

# Mountrath Ballyfin

## Online Newsletter

Sat. 14th to Sun. 15th March 2026



Lá Fhéile Pádraig



# St. Patrick's Breastplate

Christ with me,

Christ before me,

Christ behind me,

Christ in me,

Christ beneath me,

Christ above me,

Christ on my right,

Christ on my left,

Christ when I lie down,

Christ when I sit down,

Christ when I arise,

Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,

Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,

Christ in every eye that sees me,

Christ in every ear that hears me.

# St. Patrick's Prayer

May the Strength of God pilot us.

May the Power of God preserve us.

May the Wisdom of God instruct us.

May the Hand of God protect us.

May the Way of God direct us.

May the Shield of God defend us.

May the Host of God guard us

Against the snares of the evil ones,

Against temptations of the world.

May Christ be with us! May Christ be before us!

May Christ be in us, Christ be over all!

May Thy Salvation, Lord, Always be ours,

This day, O Lord, and evermore, Amen

# Mountrath Ballyfin Online Newsletter

(Online from Early 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](http://www.mountrathparish.ie)

or [www.ballyfinparish.ie](http://www.ballyfinparish.ie)

Email [jmbrophy2@gmail.com](mailto:jmbrophy2@gmail.com)

**Name of Parish App.**

*Mountrath and Ballyfin Parishes*

# Daffodil Day Fri. 20th March

Daffodil Day, in aid of Irish Cancer Society, is on Fri. 22<sup>nd</sup> March. All contributions received on Daffodil Day each year, go towards many of the services provided by Irish Cancer Society, including Cancer Night Nurses who provide in-home end of life care, the volunteer driver service which helps people receiving treatment to get to and from Hospital, financial help to families of children receiving treatment for cancer,

Freephone call service which provides information on a range of topics including cancer types, treatments, side effects and support for people living with cancer.

If you feel that you would be able to help out on Mountrath Daffodil Day your support will be much appreciated.

If you feel you can help out on the day please contact any one of the Daffodil Day Team.



*Happy  
St. Patrick's  
Day*

**Tues. 17th March  
St. Patrick's Day.**

Mountrath - Ballyfin,  
Mountmellick,  
Lourdes Pilgrimage '26

Spiritual Director Fr. Micheàl Murphy  
(P.P. Mountmellick)

20<sup>th</sup> July - 7 Nights Hotel La Solitude  
€ 1,120.00 per person sharing,

There are still some places available on this Pilgrimage.

For more information

Contact Ann 087-418 6192.

# Confirmation Catechesis

## Next Weekend

Sat. 21<sup>st</sup> March after 7.00 pm Mass

In Mountrath Church

Sun. 22<sup>nd</sup> March after 10.00 am Mass

(Ballyfin Church)

For Confirmation Candidates

and their parents

in

Mountrath and Ballyfin Parishes.

# Chrism Mass

Cathedral of the Assumption,  
Carlow.

Mon. 30<sup>th</sup> March 7.30 pm

*All are most Welcome*

# Joe Dunne, Rossmore. ANP R.I.P.

(Nurse in Emergency Dept. MRHP)

We pray for Joe who died suddenly on Mon. 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Joe's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin on Sun. 8<sup>th</sup> March followed by burial in Ballyfin Cemetery. We extend sympathy to Helen, Chloe, Joe and Conor, brother Eamon (Sammy), sisters Anne, Chris and Theresa and their families, nieces and nephews, Aunt Sheila and their families, cousins and his wide circle of friends and nursing colleagues.

Countless tributes, online and in print have been paid to Joe since his tragic and untimely death on Mon. 2<sup>nd</sup> - I quote from Carmel Hayes' fine piece in this week's Laois Nationalist - "A Portlaoise Hospital nurse who had an extraordinary impact on patients, colleagues and the wider community was laid to rest on Sunday last, one week after a tragic accident claimed his life. Even in death, Joe continued to help others as his organs were donated to four people who were on the organ donation list" -

# Joe Dunne, Rossmore. ANP R.I.P.

A note of thanks to everyone involved in Joe's Funeral Mass on Sunday afternoon last. Principal, staff and pupils of Ballyfin National School, Ballyfin G.A. A. and Ladies G.A.A. who formed guards of honour before and after Joe's Funeral Mass. All who helped with parking and stewarding throughout the event. Br. Matthew, Tommy Ferns who provided P.A. at the Church and Cemetery. Seamus Burke and team. Thanks to everyone for their involvement, cooperation and goodwill. Thanks to Elaine and Deirdre for their beautiful music and song. To Fr. David Vard, who was main celebrant at Joe's Funeral Mass and thanks to the other priests who concelebrated. (Fr. Pat, Fr. Seán and Rev. John (Deacon) It is hard not to be overwhelmed by the many hundreds of beautiful tributes paid to Joe on "rip.ie" and on other social media platforms. – Joe, just a beautiful person, who touched the hearts of so many through your short life as husband, father, brother, nurse, kind friend to so many and loved by all, young and old. Please God, these many beautiful tributes will be a meaningful and worthwhile source of comfort to your family, friends and colleagues at this very difficult time. I finish my little tribute to Joe with a quote (carried in this week's Laois Nationalist) by Emma Fogarty, former colleague at MRHT Emergency Dept. "A light has gone out in the nursing community. Joe was a pleasure to work alongside. He was the type of person every nurse should strive to be"

*May Joe rest in the peace of Christ.*

## Safeguarding Children Parish Reps

Ballyfin Triona O'Rourke and Peter Byrne

Mountrath Caroline Moore Pacelli Walsh

### Deputy Diocesan Liaison

Michelle Hughes c/o Bishop's House,

Dublin Rd., Carlow Ph: 085 802 1633

### Diocesan Designated Liaison Person:

Ms. Ailish Higgins is now on Maternity Leave

Maternity Cover for Diocesan DLP., Ailish Higgins,  
is being provided on a part-time basis by Michelle Hughes,  
our current deputy DLP.

Trocaire Boxes

Now Available

At back of Church

or

Church Porch

## Safeguarding Children Parish Reps

Ballyfin Triona O'Rourke and Peter Byrne

Mountrath Caroline Moore Pacelli Walsh

## Deputy Diocesan Liaison

Michelle Hughes c/o Bishop's House,

Dublin Rd., Carlow Ph: 085 802 1633

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person:

**Ms. Ailish Higgins is now on Maternity Leave**

*We extend our best wishes to Ailish and her partner*

*at this special time*

## Safeguarding Message

Maternity Cover for Diocesan DLP., Ailish Higgins,

is being provided on a part-time basis

by Michelle Hughes, our current deputy DLP.

# Lent is What We Do

-

Fasting

Prayer

Almsgiving

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# Are you a Brigidine past pupil ?

If so, you are cordially invited to a reunion.

## Venue:

The Keadeen Hotel, Newbridge,

Date: 12th April '26

Lunch 12.45pm (sharp)

Subscription: €40.

RSVP on or before 31st March

to Maeve at (087) 656 9975.

# Fish on Fridays

A new short video series from the Diocese exploring Baptism. Videos will be released each Friday of Lent. See Kandle Facebook and X accounts to view this exciting new resource and look out for other Lenten posts on Mondays and Wednesdays on Facebook and X.

# Football Forecasting Competition

## Results

Round 5 28th Feb. 1st March

Round 4 21<sup>st</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb.

Round 3 14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup> Feb.

Round 2 31<sup>st</sup> Jan / 1<sup>st</sup> Feb.

Round 1 24th / 25<sup>th</sup> Jan.

