two bars, and a souvenir shop. All guests have access to free wifi.

Cost Per Person

€859pp sharing

Non-refundable €300 deposit plus insurance premium required at time of booking to secure place



For further information please contact:

Group Leader James Treacy : Tel 061-921470 or Mob 086-0572216

Barter's Travelnet : 021 485 1700 or kcallaghan@travelnet.ie

BUIOCHAS PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

Lovely LAOIS



HOMECOMING FESTIVAL

LITERARY EVENT

PRESTON HOUSE, ABBEYLEIX  *Preston House*
SATURDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2025



11AM-1PM

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

with Helen Moorhouse
Mountmellick native,
author of five
published novels and
Creative Writing Tutor,
Helen Moorhouse
hosts *First Steps
To Your Story* for
writers starting their
first novel.



2PM-4PM

PLAYWRIGHT WORKSHOP

with Frances Harney
Prolific Ballyfin
playwright, author
and drama teacher,
Frances Harney, will
take aspiring writers
through techniques
for writing for the
stage.



4PM-5PM

AN AUDIENCE WITH PATRICK BERGIN

Distinguished Hollywood
actor whose screen
credits include 'Sleeping
With The Enemy' 'Robin
Hood' and 'Patriot Games';
and TV roles in 'Red Rock'
and 'Eastenders'; singer
and poet, Patrick Bergin
will read from his
extensive creative output
in an intimate audience.
An exclusive event not to
be missed!



5PM-6PM

OPEN MIC

Writers of all
persuasions, ages and
experience are invited
to share their stories
and poems in a five
minute slot before an
audience. Local poet
Arthur Broomfield and
storytellers Johnny
Thompson and Pat
Critchley will
participate - all
are welcome!

Please Note: Tickets for the Literary Event are FREE
However, you must book your place through [Eventbrite.ie](https://www.eventbrite.ie) (Places are limited)



09:29



Lovely Laois Homecomi...



Trudi Lalor



 Admin 21h · 

FREE Family Fun Day on Saturday 6th September at The Old Fort in Portlaoise. 4 Hours of entertainment featuring ABBA Gold - ABBA Tribute Band. There will also be a DISCO and side shows .

The Old Fort is a beautiful venue in Portlaoise town (behind the new Library) and is the ideal location for this family fun day event . We will also have FREE side shows and face painting . So save the date and ALL are welcome . Family tickets will be available through Eventbrite and are FREE of charge . The link to your free family tickets will be made available here in the coming weeks

ABBA

GOLD

THE SHOW



PERFORMING THE

GREATEST HITS