

# Mountrath Ballyfin

## Online Newsletter

24th - 25th May 2025

6th Sunday of Easter

## 1st Holy Communion Mass

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2025

St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin Time 2.00 pm

Kildare and Leighlin Annual Diocesan Collection for our Retired Priests takes place 24th/25th May (This weekend)

We appreciate your generously and continued support of our Retired Priests. Thank you.

# 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*



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# Confirmation in Ballyfin Church

On Fri. 23rd May

Congratulations to our 36 children who were Confirmed  
in St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin this afternoon.

A very special thank you to Bishop Denis Nulty who led us  
in a beautiful celebration this afternoon

Thanks to all our teachers and school staff for all their help,  
support and cooperation



# Safeguarding Children Parish Reps.

## Ballyfin Parish

Triona O'Rourke      Peter Byrne

## Mountrath Parish.

Caroline Moore      Pacelli Walsh

## Diocesan Designated Liaison Person

Ms. Ailish Higgins.

## *Deputy Diocesan Liaison Person:*

*Ms Michelle Hughes c/o*

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

*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.**

# Sheila O' Toole, Shanahoe

(formerly New Line Close) R.I.P.

We pray for Sheila who died suddenly at her home on Mon. 19<sup>th</sup> May. Reposing in St. Brigid's Church, Shanahoe on Sun.

25<sup>th</sup> May from 5 to 7pm. Sheila's Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Mon. 26<sup>th</sup>. in St. Brigid's Church Shanahoe at 11am. followed by burial in St. Brigid's Cemetery, Shanahoe.

We extend sympathy to all her family.

*May Sheila rest in the peace of Christ.*

# Jubilee Tour

Jubilee Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 08<sup>th</sup> June 2025. €699.00 pps. Price includes return train/bus, 4 nights' in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Guest speaker Marion Carroll who was cured at Knock.

All entertainment, excursions and transport included.

Visit Knock, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick.

Limited single rooms €200.00.

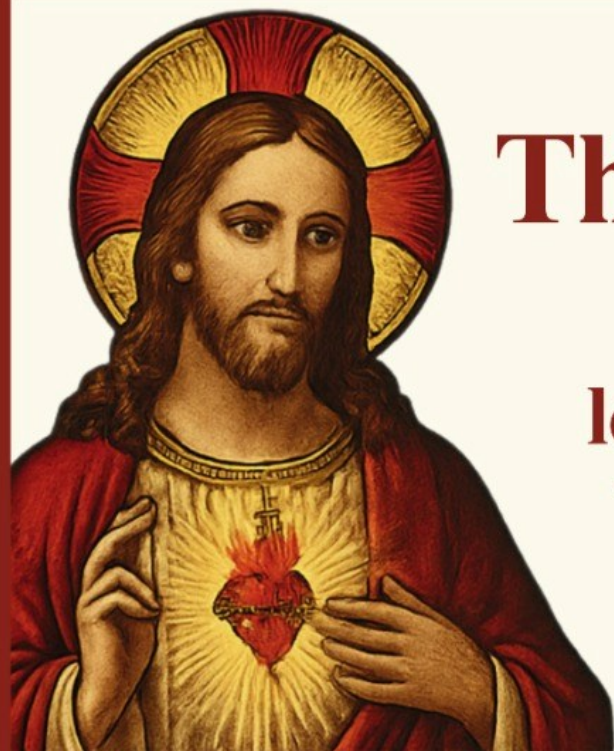
Contact 094 900 6426 or 087 1890 236

or

email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com).

National  
Novena  
to the  
Most Sacred  
Heart  
of Jesus





# Novena to The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus leading to the Feast Day

**Starting May 2nd at 7PM**

Every Friday in May & June

Across Ireland &

on **Shalom World Prayer Channel**

Live stream on [www.sacredheartcrusade.ie](http://www.sacredheartcrusade.ie)  
through Shalom World

**Friday, May 2nd**

**The Church of the Holy Child**, Thatch Rd, Whitehall, Dublin, D09 HX99

*Bishop Paul Dempsey ( Dublin Auxiliary )*

**Friday, May 9th**

**Cathedral of SS. Peter & Paul**, Ennis, Co.Clare, V95 D951

*Bishop Fintan Monahan*

**Friday, May 16th**

**Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity**, Barrowstrand St, Waterford, X91 HR24

*Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan*

**Friday, May 23rd**

**St John's Cathedral**, Limerick, V94 H521

*Bishop Brendan Leahy*

**Friday, May 30th**

**Church of the Sacred Heart**, 132 Dublin Rd, Cloughoge, Newry, BT35 8QT

*Archbishop Eamon Martin*

**Friday, June 6th**

**Church of the Assumption**, Old Church St, Cullairbaun, Athenry, Co Galway. H64 N294

*Fr.Charlie McDonnell*

**Friday, June 13th**

**Church of the Sacred Heart**, Derry Rd, Strabane, BT82 8DX

*Bishop Donal McKeown*

**Friday, June 20th**

**St Peter's Cathedral**, St. Peters Square N, Belfast, BT12 4BU

*Bishop Alan McGuckian*

**Sunday, June 22nd**

**"Corpus Christi" Knock Shrine**, Mayo, F12 7226

*Archbishop Eamon Martin renews Ireland's consecration to the Most Sacred Heart*

**Friday, June 27th**

**Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.**

**Sacred Heart Church**, Malahide, Dublin, K36 HC99

**Holy Mass 11:30 am**

*Archbishop Dermot Farrell*





# Novena to The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

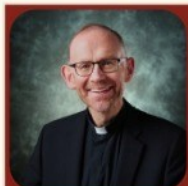
Relics of St Margaret Mary Alacoque  
& St Claude la Colombière