# Football Forecasting Competition,

## Round 5

Feb 28<sup>th</sup> / Mar 1<sup>st</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Place: 15 points

Michael O'Sullivan (Ballyfin NS)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: 13 Points

Vinnie Collins 2, Richie Downey,

Grace Noonan (Ballyfin NS),

*Thanks to all our participants.*

# Football Forecasting Competition,

Round 4 21<sup>st</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb.

1<sup>st</sup> Place: 14 points

Patrick Larkin (Ballyfin NS),

Cathal Bannon, Bracknagh NS),

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: 13 points

Cora Gorman, Patrick Ryan,

Declan Looby, Aidan O'Boyle (Ballyfin NS),

James Maher, Colm Moynihan, Daniel Gorry, Bracknagh NS

*Thanks to all our participants.*

# Football Forecasting Competition

## Results - Round 3

14<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> Feb.

**1<sup>st</sup> Place: 13 points**

Richie Downey, Declan Looby, AC and Gerard Reynolds (Ballyfin NS),  
Mervyn O'Shaughnessy Bracknagh NS),

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place: 12 points**

Padraig Glancy, David McNabb, Yvonne Thompson, Paul Phelan, Richard Quillinan, Marc Byrne, Colm Heffernan, Trish and Mark Keating, (Ballyfin NS), Pat Kelly, Colm Moynihan, Ian Curry (Bracknagh NS)

*Thanks to all our participants.*

# Football Forecasting Competition

Round 2 31<sup>st</sup> Jan / 1<sup>st</sup> Feb.

**1<sup>st</sup> Place: 14 points**

Michael Dowling (Bracknagh NS),

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place: 13 points**

Colm and Laura Linehan, John Daly

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place: 12 points,**

David McNabb, Jamie Croke, Ricky Quillinan,

Paul Phelan, Kieran Cuddy, Greg Kerrigan,

Donal Lalor, Garry Dunne, P Larkin

- St. Fintan's Maintenance (Ballyfin NS), -

- Podge Walsh, Robert Barron, Daphne Scolts

John Walker, Rob Doyle (Bracknagh NS),

*Thanks to all our participants.*

# Week 1 - Results

## Football Forecasting Competition

Round 1. Jan. 24th / 25<sup>th</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Place: 17 points

Eoghan Hyland (Bracknagh NS):

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: 12 points

Cora Gorman, Frances Harney, Mark Forde, Jack Hanlon,

Peter Brady (Ballyfin NS), James

Maher, Ian McCabe, Pat Kelly (Bracknagh NS),

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: 11 points,

Colm and Laura Linehan, Derek Delaney, Msgr John Byrne,

Diarmuid Fennell, Pj and Nicola Croke, Harry Allen,

Tiernan McBride (Ballyfin NS),

Michael Dowling, Cathal Bannon, Podge Walsh,

Ber Wyer (Bracknagh NS),

Thanks to all participants.

# Mountmellick, Ballyfin Mountrath Lourdes Pilgrimage '26

Spiritual Director Fr. Micheàl Murphy  
(P.P. Mountmellick)

20<sup>th</sup> July - 7 Nights Hotel La Solitude  
€ 1,120.00 per person sharing

See next frame for Details

# LOURDES



## MOUNTMELICK, BALLYFIN, MOUNTRATH LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026

Spiritual Director: Fr Mícheál Murphy

**20<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

### 7 Nights Hotel La Solitude

**€1,120 per person sharing**

- » Direct return flights
- » Return airport transfers in Lourdes
- » 7 nights' accommodation in the Hotel La Solitude
- » Full Board: breakfast, lunch & dinner each day
- » Full religious programme including Mass at the Grotto, Anointing of the Sick, Torchlight Procession, Blessed Sacrament Procession & International Mass
- » Visit places associated with the life of St. Bernadette
- » Full assistance of Joe Walsh Tours guides and representatives throughout the pilgrimage and at airports
- » Single rooms available **supplement is €49 per night**
- » Travel Insurance available **€55 up to 79 years; €75 for those 80 - 94 years old**
- » Deadline for deposits (€200 per person) is Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

LIMITED NUMBER OF PLACES AVAILABLE.

**For more information and to book please contact:**

**Ann 087-4186192**





# TOTS AND CO PLAYSCHOOL

## REGISTRATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026



20 YEARS' EXPERIENCE  
IN QUALITY CHILDCARE

ECCE & NCS  
SCHEMES AVAILABLE

CONTACT COLETTE:  
**0874162377**

MOUNTRATH, CO. LAOIS

**Copy of Financial Statements  
(For Mountrath and Ballyfin Parishes)  
available on  
Notice Board at back of Church  
and on Online Newsletter**

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Accounts  
for 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. 2024)

Thank you for your continued and generous  
support of  
Mountrath / Ballyfin Parish Weekly Lottos  
and Mountrath / Ballyfin Parish Collections.

*Your kind and generous support is much appreciated*

**See Below Parish Finances From Page 113**

# *Anniversary Masses*

*Mountrath Ballyfin Parishes*

Sat. 14th March

To

Sun. 22nd March

Lord, for your faithful people,

Life is Changed, not ended

# Ballyfin Anniversaries

## Anniversary and Mass Times

Sat. 14th Feb. to Sun. 22nd March

Fri. 13<sup>th</sup> March 5.00 pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

Sat. 14<sup>th</sup> March 8.00 pm Vigil Mass for 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent.

Sun. 15<sup>th</sup> Mch. 10.00 am David Fitzgerald, Cappinacclare 12<sup>th</sup> A

Mon. 16<sup>th</sup> Mch 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification

8.00 pm Vigil Mass - Feast of St. Patrick

Tues. 17<sup>th</sup> Mch 10.00 am Feast of St. Patrick

Lá Fhéile Pádraig Ireland's Patron Saint

Sheila Bennett, Campclone. Month's Mind and her husband William whose anniversary occurs at this time

Stephen Conroy, Upper Sconce.

Stephen's parents, Stephen and Julia

Alan Price, Templeogue. 8th Anniv.

# Ballyfin Anniversaries

## Anniversary and Mass Times

Sat. 14th to Sun. 22nd Mch  
Continued

Fri. 20<sup>th</sup> March 5.00 pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

Sat. 21<sup>st</sup> March 8.00 pm Joseph and Kathleen Dowling,  
Cavanaheath. Sons, Martin and Ollie and Thomas Fitzpatrick

Sun. 22<sup>nd</sup> March 10.00 am

Mon. 23<sup>rd</sup> March 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification

*Lord, for your faithful people, Life is changed, Not ended*

# Mountrath Anniversaries

## Mass Times Anniversaries

Sat. 14<sup>th</sup> to Sun. 22<sup>nd</sup> March

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

Sat. 14<sup>th</sup> March. 7.00 pm Tom Hill. Patrick St., Month's Mind.

Kathleen and Gerry Seale, Clonenagh

Kathleen's 4<sup>th</sup> Anniv. - Gerry's 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv

Margaret Byrne, Redcastle. 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniv.

Sun. 15<sup>th</sup> Mch. 9.00 am **The Hollow Ch.** Patricia O'Leary, The Oak.

**11.30 am** Annie Hill, St. Fintan's Terrace, 5<sup>th</sup> Anniv.

**Mon. 16<sup>th</sup> Mch. 7.00 pm Vigil Mass - Feast of St. Patrick**

Tues. 17<sup>th</sup> March Feast of St. Patrick. Ireland's Patron Saint.

9.00 am The Hollow Church. **Lá Fhéile Pádraig**

Paddy and Mary Hosey and deceased members of Hosey family.

10.30 am Josephine (Josie) Grehan. Derrylusk. 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniv.

