

Mountrath Ballyfin

Online Newsletter

Sat. 28th March to Sun. 5th April 2026



Holy Week and Easter 2026

An Seachtain Mór - The Great Week

Sat. 28th 29th March Palm (Passion) Sunday

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew

Mon. 30th March 7.30 pm

Chrism Mass Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow.

Tues. 31st March Penitential Services for Easter

Mountrath 7.00 pm Ballyfin 8.00 pm

Thurs. 2nd April Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30 pm

Ministers of Holy Communion Renewal during Mass

Trocaire Boxes returned this evening

Good Fri. 3rd April

Outdoor Stations of the Cross 10.00 am

(Commencing at the Hollow Church)

Solemn Liturgy of the Passion 3.00 pm

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John

Stations of the Cross 7.30 pm

Holy Saturday

Individual Confessions 11.00 am

Easter Vigil Mass 8.00 pm

Easter Sunday 5th April The Hollow Church. 9.00 am

Ballyfin Church 10.00 am Mountrath Church 11.30 am

Holy Week
And Easter
is a privileged time
when
we are invited
to draw near
to Jesus Christ

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

or www.ballyfinparish.ie

Email jmbrophy2@gmail.com

Name of Parish App.

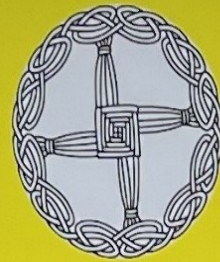
Mountrath and Ballyfin Parishes

Marie Tobin, Churchfield Heights, Castletown,
Woodbrook. R.I.P.

We pray for Marie who died peacefully at her home on Sun. 22nd March.
Marie's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Mountrath on
Wed. 25th March followed by burial in Mountrath Cemetery. We extend sympathy to her daughter, Balitin and her husband Billy and family, her grandchildren, Aoife, Eamon, Eileen, Ciara, her 14 great-grandchildren, Alisha, Kai, Riley, Saoirse, Adagh, Roisin, Indie, Caoimhe, Clodagh, Luke, Darragh, Cuán, Caragh, Dylan, spouses, partners and families. Sisters and brothers, Kathleen, Betty, Esther, Alice, Brigid, Caroline, Michael, Jimmy, Paul, spouses, partners and families, nephews, nieces, cousins, extended family, neighbours and friends. Marie was one of the founding members of St. Fintan's Accordion Band, (along with Ann Farrell and Margaret Hetherington, who died recently)

May Marie, Ann and Margaret rest in the peace of Christ.

Best Wishes to Scoil Bhríde
As they embark on
Their New Weekly Lotto



Scoil Bhríde
Mountrath

Fundraiser Weekly Draw

Your support makes a real difference

Join Now

Scan the QR code
or go to our website
below



www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/sbmountrath



Chrism Mass

You are invited to join Bishop Denis and the clergy of the diocese for the Chrism Mass in the Cathedral, Carlow, on 30th March at 7:30 pm. This is one of the most important Diocesan Masses in the year when the Holy Oils will be blessed and consecrated for use in parishes in the coming year and when the priests of the Diocese will renew their priestly promises.

Music will be led by Fr. Liam Lawton and the Diocesan Choir while tea/coffee will be served in Carlow College, St Patricks afterwards.

Come early to get a seat!

Collection for the people of The Holy Land

Bishop Denis has once again Asked us to take
up a

Collection for the people of the Holy Land

This Collection will be taken up during our main
liturgy on Good Friday afternoon.

Your support of this Collection is greatly
appreciated.

Clean Up Laois Week 2026

Ballyfin Community Alert have registered to take part in Clean Up Week Monday 6th April – Friday 10th April. Collection point for bags of litter is yard behind Deadmans Inn and collection date for Ballyfin is early

Tuesday 14th April.

No bags will be collected after this date.

Contact Sheila 086 1570145

for bags and gloves.

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

Can be returned during

Holy Week Ceremonies

Church Porch

Outdoor Stations of the Cross

On Good Friday

Commencing at Church of the Sacred Heart,

The Hollow, at 10.00 am

Concluding at St. Matthew's Church of Ireland

Church,

Roskelton at about 11.00 am

In This Issue

Holy Week Ceremonies Page 2

Thought for Holy Week Page 3

Leader Page (Parish Contacts) Page 4

Obituaries

Marie Tobin, Churchfield Heights, Castletown R.I.P.