present from Paray-le-Monial, France at each Friday Novena Mass



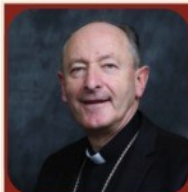
*Bishop  
Paul Dempsey*

*Church of the Holy Child  
Friday, May 2nd*



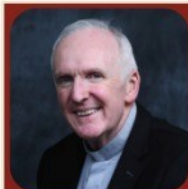
*Bishop  
Fintan Monahan*

*Cathedral of SS. Peter & Paul  
Friday, May 9th*



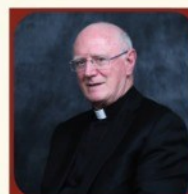
*Bishop  
Alphonsus Cullinan*

*Cath. of the Most Holy Trinity  
Friday, May 16th*



*Bishop  
Brendan Leahy*

*St. John's Cathedral  
Friday, May 23rd*



*Archbishop  
Dermot Farrell*

*Sacred Heart Church  
Friday, June 27th*



*Archbishop  
Eamon Martin*

*"Corpus Christi" Knock Shrine  
Sunday, June 22nd*

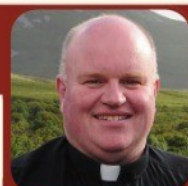
*Archbishop  
Eamon Martin*

*Church of the Sacred Heart  
Friday, May 30th*



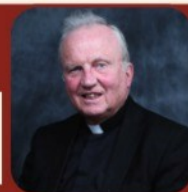
*Father  
Charlie McDonnell*

*Church of the Assumption  
Friday, June 6th*



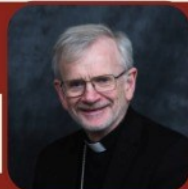
*Bishop  
Donal McKeown*

*Church of the Sacred Heart  
(Strabane)  
Friday, June 13th*



*Bishop  
Alan McGuckian*

*St. Peter's Cathedral  
Friday, June 20th*



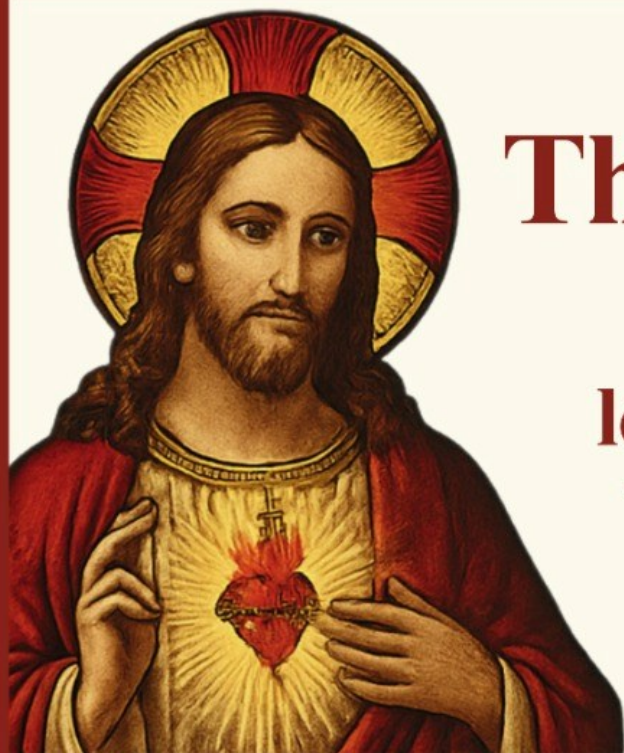
● **WATCH LIVE ON**



**SHALOM  
WORLD**

[shalomworld.org/sacred-heart-2025](https://shalomworld.org/sacred-heart-2025)





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Across Ireland &

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*Archbishop Dermot Farrell*

## SYNOD NEWS:

Be Part of the Conversation

What are the priorities for us as members of the  
Church in Ireland?

- In 2022 Church members across Ireland identified key themes
- In 2023-2024 the Universal Synod addressed these themes

Now in 2025 you are invited to name the priorities for action arising from them for the Irish Church

### How:

Watch a series of short videos or the compilation video outlining the themes on **[www.synod.ie/resources-for-spring-gatherings-2025/](http://www.synod.ie/resources-for-spring-gatherings-2025/)** or via the **QR code** (less than 10 mins in total)

- Consider the question: **What themes are emerging for you?**

- **REGISTER**

- Come to a meeting to share your feedback and to listen to others

### WHEN AND WHERE:

**Tuesday, 1st April, 7:00 pm Tea/Coffee 7:30-9:30 Listening Session**  
Mount St Anne's Retreat and Conference Centre, Killenard, Co. Laois.