John and Lucy Lally and Noel Lally, Formerly Shannon Rd.,

**Please note that Mass in Mountrath Ch. on St. Patrick's Day is at 10.30 am**

# Mountrath Anniversaries

## Mass Times Anniversaries

### Sat. 14th to Sun. 22nd March Continued

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

Wed. 18<sup>th</sup> March 10.00 am

Thur. 19<sup>th</sup> March 10.00 am

Fri. 20<sup>th</sup> March 10.00 am Altar List of the Dead.

Sat. 21<sup>st</sup> March. 7.00 pm Matthew Keenan, Derrylusk. 13<sup>th</sup> Anniv.

Sun. 22<sup>nd</sup> March 9.00 am **The Hollow Church**

**11.30 am** Mary Dunne (Nee Parkinson) Danganroe.

Formerly Fr. O'Connor Cresc. Month's Mind

### **Margaret Hetherington (Nee Dunne) New Line Rd. R.I.P.**

We pray for Margaret who died on Wed. 12<sup>th</sup> March. Margaret's Funeral Mass was celebrated on Sat. 14<sup>th</sup> March. We keep and hold in our thoughts and prayers, Margaret's family, at this time.

*May Margaret rest in the peace of Christ.*

### **1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Remembrance**

Sun. 29<sup>th</sup> March 11.30 am Michael Boyhan, Fr. O'Connor Cresc.

His brother, Liam and Stephen Smith, Manchester

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

# Ballyfin Parish

## Ministries Rota

Sat. 21<sup>st</sup> Tues. 22<sup>nd</sup> Mch

Reader

Ministers of Holy Comm

Sat. 8.00 pm Maria Dowling

Sheila Dowling

Sun. 10.00 am Helen Coughlan

Brid Duff

## Collectors for March

Sat. Br. Gerry – Pauric Gilligan Sun. Johnny Keenan

# Ministries Rota

## Mountrath

Readers Sat. 7.00 pm Paulo Jacob

Sun. 11.30 am Karlijn

### Ministers of Holy Communion

Sat. 7.00 pm Margaret Walsh

Pacelli Walsh Frances Byrne

Sun. 11.30 am Dolores Mulhare

Elaine Doheny Rachel Hill

### Collectors During March

Sat. Noel Tobin Rita Watkins Sun. Anthony Deegan

**“Do This In Memory”**

Our Next

“Do This In Memory” Mass

**Ballyfin Church.**

# Parish Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation Catechesis - Mountrath

Sat. 21st March

For Confirmation Candidates  
and their parents in Mountrath Parish.

Confirmation Catechesis      Ballyfin

Sun. 22nd March

For Confirmation Candidates  
and their parents in Ballyfin Parish.

# Ballyfin Community Alert

## Seniors Alert Scheme

Grant aided personal 24/7 personal monitored alarms help people aged 65 and over to live securely in their homes with peace of mind.

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/application form.

Sacramental Dates

Mountrath Ballyfin

Parishes

# Parish Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation Catechesis - Mountrath

Sat. 21st March

For Confirmation Candidates  
and their parents in Mountrath Parish.

# Parish Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation Catechesis Ballyfin

Sun. 22nd March

For Confirmation Candidates  
and their parents in Ballyfin Parish.

# Sacramental Dates

## Mountrath Parish

1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Sun. 26<sup>th</sup> April 11.30 am

### Ceremony of Confirmation

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 11.00 pm

Main celebrant, Bishop Denis Nulty

1<sup>st</sup> Penance with 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion children,  
Tues. 3<sup>rd</sup> March 11.30am (Please Note Change of Date)

The Sacrament of Penance (Confessions)

with Confirmation Candidates

Tues. 28<sup>th</sup> April 10.30am (Mountrath Ch)

### Enrolment for 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion

Sat. 11<sup>th</sup> Oct. 7.00 pm Mass

## “Do This In Memory” Masses

All “Do This In Memory” Masses will be on the  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.

Vigil Mass on Saturday evening 7.00 pm  
(Unless otherwise indicated)

# Sacramental Dates

'25 - '26 Ballyfin Parish

1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion

Ballyfin Sch. Sun. 17<sup>th</sup> May 10.00 am

Barnashrone School

Sun. 24<sup>th</sup> May 10.00 am

Enrolment - Sun. 12<sup>th</sup> Oct. 10.00 am

Ceremony of Confirmation

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2.30 pm

Main celebrant, Bishop Denis Nulty

1<sup>st</sup> Penance with 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion children

Thurs. 23<sup>rd</sup> April 11.30am

The Sacrament of Penance (Confessions)

with Confirmation Candidates

Tues. 28<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm (Ballyfin Church)

All "Do This In Memory" Masses will be on the

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.

(Unless otherwise indicated)

## 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist Preparation Programme

All candidates preparing to receive 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion next year are required to attend all "Do This In Memory" Masses with their parents or guardian.

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

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

Or

To the Sunday morning Mass in Mountrath at 11.30 am

## 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

# Safeguarding Children Parish Reps

Ballyfin Triona O'Rourke and Peter Byrne

Mountrath Caroline Moore Pacelli Walsh

## Deputy Diocesan Liaison

Michelle Hughes c/o Bishop's House,

Dublin Rd., Carlow Ph: 085 802 1633

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person:

Ms. Ailish Higgins is now on Maternity Leave

*We extend our best wishes to Ailish and her partner  
at this special time*

## Safeguarding Message

Maternity Cover for Diocesan DLP., Ailish Higgins, is being provided on a part-time basis by Michelle Hughes, our current deputy DLP.

*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.**

# Parish Newsletters.

There are three Parish Newsletters prepared  
and published each week -

2 - A4 Print editions for Mountrath and Ballyfin Parishes -  
available at all our Masses and online (in PDF format)  
and 1 online Newsletter, uploaded to our Parish App.

[Mountrath and Ballyfin Parishes](#)

and to our parish Website, [www.mountrathparish.ie](http://www.mountrathparish.ie)  
and available to view from early Saturday morning.

All items for Newsletters are always most welcome

Letter, email or WhatsApp

Email address for Newsletters - [jmbrophy2@gmail.com](mailto:jmbrophy2@gmail.com)

As Newsletters go to print at 2.00 pm Thursdays, the Deadline  
for items for Parish Newsletters is 12.00 (midday) Thursday

## Ways of Supporting Mountrath Parish:

Weekly Envelopes

Contributing to the Offertory Collection during Mass

Supporting Ballyfin Parish Lotto

Standing Order or Transfer directly to Parish Account

Direct payment - Cash / Cheque

If contributing by cheque please make cheques payable

to "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.

or deposited in the wall safe at back of Church

Online Facility See Diocesan Website – [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)

## Ways of Supporting Ballyfin Parish:

Weekly Envelopes

Contributing to the Offertory Collection during Mass

Supporting Ballyfin Parish Lotto

Standing Order or Transfer directly to Parish Account

Direct payment - Cash / Cheque

If contributing by cheque please make cheques payable

to "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.

or deposited in the wall safe in the Church porch

Online Facility See Diocesan Website – [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)

## Ballyfin Parish

### Times of Funeral Masses

Funeral Masses are celebrated in Ballyfin Parish at the following times

Weekdays (Monday to Saturday) 11.00 am

Sundays 10.00 am

The Celebrant is the priest on duty in the Parish.

Funeral Masses are transmitted live on the Parish Webcam

And are recorded and available to playback or download

## Mountrath Parish

### Times of Funeral Masses

Funeral Masses are celebrated in Mountrath Parish at the following times

Weekdays (Monday to Saturday) 10.00 am

Sundays 11.30 am

The Celebrant is the priest on duty in the Parish.