Page 4

Scoil Bhride New Weekly Lotto Page 6

Chrism Mass Page 7

Collection for the People of the Holy Land

On Good Friday Page 8

Clean Up Laois Week Page 9

Child safeguarding Page 10

Trocaire Boxes Page 11

Outdoor Stations of the Cross Page 12

In This Issue Pages 13 to 16

In This Issue Page 2

Camp Pio at Bloom HQ, Mountrath	Page 17
Best Wishes to Bernadette Spillane	Page 18
Football Forecasting (Ballyfin School)	From Page 19
Mountmellick Ballyfin Mountrath Lourdes Pilgrimage	Page 26
Tots and Co. Playschool - Promotion	Page 28
Ref. Parish Financial Statements	Page 29
Anniversary Masses	From Page 30
Ballyfin Parish Ministries Rota	Page 34
Ballyfin Community Alert	Page 36
Sacramental Dates	From Page 37
Safeguarding Children Parish Reps.	Page 43
Parish Bank Account Details	Page 44
Re. Parish Newsletters - Deadline	Page 45
Ways of Supporting Mountrath Parish	Page 46
Ways of Supporting Ballyfin Parish	Page 47

In This Issue Page 3

Times of Funeral Masses Page 48

Would you like to become more involved
in Mountrath or Ballyfin Parish ? Page 49

Parish News. From Page 50

Sacramental Dates Page 52

Parish Confirmation Programme Page 53

Tax Back Scheme Mountrath Parish Page 56

Tax Back Scheme – Ballyfin Parish Page 57

“Thank You” Note Page 58

Get Well Wishes Page 69

Some 2026 Diary Dates Page 60

Bingo in Mountrath Hall Page 61

Ways to Contribute to Parish Funds

Bank Details Page 63

Parish Lotto Results From Page 64

K and L News From Page 69

Events in Bloon HQ From Page 73

In This Issue

Page 4

Other News

From Page 111

Tots and Co. Playschool Promotion

Page 112

Live Well Expo (Midland Park Hotel)

Page 113

Café Donate - Now Open on Patrick St.,

Page 114

Parish Finances and Related Matters

From Page 115

(to Page 129)

HAPPY
EASTER

Let's Arise, Pray, Play and Praise together!

Easter at Camp Pio

Date: Saturday 11th April. 2026

Time: 12pm-2pm

Venue: Bloom HQ, Old Convent
Mountrath R32D29F

To register contact:

camppio2024@gmail.com

Laura 0876313370

Caroline 0852430529

**For children
5-13 years!**



Best Wishes to Bernadette (Ber) Spillane

Ber is representing Ireland at the European Masters Indoor Athletics Championships in Torun, Poland from March 27th to 3rd April where she is competing in the W40 200m and the 4 x 400m relay.

Ber is teacher at Ballyfin N.S. and we extend our very best wishes to her and wish her every success as she competes (for Ireland) in Turon, Poland this weekend.

Football Forecasting Competition

Round 7 22nd March

1st place: 13 points

Colm and Laura Linehan, Darren Hanlon, Conall Brennan,
(Ballyfin NS), Pat Nolan, John Kilmurray (Bracknagh NS)

2nd place: 12 points

David McNabb, Kami Delaney, Declan Looby, Aidan O'Boyle,
Richard Quillinan, Ivan McAuley, Timmy Quillinan, Ros McBride,
Paraic Crone, Gay Rickard (Ballyfin NS), Margaret Gallagher
(Bracknagh NS) 12 points

Congratulations to the overall winners, Colm and Laura Linehan,
and Declan Looby, who each win € 250 .

A massive "thank you" to everyone who supported the
competition – it is greatly appreciated by the School.

Football Forecasting Competition

Round 6 15th / 16th March

1st Place: 13 points

John Neary, (Ballyfin NS)

Patrick Walsh (Bracknagh NS)

2nd Place: 12 points

John Maher, Aidan O'Boyle,

Ciaran Linden, Tony Kilroe,

Colleen Quinn,

Dylan Byrne (Ballyfin NS),

Geoffrey Whittle, Pat Nolan,

William Dowling (Bracknagh NS)

Football Forecasting Competition,

Round 5

Feb 28th / Mar 1st

1st Place: 15 points

Michael O'Sullivan (Ballyfin NS)

2nd Place: 13 Points

Vinnie Collins 2, Richie Downey,

Grace Noonan (Ballyfin NS),

Thanks to all our participants.