Funeral Masses are transmitted live on the Parish Webcam

And are recorded and available to playback or download

Would you like to become more involved  
in Mountrath or Ballyfin Parish ?

As

- Minister of Holy Communion
- Member of our hospitality team who looks  
after our church building
  - Reader, Proclaimer of The Word
    - Collector at Mass
    - Member of our parish choir
- Member of any of our Parish Organisations
  - Server at Mass

We would welcome your involvement.

Please contact either Fr. P.J or myself

with an expression of interest.

Fr. P.J. 087 605 5783      Fr. Joe 087 241 1594

# Parish

# News



Bishop Denis'  
Pastoral Letter

February 2026

'A Time to Pull in our Nets  
and take stock'

A LETTER BY BISHOP DENIS TO THE  
PEOPLE and PRIESTS  
OF  
KILDARE and LEIGHLIN DIOCESE

February 2026

A few weeks ago, we welcomed the arrival of a new year, many of us naturally look forward to what this New Year might bring. In 2022 the diocese took its theme from St. Luke's gospel, where the first disciples were asked to put out their nets for a catch (Luke 5:4). Now, early in 2026, we simply draw in the nets momentarily to reflect on what has been caught and to decide where our next journey might take us.

### Sifting through our Nets

In the past year alone, we have seen twenty-five women and men commence formal training to become Lay Pastoral Ministers, specialising in either pastoral care or faith formation.

In time they will support clergy and parish teams in many ways including sacramental preparation, catechesis, adult faith formation, liturgy, bereavement and funeral ministry and ministry to the elderly and the sick.

The past year has seen honest engagement by priests and deacons with a new language of 'Pastoral Area'. We welcomed the ordination last October of another five Permanent Deacons for service in our diocese. In June we hosted another very successful 'Parishes Alive' Day in Carlow College, St. Patrick's.

The theme was 'Moving Forward in Hope' where parishioners learned from one another what gives life to their parish and what makes their parish distinct and special. Next June we will host the third in the series called 'Parishes Alive - Becoming Synodal', with a particular focus on adopting a more synodal way of being Church in the parish context.

In these early weeks of the New Year our Diocesan Pastoral Council is being renewed, our Council of Priests continues to grapple with matters of mutual concern to our clergy and people, and our Diocesan Commission for Liturgical Formation resumes training for various liturgical ministries following its very successful Liturgy Conference last September.

While rooted in the tradition of the Church, the call to synodality from Pope Francis, and continued by Pope Leo, stands out as a seismic shift in how we are as Church and has inspired us to re-evaluate our mission, to haul in our nets, even if just for a moment.

## Appreciating our Fishermen

As I travel around the diocese, visiting parishes, I meet many people and hear many things. I get a real sense of the gratitude among the people for their local priest. This gratitude translates to phrases like "he is our priest", "our man", along with the caveat "don't move him"! There is real affection for the local priest everywhere I go. While parishioners deeply appreciate their priest, he priest is equally appreciative of his parishioners, and I hear this appreciation again and again at clergy gatherings.

With fewer priests it is increasingly challenging to provide a resident priest in every parish and there are a number of parishes now without a resident priest. I'm very conscious that there is a growing cohort of older men in active ministry; I want to assure them, this is not taken for granted and I know the affection and esteem in which each one is held.

As I have said on so many occasions, a priest is fully entitled to retire at 75, having given stellar service to God and His Church for so many years. Where a priest decides to retire I will provide all the support I can to underpin this decision, including suitable accommodation.

While I acknowledge the work of these priests, we remember we have a shared responsibility to care for all our priests, especially our older men and I ask you to be reasonable in any requests made of the local priest; he will not and cannot reach on everything.

## Letting Our Nets Down Once Again

The Final Document from the Universal Synod on Synodality emphasises a deeper understanding and appreciation of our baptism as a calling to be lived out fully and completely. As Church there will always be a need to refocus on our core mission, spreading the good news of Jesus Christ. For too long we have been overly attentive to the 'maintenance' responsibilities to the neglect of evangelisation, spreading the Word. It is clear that all the baptised have a role in this mission and we must do all we can to foster that sense of mission among all the faithful. All of us are called; all of us are chosen.

# Letting Our Nets Down Once Again (Continued)

I see these as moments of transformation; with lay groups supporting the mission of the parish as clergy and laity work side by side, with an awareness of their baptismal calling.

Out of this will emerge ministries to the bereaved and those in mourning; to our schools assisting in the sacramental programmes

and to our parishes in the varied liturgical and pastoral ministries.

## A New Language - Pastoral Areas

Pope Leo in speaking recently to clergy and parish representatives of the Diocese of Rome reminded them of the value of Pastoral Areas: "they are designed to better connect neighbouring parishes in a given territory with the centre of the diocese". He went on to say, "we need to think and plan together, going beyond pre-established boundaries and experimenting with joint pastoral initiatives".

Our diocese of 56 parishes,  
117 faith communities  
built around our churches,  
now consists of 11 Pastoral Areas,  
collaborative communities of 4 to 6 parishes.

A new model of Church is emerging with fewer clergy and greater lay involvement. It will no longer be possible to have a resident priest in every parish and diocesan appointments have become more challenging for me every year.

I do not see this changing any time soon. Grouping parishes into pastoral areas allows for the considered deployment of clergy and lay ministers as well as providing improvements around training and other supports.

Already, it is  
so positive to see the richness of the collaboration  
of parish groups.

## In Conclusion

Our diocese has a long and distinguished history of communicating our faith and staying connected to one another. The work of Faith Development Services along with the appointment of Pat Roche as Diocesan Director of Parish Development continues to emphasise the importance of supporting the local, while also being attentive to the bigger picture.

We should be under no illusion about the challenges ahead and the changes they will bring. With the reduction in the number of priests it is not going to be possible to sustain the same number of Masses in every church.

The Sunday Mass is what sustains a community and we must consider a schedule of Masses that is more manageable for our clergy and our Pastoral Areas. I believe that lay led liturgies will become a feature of parish life now and into the future, giving parishioners a vital opportunity to come together in prayer.

I ask you all to continue to support and pray for our priests and parish groups and to be generous and welcoming to those who volunteer to take on additional roles in our parishes.

May St. Brigid, St. Conleth, and St. Laserian guide our next steps as we continue to put out our nets for a further catch.

Every blessing,

+ Denis Nulty

## Sacramental Dates

### Mountrath Parish

1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Sun. 26<sup>th</sup> April 11.30 am

#### Ceremony of Confirmation

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 11.00 pm

Main celebrant, Bishop Denis Nulty

1<sup>st</sup> Penance with 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion children,

Tues. 21<sup>st</sup> April 11.30am

The Sacrament of Penance (Confessions)

with Confirmation Candidates

Tues. 28<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm (Mountrath Ch)

#### Enrolment for 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion

Sat. 11<sup>th</sup> Oct. 7.00 pm Mass

## "Do This In Memory" Masses

All "Do This In Memory" Masses will be on the

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.

Vigil Mass on Saturday evening 7.00 pm

1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Preparation

Next

"Do This In Memory" Mass.

To Be Arranged

Ballyfin Ch. 10.00 am

# Parish Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation Catechesis - Mountrath

For Confirmation Candidates

and their parents in Mountrath Parish.

Sat. 21st March 7.00 pm

# Parish Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation Catechesis Ballyfin

For Confirmation Candidates

and their parents in Ballyfin Parish.