Football Forecasting Competition,

Round 4 21st 22nd Feb.

1st Place: 14 points

Patrick Larkin (Ballyfin NS),

Cathal Bannon, Bracknagh NS),

2nd 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

14th 15th Feb.

1st Place: 13 points

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

2nd 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 31st Jan / 1st Feb.

1st Place: 14 points

Michael Dowling (Bracknagh NS),

2nd Place: 13 points

Colm and Laura Linehan, John Daly

3rd 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 / 25th

1st Place: 17 points

Eoghan Hyland (Bracknagh NS):

2nd Place: 12 points

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

Peter Brady (Ballyfin NS), James

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

3rd 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)

20th 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

20th 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 30th 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 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st 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. 28th March

To

Sun. 5th April

Lord, for your faithful people,

Life is Changed, not ended

Ballyfin Anniversaries

Anniversary and Mass Times

Sat. 28th March to Sun. 5th April

Fri. 27th March 5.00 pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

Sat. 28th March 8.00 pm Vigil Mass of Palm Sunday

Marie Connolly (nee Dowling) Esker. Month's Mind

Marie's husband, Joseph (Joe) - 3rd Anniv.

Sun. 29th Mch. 10.00 am **Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**

Mon. 30th Mch 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification

Thurs. 2nd Apr. 7.30 pm Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper.

Fri. 3rd Apr. Good Friday See Page 2 for times of Ceremonies

Sat. 4th April **8.00 pm Easter Vigil Ceremonies**

Noel Walsh, Pallas. 11th Anniv.

Sun. 5th Apr. 10.00 am Easter Sunday

Mon. 6th Apr. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification

Mountrath Anniversaries

Mass Times Anniversaries

Sat. 28th March to Sun. 5th April

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

Sat. 28th Mch. 7.00 pm Michael and Christina Tobin,

And daughter, Kathleen Delaney, St. Fintan's Tce.,

Thomas, Josephine and Fr. John Fitzpatrick and deceased family members, Deerpark - and extended families.

Sun. 29th Mch. 9.00 am [The Hollow Ch.](#) Ann Heffernan, Clonkeen

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

11.30 am Michael Boyhan, Fr. O'Connor Cresc. 1st Anniv.

His brother, Liam and Stephen Smith, Manchester.

Donal Murphy, Ringstown

Tues. 31st Mch. 10.00 am Irene Loughman, Limerick R.I.P.

Recently deceased - Sister of Mary Brophy, Fr. O'Connor Cresc.

7.00 pm Penitential Service for Easter (Mountrath)

8.00 pm Penitential Service for Easter (Ballyfin)

Wed. 1st April 10.00 am

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

Mountrath Anniversaries

Mass Times Anniversaries

Sat. 28th March to Sun. 5th Apr. Continued

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

Thurs. 2nd April 7.30 pm **Holy Thursday**

Mass of the Lord's Supper

Fri. 3rd April **Good Friday** See Back Page for times of Ceremonies

Sat. 4th March 8.00 pm **Holy Saturday Easter Vigil**

Sun. 5th March **Easter Sunday. Mass of the Lord's Resurrection**

9.00 am **The Hollow Church**

11.30 am Noel and Benny Russell, Patrick St.,

Eugene Lalor, Trumera R.I.P.

We pray for Eugene who died peacefully at Reg. Hosp., Portlaoise on Wed. 25th March. We keep and hold in our thoughts and prayers, Phil and Phil's family and all the Lalor family, at this time.

Month's Mind Mass

Sat. 11th April 7.00 pm Margaret Hetherington, New Line Road.

Lord, for your faithful people, Life is changed, not ended

Ministries Rota for Holy Week and Easter (Ballyfin)

Thurs. 2nd April – Sun. 5th April.

Reader Ministers of Holy Comm

Thurs. 2nd April Holy Thursday

Peter Byrne Catherine Carroll

Fri. 3rd April Good Friday

Jacinta Connolly Br. Nicholas Leahy

Sat. 4th April Holy Saturday

Frances Harney Denis Bowe

Adrian Greene

Sun. 5th April Easter Sunday

Katie Mahon Br. Gerry Reburn

Maria Dowling

Collectors for April

Sat. Sheila Dowling Charlie Gorman

Sun. Edward Coughlan Denis Daly

Ministries Rota Mountrath

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

For Confirmation Candidates
and their parents in Mountrath Parish.

Parish Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation Catechesis Ballyfin

For Confirmation Candidates
and their parents in Ballyfin Parish.

Sacramental Dates

Mountrath Parish

1st Holy Communion Sun. 26th April 11.30 am

Ceremony of Confirmation

Friday 1st May 11.00 pm

Main celebrant, Bishop Denis Nulty

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

The Sacrament of Penance (Confessions)

with Confirmation Candidates

Tues. 28th April 10.30am (Mountrath Ch)

Enrolment for 1st Holy Communion

Sat. 11th Oct. 7.00 pm Mass

"Do This In Memory" Masses

All "Do This In Memory" Masses will be on the
2nd Sunday of the month.

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

Sacramental Dates

'25 - '26 Ballyfin Parish

1st Holy Communion

Ballyfin Sch. Sun. 17th May 10.00 am

Barnashrone School

Sun. 24th May 10.00 am

Enrolment - Sun. 12th Oct. 10.00 am

Ceremony of Confirmation

Friday 1st May 2.30 pm

Main celebrant, Bishop Denis Nulty

1st Penance with 1st Holy Communion children

Thurs. 23rd April 11.30am

The Sacrament of Penance (Confessions)

with Confirmation Candidates

Tues. 28th April 7.30pm (Ballyfin Church)

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

2nd Sunday of the month.

(Unless otherwise indicated)

1st Eucharist Preparation Programme

All candidates preparing to receive 1st 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
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

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

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Please indicate - Parish Fund

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Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

or deposited in the wall safe in the Church porch

Online Facility See Diocesan Website – 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.

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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



Sacramental Dates

Mountrath Parish

1st Holy Communion Sun. 26th April 11.30 am

Ceremony of Confirmation

Friday 1st May 11.00 pm

Main celebrant, Bishop Denis Nulty

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Tues. 21st April 11.30am

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with Confirmation Candidates

Tues. 28th April 7.30pm (Mountrath Ch)

Enrolment for 1st Holy Communion

Sat. 11th Oct. 7.00 pm Mass

"Do This In Memory" Masses

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

2nd Sunday of the month.

Vigil Mass on Saturday evening 7.00 pm

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

1st Holy Communion

Ballyfin Sch. Sun. 17th May 10.00 am

Barnashrone School

Sun. 24th May 10.00 am

Enrolment - Sun. 12th Oct. 10.00 am

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Friday 1st May 2.30 pm

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(Unless otherwise indicated)

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Or

To the Sunday morning Mass in Mountrath at 11.30 am

LOURDES



MOUNTMELICK, BALLYFIN, MOUNTRATH LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026

Spiritual Director: Fr Mícheál Murphy

20th 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 30th 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
joewalshstours.ie | info@joewalshstours.ie | Reservations: 012410800
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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. 1st Feb.

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

Ash Wednesday 18th February

Mass in Mountrath 10.00 am 7.30 pm Ballyfin 7.30 pm

St. Patrick's Day Tues. 17th 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 5th 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. 1st 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. 25th Mch.

Nos. Drawn 1 25 28 29

No Jackpot Winner

8 Match 3's Rec. € 125.00 each

Next Week's Jackpot € 11,000

Your generous support
is always much appreciated

Mountrath Parish Lotto

Thurs. 26th March

Nos. Drawn 14 29 30 32

No Jackpot Winner

1 Match 3 Rec. € 1,000

New Jackpot. € 13,000

Your generous support is always
much appreciated

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 € 11,000



News From Around
The Diocese

Diocesan Pilgrimage
to Knock

Sun. 7th June 2026

Full details to follow

Collection for the people of The Holy Land

Bishop Denis has once again Asked us to take up a
Collection for the people of the Holy Land

This Collection will be taken up during our main liturgy
on Good Friday afternoon. Your support of this collection
is greatly appreciated.

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

If you would prefer to attend via zoom, please email fds@kandle.ie to request a zoom registration link.

Events
at
Bloom HQ



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

Pilates With Derinn

Saturdays 11AM
6 weeks starting 28th March



€ 60 for 6 weeks

***Spaces still available**



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





war means

3rd April - 1st May 2026

Bloom HQ, Brigidine Convent, Patrick Street, Mountrath
R32 DT9F

Exhibition opens Friday 3rd April at 7pm, all welcome.
Monday to Friday 9 - 5pm
Closed Saturday to Sunday
Admission free

ACCELERATE YOUR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

with European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIHs) and the Applied IoT Technology Gateway Cluster.