Sun. 22nd March 10.00 am

# Sacramental Dates

'25 - '26 Ballyfin Parish

1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion

Ballyfin Sch. Sun. 17<sup>th</sup> May 10.00 am

Barnashrone School

Sun. 24<sup>th</sup> May 10.00 am

Enrolment - Sun. 12<sup>th</sup> Oct. 10.00 am

Ceremony of Confirmation

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2.30 pm

Main celebrant, Bishop Denis Nulty

1<sup>st</sup> Penance with 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion children

Thurs. 23<sup>rd</sup> April 11.30am

The Sacrament of Penance (Confessions)

with Confirmation Candidates

Tues. 28<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm (Ballyfin Church)

All "Do This In Memory" Masses will be on the

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.

(Unless otherwise indicated)

## 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist Preparation Programme

All candidates preparing to receive 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion next year are required to attend all "Do This In Memory" Masses with their parents or guardian.

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

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

Or

To the Sunday morning Mass in Mountrath at 11.30 am

# LOURDES



## MOUNTMELICK, BALLYFIN, MOUNTRATH LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026

Spiritual Director: Fr Mícheál Murphy

**20<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

### 7 Nights Hotel La Solitude

**€1,120 per person sharing**

- » Direct return flights
  - » Return airport transfers in Lourdes
  - » 7 nights' accommodation in the Hotel La Solitude
  - » Full Board: breakfast, lunch & dinner each day
  - » Full religious programme including Mass at the Grotto, Anointing of the Sick, Torchlight Procession, Blessed Sacrament Procession & International Mass
  - » Visit places associated with the life of St. Bernadette
  - » Full assistance of Joe Walsh Tours guides and representatives throughout the pilgrimage and at airports
  - » Single rooms available **supplement is €49 per night**
  - » Travel Insurance available **€55 up to 79 years; €75 for those 80 - 94 years old**
  - » Deadline for deposits (€200 per person) is Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026.
- LIMITED NUMBER OF PLACES AVAILABLE.

**For more information and to book please contact:  
Ann 087-4186192**

Joe Walsh Tours | 89 Harcourt St, Dublin 2, D02WY88  
joewalsh tours.ie | info@joewalsh tours.ie | Reservations: 012410800  
Perma Ltd t/A Joe Walsh Tours is licensed by the Irish Aviation Authority (IA 0884 TO 273)



## 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.

**In 2024, the Tax Rebate scheme augmented Mountrath Parish finances  
by over € 17,000**

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

## 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 2024, the Tax Rebate scheme augmented our Parish finances by €12,000

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

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

# 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

## Some 2026 Diary Dates

St. Brigid's Day Sun. 1<sup>st</sup> Feb.

Patron Saint of Kildare and Leighlin Our No. 1 - Ireland's No. 2

Ash Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February

Mass in Mountrath 10.00 am 7.30 pm Ballyfin 7.30 pm

St. Patrick's Day Tues. 17<sup>th</sup> March Ireland's National Saint

### Masses

Vigil Mass as on Sundays Both Parishes

The Hollow Ch. 9.00 am

Mountrath 10.30 am

Ballyfin 10.00 am

Thurs. 2nd April Holy Thursday Mass at 7.30 pm Both

### Ministers of Holy Communion Renewal during Mass

Good Fri. 3rd April (Both) Outdoor Stations of the Cross 10.00 am

Solemn Liturgy of the Passion 3.00 pm

Stations of the Cross 7.30 pm

Easter Vigil - Mass at 8.00 pm Both

Easter Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April Ballyfin Ch. Mass at 10.00 am

Mountrath Parish The Hollow Ch. 9.00 am Mountrath Ch. 11.30 am

# Bingo

every Monday night

In St. Fintan's Hall at 8pm.

Come along and bring a friend!!



# Bingo in St. Fintan's Hall

Every Monday night.

Commencing Mon. 1<sup>st</sup> Dec.,

Blue and Yellow Sheets will be increased by  
€50, bringing the Full House to €300.

Please support your local Bingo.

All are very welcome.



*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.**

# Parish Lottos



# Ballyfin Parish Lotto

Wed. 11<sup>th</sup> Mch.

Nos. Drawn 2 15 24 29

No Jackpot Winner

11 Match 3's rec. € 91.00 each

1 Local Winner Aoife Keenan

Promoter, Mary Hooban

Next Week's Jackpot. € 16,000

# Mountrath Parish Lotto

Thurs. 12<sup>th</sup> March

Nos. Drawn 4 8 17 24

No Jackpot Winner

24 Match 3's Rec. € 42 each

4 Local Winner

Winner

Promoter

Siobhan Farrell Rita Watkins

Liam Kelly Ann Kelly

Maura Tobin Pam Killeen

Pat Scully Mai Murphy

New Jackpot. € 11,000

# 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 € 11,000

Ballyfin € 16,000



News From Around  
The Diocese

## Irish Cancer Society's Transport Service Volunteer Drivers Needed

The Irish Cancer Society's Transport Service is seeking compassionate volunteer drivers in your community. Your time can help to continue the vital service of providing transport for patients attending cancer treatment appointments.

If you have a minimum of 2 days per month to spare, a valid driving license, and a safe, reliable vehicle, you're the perfect candidate to make a significant difference. Your generosity can ease the journey for many during a challenging time, offering comfort and support when it's needed most.

Full training will be provided. There are a number of essential post-drive administration tasks that will require either existing knowledge of basic computer or IT skills, or the willingness to acquire such skills (such as scanning and uploading documents or attending virtual meetings).

For more information and to become a volunteer driver,  
contact Monica at [volunteer@irishcancer.ie](mailto:volunteer@irishcancer.ie).

## Invitation to Kildare and Leighlin Parishioners: Baptised and Sent in Lent - Exploring the Lenten Sunday Gospels

Our diocesan Commission for Liturgical Formation and Diocesan Synod Committee are Inviting parishes, groups and individuals to make this new, short series a centre piece of their Lenten journey this year. *Can you give one hour a week, for five weeks, to join with others to reflect on the Sunday Gospel and its links to what it means to be baptised, as well as its links to some of the pastoral priorities that have emerged in synod conversations in our diocese and beyond? Would you like to find out more about being part of, or even running this series locally?*

An INFORMATION SESSION will take place in Newbridge Parish Centre on Tuesday, 3rd February. Tea/coffee available from 7 pm. Information session starts promptly at 7:30 pm- 9:00 pm.

Registration essential through [fds@kandle.ie](mailto:fds@kandle.ie)

If you would prefer to attend via zoom, please email [fds@kandle.ie](mailto:fds@kandle.ie) to request a zoom registration link.

Events  
at  
Bloom HQ

# Embodied Yoga with Cathy

**New 6 Week block  
starting:  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March,  
2026  
at 6.30 pm**

---

**Suitable for beginners**

€ 60 for 6 weeks

R32 DC58



Mountrath  
Health and  
Fitness  
Academy





Free yoga class with Cathy on Monday 2nd March  
from 6.30 - 7.20pm

Spaces are limited so book today on what's app  
Ruth - 089 2647761

## Women in Sports

March 2<sup>nd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> 2026



-Mountrath health and fitness supporting women in sport-

Bloomhq,  
Patrick's St,  
Mountrath,  
R32 DC58





# Pilates

## With Derinn

Saturdays 11am

6 weeks starting 7<sup>th</sup> February



**\*Spaces still available**



Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> , 14<sup>th</sup> , 21<sup>st</sup> , 28<sup>th</sup> February