25th
March

11:00 - 14:00

Midlands
Park Hotel,
Portlaoise,
Laois

Why attend?

Hear from real case studies using digital technologies from IoT to artificial intelligence.

Understand De Minimus funding for R&D.

Collaborative support between the EDIH's and Applied IoT Cluster.

Supported by:



Embodied Yoga with Cathy

**New 6 Week block
starting:
Tuesday 3rd 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 2nd - 8th 2026



-Mountrath health and fitness supporting women in sport-

Bloomhq,
Patrick's St,
Mountrath,
R32 DC58





Pilates

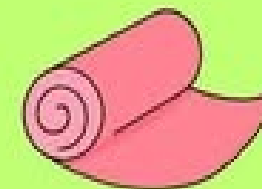
With Derinn

Saturdays 11am

6 weeks starting 7th February



***Spaces still available**



Saturday 7th , 14th , 21st , 28th February

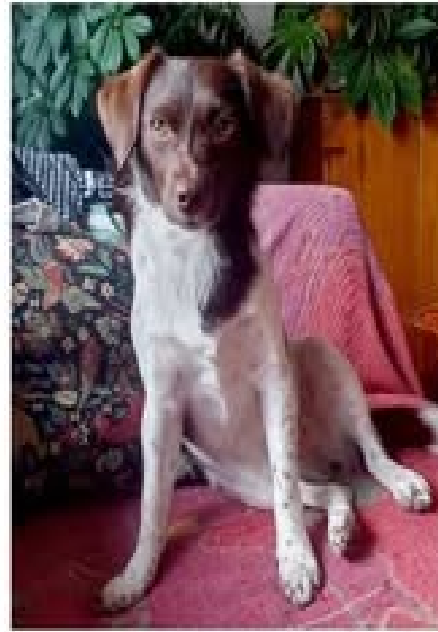
Saturday 7th , 14th March

€ 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

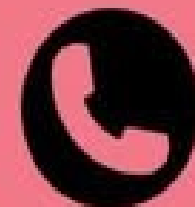


6 WEEK BLOCK FOR €60

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 23rd 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!

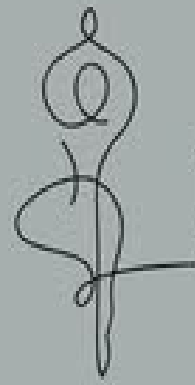
Begin your remote
work journey today

Contact US!

manager@bloomhq.ie

089 2722885

After



Pilates with Claire

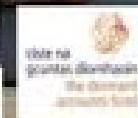
€60 for 6 Week block

Starting Wednesday
7th 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

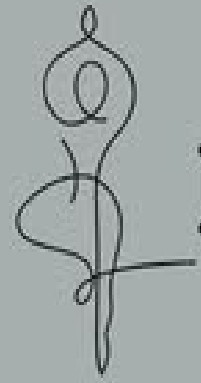
Suitable for all levels
Limited spaces so book today!