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> , 14<sup>th</sup> March

**€ 60 for 6 weeks**

Mountrath Health &  
Fitness Academy,  
Patrick st, Mountrath  
R32 DC58

<https://www.mountrathgym.com/memberships/pilatesinmountrath>





**THE GALLERY OF DIVINE INSPIRATION IS PROUD TO PRESENT  
AN EXHIBITION OF DOG PAINTINGS**

*Art Exhibition*

*Fri. 6th Feb.*

*7.00 pm*

# UNISLIM

## JOIN TODAY!



**JOIN WEDNESDAY  
BLOOM HQ  
MOUNTRATH  
7-8PM**

**FIRST WEEK €20 (incl registration)  
€12 WEEKLY THEREAFTER**

**4 stone  
weight  
loss**



Caroline Davis  
Unislim Member

# MOTHER AND BABY CLASSES STARTING



6 WEEK BLOCK FOR €60

COMING SOON  
8 SPACES AVAILABLE

EVERY THURSDAY @10AM

BLOOMHQ,  
PATRICK'S ST,  
MOUNTRATH,  
R32 DC58



CONTACT RUTH  
089 264 7761



# Kids Fun and Games

Contact Ruth - 089 264 7761

6 Week Block - €60

🕒 5.30PM - 6.20PM

Starting Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January

10 Spaces available

Ages: 6-11

\*Starting date may be later or differ depending on numbers by the 23rd

Bloomhq,  
Patrick's St,  
Mountrath,  
R32 DC58





*Before*

Customize your space!

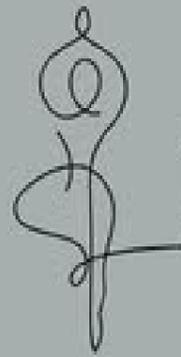
Begin your remote work journey today

*Contact US!*

[manager@bloomhq.ie](mailto:manager@bloomhq.ie)

089 2722885

*After*



# Pilates with Claire

€60 for 6 Week block

Starting Wednesday  
7<sup>th</sup> of January  
@8PM

Limited spaces available



Mountrath  
Health and  
Fitness  
Academy



ZUMBA®

# GET OBSESSED WITH FEELING YOUR BEST

Zumba® Class at BLOOM HQ  
MOUNTRATH  
WEDNESDAY AT 7PM

**RSVP BY CONTACTING AMY  
0868424791**

**€70 FOR 8 WEEKS STARTING  
JANUARY 7TH**

**R32DT9F - free car parking available**

# Embodied hatha yoga with Cathy

€60 per  
block

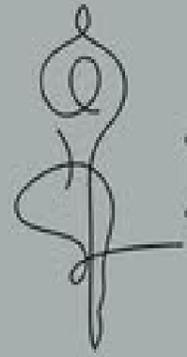
Suitable for all levels  
Limited spaces so book today!

Tuesdays @6:30  
6 week block starting Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> of January



Mountrath  
Health and  
Fitness  
Academy





# Pilates with Claire

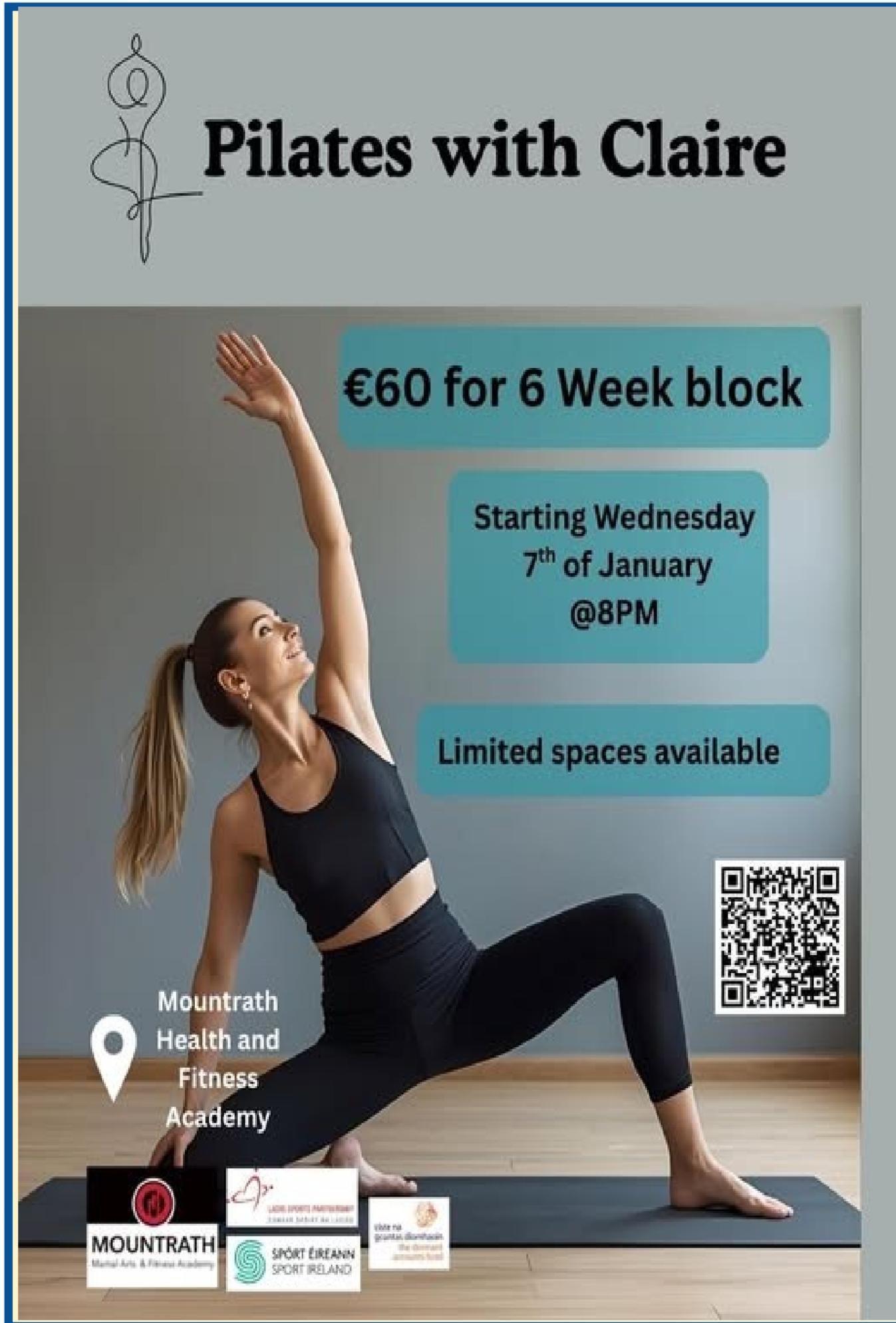
€60 for 6 Week block

Starting Wednesday  
7<sup>th</sup> of January  
@8PM

Limited spaces available



 Mountrath  
Health and  
Fitness  
Academy



# Embodied hatha yoga with Cathy

€60 per  
block

Suitable for all levels  
Limited spaces so book today!

Tuesdays @6:30 pm  
6 week block starting Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> of January



Mountrath  
Health and  
Fitness  
Academy



ZUMBA®

**GET OBSESSED  
WITH FEELING  
YOUR BEST**

Zumba® Class at BLOOM HQ  
MOUNTRATH  
WEDNESDAY AT 7PM

**RSVP BY CONTACTING AMY  
0868424791**

**€70 FOR 8 WEEKS STARTING  
JANUARY 7TH**

**R32DT9F - free car parking available**

# Roadcraft Motorcycle Training

RSA Approved IBT  
Centres in  
Waterford, Wexford &  
Laois.



**IBT (Initial Basic Training)**  
**Pre-Test Lessons**  
**Insurance Skills Assessments**  
**Advanced Motorcycle Training**  
**School Bike Hire**



Bloom HQ,

# MATHS GRINDS

**HIGHER LEVEL  
LEAVING CERT  
MATHS GRINDS**

**FOR 5TH AND  
6TH YEAR STUDENTS**

**CONTACT:  
Orlaith  
0892336930**





# OFFICE SPACE RENTALS

Designed for modern professionals, entrepreneurs, and small businesses, our dynamic workspace offers the perfect blend of flexibility, community, and productivity.

From hot desks to gym areas....

- ✓ Flexible Workspace Options
- ✓ High-Speed Internet
- ✓ Meeting and Conference Rooms

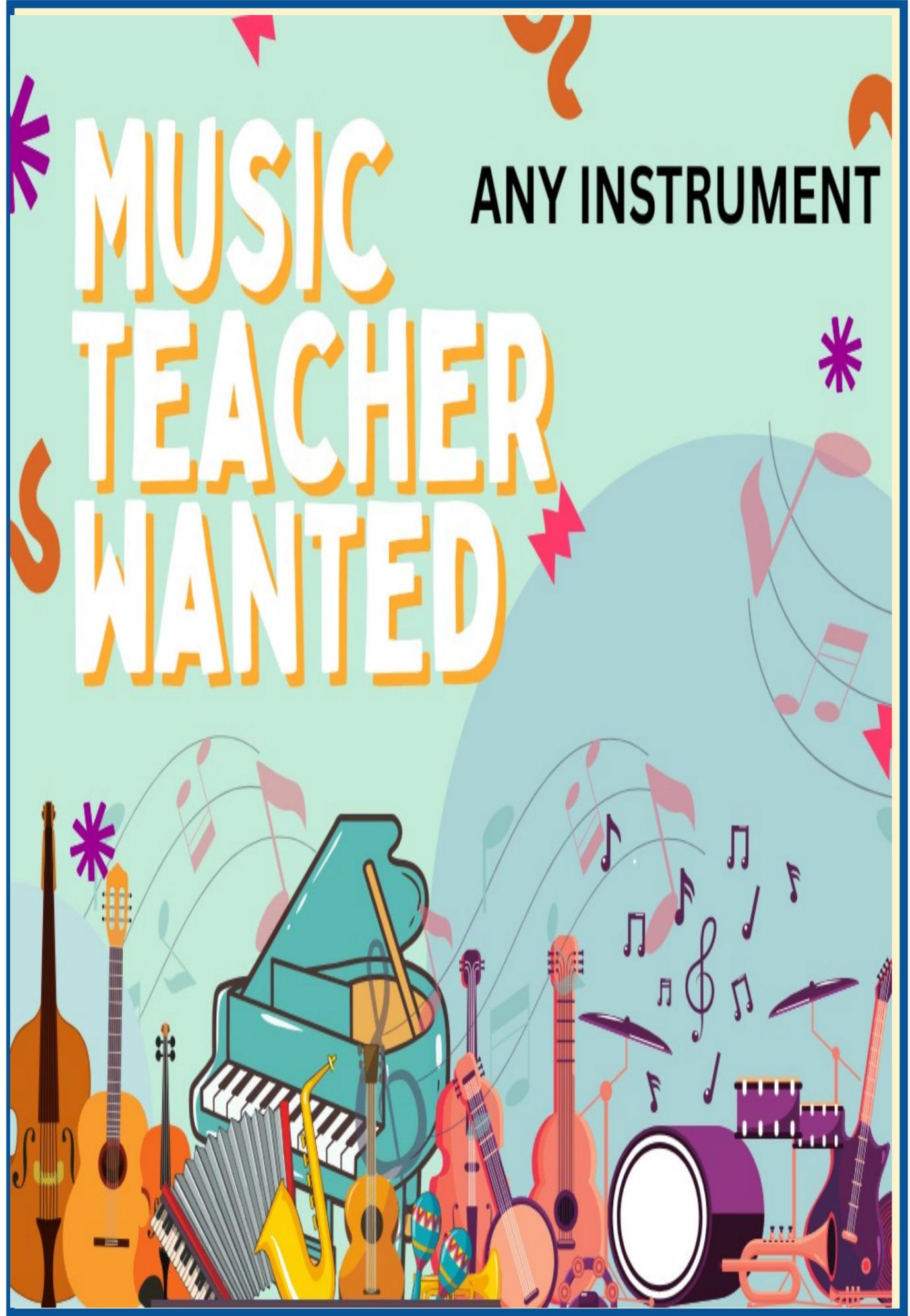
**Contact Us**



**089 2722885**

**[www.bloomhq.ie](http://www.bloomhq.ie)**







R32DT9F,  
Patrick St,  
Mountrath,  
Co.Laois

Contact us: **089 264 7761**

## Bowls

🎯 Enjoy competitive yet friendly games, perfect for all skill levels. Roll with us and make new friends! 🤝



## Seated exercise

**Thurs - 11am**

Move, stretch,  
and stay  
active! 🪑



**COMING  
SOON**

**Talks on...**

**Help with using MiGov.ie**

**How to use phones better**



**Using local bus services**

## **NEW ACTIVITIES**

**Exciting games and activities —laughter, challenges, and good vibes guaranteed!**



## **BOOK CLUB**

**Dive into new worlds—our book club is starting soon!**

## **ART CLASSES**

**Embark on your creative journey  
—art classes starting soon!**



**BLOOMHO'S IS DELIGHTED TO  
ANNOUNCE.....**

**Child care facilities  
coming early 2026**

**RIGHT HERE IN BLOOMHQ!!**

Keep an eye on our socials for more details,  
updates and notices



# BLOOMHQ MONTHLY

Everything worth knowing  
— all in one place....



[www.bloomhq.ie](http://www.bloomhq.ie)





# Calling all teachers & tutors!

Are you offering grinds and looking for a base?

BloomhQ is the place for you...  
With dedicated rooms, whiteboards,  
free advertising and more!!

.....  
Email: [Marketing@bloomhq.ie](mailto:Marketing@bloomhq.ie)

# Piano Lessons now Available!

- All levels welcome – beginner to advanced!
-  Highly qualified teacher & choral conductor
  -  Over 30 years' experience in piano & music education
  -   Lessons for all ages – kids & adults
  -  Director of children's choirs in Ukraine & Ireland
  -  BloomHQ, Mountrath



for more details>>



 Free first meeting – come meet the teacher!