Tuesdays @6:30
6 week block starting Tuesday 6th of January



Mountrath
Health and
Fitness
Academy





Pilates with Claire

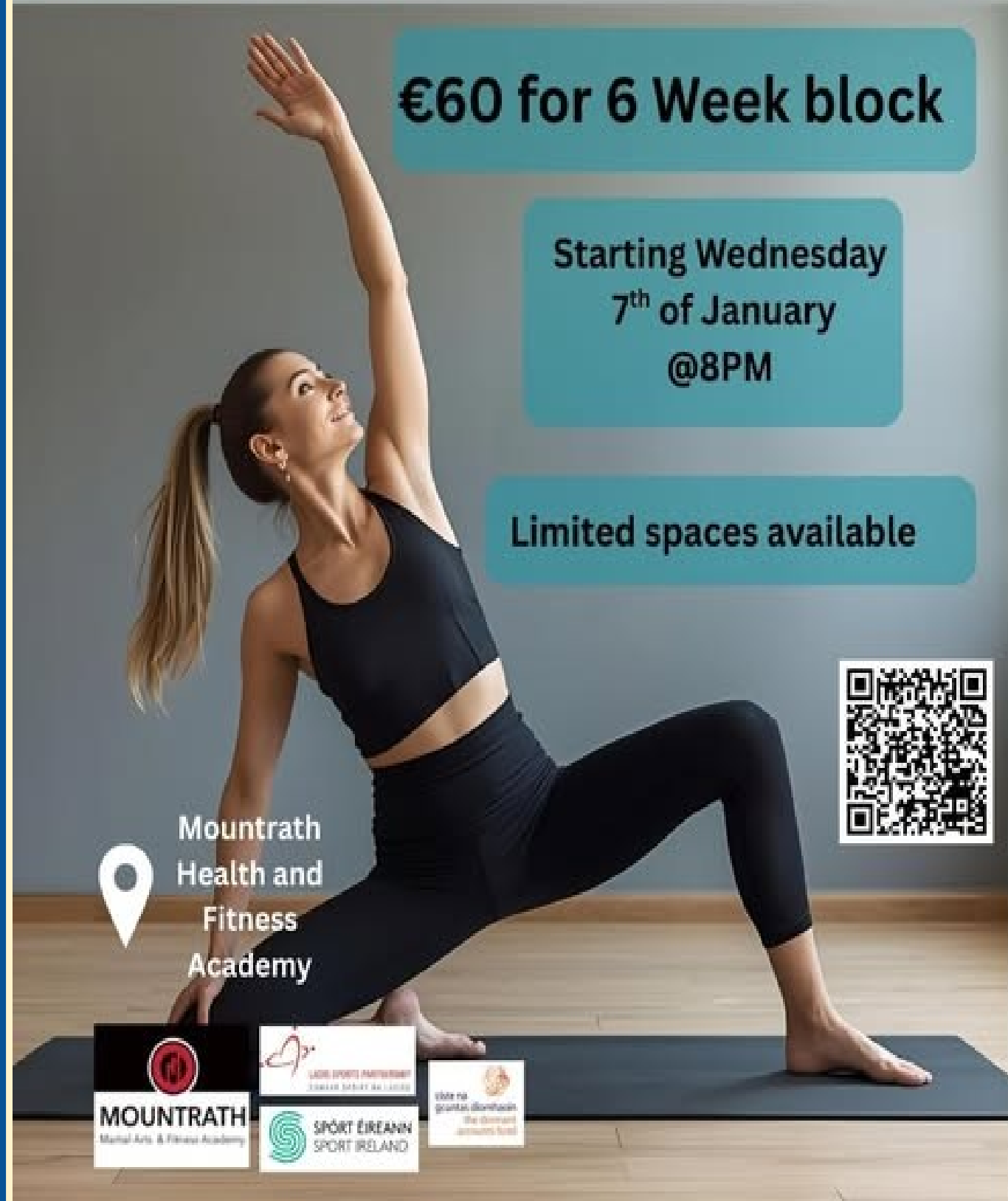
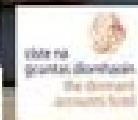
€60 for 6 Week block

Starting Wednesday
7th of January
@8PM

Limited spaces available



Mountrath
Health and
Fitness
Academy



Embodied hatha yoga with Cathy

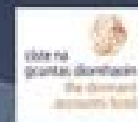
€60 per
block

Suitable for all levels
Limited spaces so book today!