 **Book now – Call Lana: 087 3347112**

# Looking for an office space to rent in Laois?



**CONTACT 089 2722885 or**

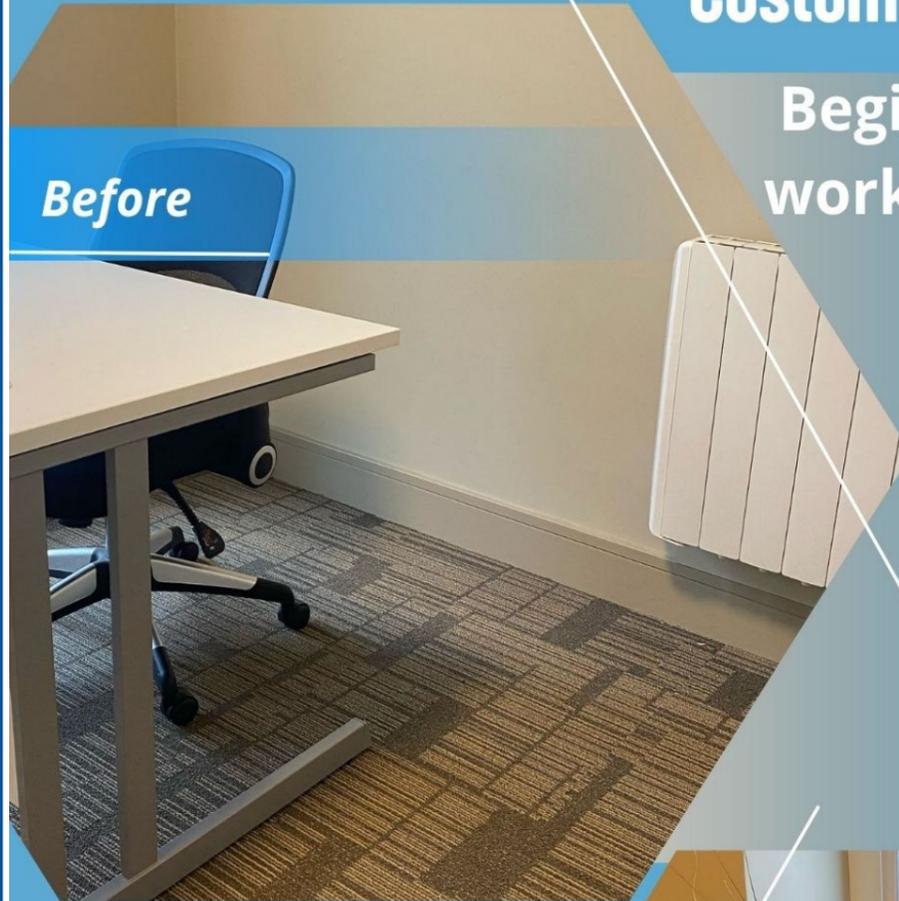
**[manager@bloomhq.ie](mailto:manager@bloomhq.ie)**

**Visit our website [www.bloomhq.ie](http://www.bloomhq.ie)**

**Customize your space!**

**Begin your remote  
work journey today**

*Before*



*Contact US!*

*After*



**089 2722885**  
manager@bloomhq.ie  
**www.bloomhq.ie**



**Dive into your  
remote work  
with every thing  
you need on  
hand**

## **Hot desks at BloomHQ**



**Contact:  
manager@bloomhq.ie**



**For just €20 a day**

# ***BOWLS***

**Thursdays @ 8pm**

**Philomenas Hall**

**R32DT9F,  
Patrick St.  
Mountrath,  
Co.Laois**



# GYM



- Join our large, loving gym community! 💪❤️
- Build strength and friendships. 🤝
- Everyone's included –come as you are!
- Don't miss out, join today! ☀️

**New timetable each month**



BLOOMHQ MONTHLY

# SPACES TO RENT



 **HOT DESKS – JUST €20/DAY!**

**JUMP IN, PLUG IN, AND GET TO WORK** ⚡

**POWER SOCKETS & GREAT LIGHTING** 🔌💡

**CLEAN, MODERN, AND READY TO GO** 🧼🌟

**NO COMMITMENT – JUST SHOW UP AND WORK!** 🚀



# ***CONFERENCE ROOMS***

**From just €55**

**Seating 2-20**

**Ideal for company meetings,  
general meetings, training  
courses etc**

**Contact BloomHQ to book  
today.....**

# 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](http://www.roadcraft.ie)

[www.facebook.com/roadcraft.ie](https://www.facebook.com/roadcraft.ie)



# Mountrath Men's Shed



**Old School on  
Patrick Street**



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

**Contact 0857053855**



**Kindling for sale.  
Call in to purchase  
on times above**

# ***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



# TOTS AND CO PLAYSCHOOL

## REGISTRATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026



20 YEARS' EXPERIENCE  
IN QUALITY CHILDCARE

**ECCE & NCS  
SCHEMES AVAILABLE**

**CONTACT COLETTE:  
0874162377**

**MOUNTRATH, CO. LAOIS**



liveWELL  
EXPO

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2026 Midlands Park Hotel 11am - 5pm

Keep an eye out

**More details to follow**

Be  
Social

Be  
Healthy

Be  
Active

Be  
Creative



Healthy  
Laois

For more information contact:

[LiveWell@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:LiveWell@laoiscoco.ie)



C

# CAFE DONATE

Something has been brewing  
in Mountrath.....



*Coming  
Soon*  
**Now  
Open**



Check out our socials

# Parish Finances

*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.**

# Ballyfin Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account  
for Ballyfin Parish for 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. 2024)

## Income:

Basket Collection: € 15,971.70

Envelope Collection: € 36,274.99

Shrine income: € 569.24

Rental income: € 14,320

Tax Refunds / Rebate: € 12,000.07

Church Bookings: € 250

Lotto income: € 11,036.10

Other Income: € 1,389

**Total Income € 91,811.10**

# Ballyfin Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account  
for Ballyfin Parish for 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. 2024)

## Expenditure:

Pastoral Programmes: € 1,895

Insurance: € 4,042.27

Security: € 579.16

Light and Heat: € 13,266.21

Rates, Water, LPT : € 736.78

Repairs and Maintenance: € 11,930.20

Diocesan Levy: € 6,576.

Diocesan Retirement Fund: € 1,000

Missalettes/Printing: € 7,692.22

Altar, Shrine Requisites: € 4,176.35

Telephone, Broadband: € 1,165.16

Computer servicing cost/hardware: € 690

Hire of Equipment: € 1,333

Music/choir expenses: € 200

Accountancy Fees: € 300.29

Bank Charges: € 828.11

Donations/Collections: € 880

**Total :Expenditure € 57,290.75**

# Ballyfin Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account  
for Ballyfin Parish for 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. 2024)

*Thank you for your  
continued and generous support  
of Ballyfin Parish Weekly Lotto  
and Ballyfin Parish Collections  
throughout the year.*

*Your kind and generous support is much appreciated*

# Mountrath Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account  
for Mountrath Parish for 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. 2024)

## Income:

Basket Collection: € 40,269

Envelope Collection: € 41,068

Shrine income: € 9,059

Rental income: € 34,425

Donations: € 6,615

Tax Refunds / Rebate: € 17,018.07

Church Bookings: € 635

Deposit interest: € 127.44

Office: € 978

Lotto Income; € 30,157

Other Income: € 15,732.87

**Total Income € 196,084.38**

# Mountrath Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account  
for Mountrath Parish for 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. 2024)

## Expenditure

Pastoral Programmes: € 1,412

Insurance: € 19,107.29

Security: € 484.54

Light and heat: € 19,823.12

Rates, Water, LPT : € 1,444.69

Repairs and Maintenance: € 103,631.35

Diocesan Levy: € 11,005.80

Diocesan Retirement Fund: € 1,000

Clergy Fund: € 2,342

Missalettes/Printing: € 13,534.29

Altar, Shrine Requisites: € 8,353.98

Telephone, Broadband: € 1,400

Computer servicing cost/hardware: € 2,880

# Mountrath Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account  
for Mountrath Parish for 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. 2024)

## Expenditure (Continued)

Hire of Equipment: € 2,903

Music/Choir Expenses: € 525

Accountancy Fees: € 300.29

Bank Charges: € 969.37

Donations/Collections: € 1,185

Other loan Interest: € 5.37

Interest: €-26.26

**Total Expenditure € 192,280.83**

## Mountrath Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account  
for Mountrath Parish for 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. 2024)

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(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account  
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Account number - 7274 7250

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BIC. - BOFIE2D

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

## 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

## 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)*

Thank you for your cooperation in this regard.

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

## Mountrath Parish Statement of Account 2023

<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>
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
	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
<b>Total: € 226,586.00</b>	<b>Total: € 186,173.00</b>

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

## Mountrath Parish Statement of Account 2023

<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>
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	Legal/Professional € 828.00
	Donations € 1,700.00
<b>Total: € 226,586.00</b>	<b>Total: € 186,173.00</b>

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