Tuesdays @6:30 pm
6 week block starting Tuesday 6th of January



Mountrath
Health and
Fitness
Academy



ZUMBA®

GET OBSESSED WITH FEELING YOUR BEST

Zumba® Class at BLOOM HQ
MOUNTRATH
WEDNESDAY AT 7PM

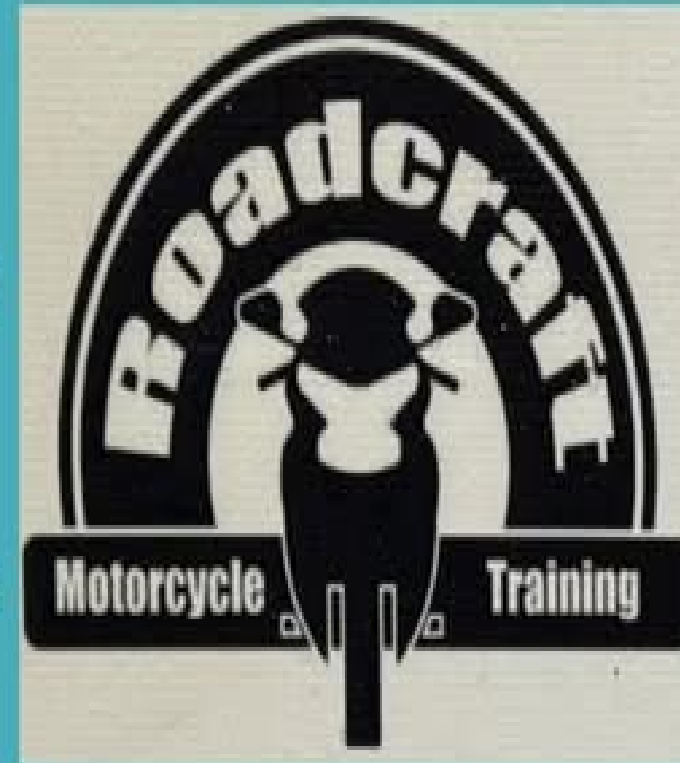
RSVP BY CONTACTING AMY
0868424791

€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

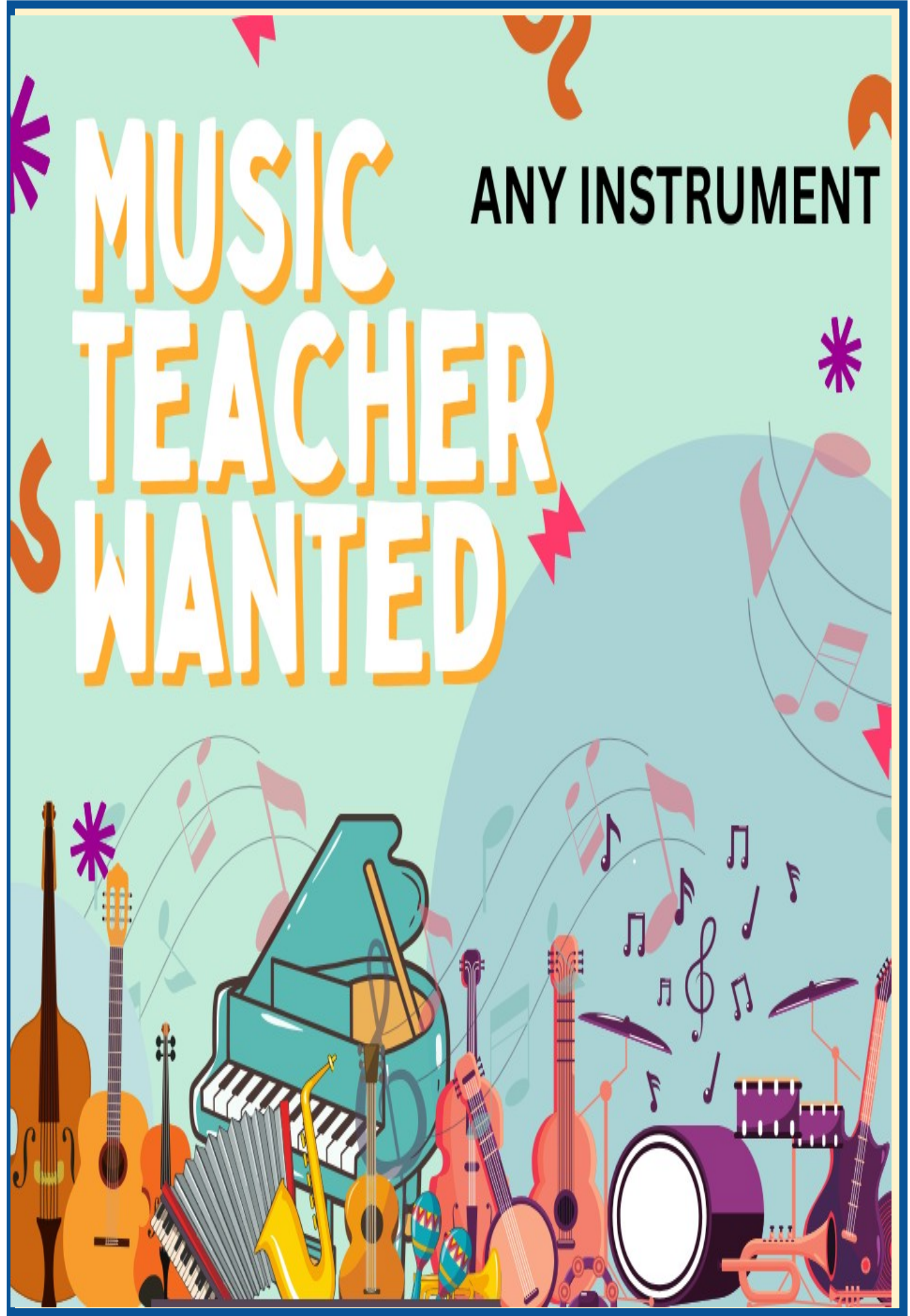
Contact Us



089 2722885

www.bloomhq.ie





MUSIC TEACHER WANTED

ANY INSTRUMENT



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! 🪑

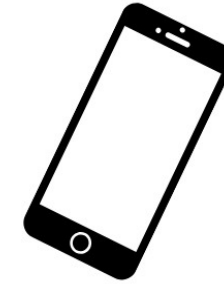


**COMING
SOON**

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










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

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

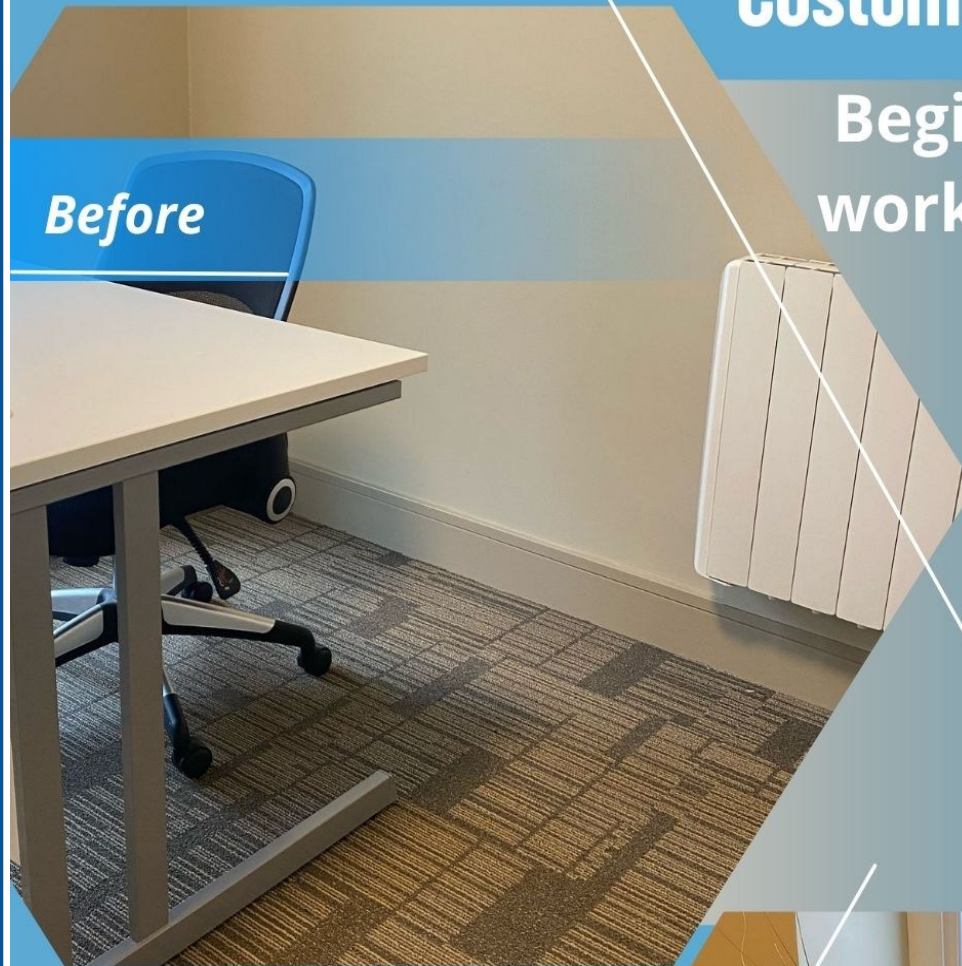
manager@bloomhq.ie

Visit our website 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**



BLOOMHQ MONTHLY

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

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 8th April 2026 Midlands Park Hotel 11am - 5pm

Keep an eye out

More details to follow



Healthy
Laois

For more information contact:

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 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st 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 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st 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 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st 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 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st 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 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st 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 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st 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
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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

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

Mountrath Parish Statement of Account 2023

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