### REGISTER:

Book your place at **[fds@kandle.ie](mailto:fds@kandle.ie)** /0599164084

Jubilee Year

2025

“We are  
Pilgrims  
of  
Hope”

Jubilee year  
Pilgrims of Hope



## Jubilee Year 2025.

### We are "Pilgrims of Hope"

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

### *The Jubilee Prayer*

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

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

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us,

*Pilgrims of Hope,*

a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

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

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

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

*(From the Servant Song by Richard Gillard)*



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

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

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

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



DICASTERY FOR EVANGELIZATION  
SECTION FOR FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS  
REGARDING EVANGELIZATION IN THE WORLD

## *The Jubilee Prayer*

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May that same grace spread the joy and peace of

our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,

be glory and praise for ever. Amen.



# Parish News



# Cemetery Masses

Ballyfin Cemetery

Sun. 8<sup>th</sup> June

Mountrath Cemetery

Fri. 27<sup>th</sup> June

Clonenagh Fri. 11<sup>th</sup> July

Cemetery on Right -

Mountrath to Portlaoise

Clondarrig Wed. 6<sup>th</sup> Aug.

Boghlone Wed. 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept.

*Masses commence at 7.00 pm*

# Diocesan Education Officer

Diocesan Education Officer, 30 hours per week,  
one year contract.

There are 162 primary schools under the patronage of the Catholic Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin. Our educational network spans 56 parishes and includes schools which cater specifically for children with special educational learning needs. We are now recruiting a Diocesan Education Officer for Primary Schools who will act as the Patron's representative in liaising and working with the Boards of Management of our primary schools.

Applications invited for the above post.

See [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie) for more details.

Closing date 30<sup>th</sup> May

# Moving Forward in Hope!"

Bishop Denis, together with the Diocesan Pastoral Council, will host a day for lay people and clergy to explore the direction of the Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin and how it impacts on the day-to-day life of a parish. We are building on the work done previously by the DPC, the Council of Priests, Faith Development Services, and across parishes. The day will comprise inputs from guest speakers, along with prayer, general discussion and intentional listening.

This Meeting takes place on Saturday, 21st June 2025 in Carlow College with registration at 9:30am, starting promptly at 10am and concluding at 4 pm. Lunch is included.

**Booking essential**

through [parishdevelopment@kandle.ie](mailto:parishdevelopment@kandle.ie) providing your name and parish.

# Tax Back Scheme Mountrath Parish

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you for your cooperation in this regard.

# 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)*

# Ballyfin Vintage Club

## Field Day

Best Wishes to Ballyfin Vintage Club as they hold their Annual Field Day at Springfield on this Sunday afternoon.

We wish you a most successful afternoon



**Are you caring for a loved one  
at home with additional  
care needs?**

## **NO ONE SHOULD CARE ALONE.**

Caring for a loved one can be rewarding, but it can also be difficult, frightening and isolating. It shouldn't be.

Family Carers Ireland (FCI) want carers to know they have the support they need to care safely, to make it less of a battle and to know they are not alone. We are the national charity supporting the 500,000+ family and young carers across the country who are caring for their loved ones with additional care needs. We believe no one should care alone.

## **MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNTS!**

Alongside our FREE supports and services, FCI offers an annual membership for family carers (and young carers for free), with over 100+ discounts, such as free venue entry, fuel discounts, Three mobile/broadband deals plus much more, for only €20 per year!

**Apply online or call us on 057 9370 221.**



Local  
Centre  
Support

Freephone  
National  
Careline

Rights &  
Entitlements  
Guidance

One-One  
Advocacy

Learning/  
Training

Crisis Support/  
Counselling

Family Carer Support Groups are also organised locally across all our centres nationwide.

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

**Freephone Careline 1800 24 07 24**

**Search 'Carers Ireland'**







**TURAS COLUMBANUS  
THE COLUMBAN WAY**

.....  
**XXVI Columbanus Day  
11-13 July 2025**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

info@carlowtourism.com

059 913 0411

www.kandle.ie

## WALKING TOGETHER IN HOPE

### FRIDAY 11TH JULY

- 1.45PM Opening Address & Words of Welcome by Bishop Denis Nulty, Carlow County Museum
- 2:00PM Launch of Exhibition "Ireland and the Birth of Europe" with Prof. Dáibhí Ó Cróinín, Carlow County Museum
- 3:00PM Symposium - "If You Want to Know the Creator, Understand Creation", facilitated by Cynthia Ní Mhurchú MEP, Carlow College, St Patrick's
- 5:00PM Ceremony of welcome and reception, Carlow College, St Patrick's
- 8:00PM Ecumenical Evening Prayer with Columbanus Relics, Adelaide Memorial Church, Myshall followed by procession with the Columbanus relics to the Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Myshall

### SATURDAY 12TH JULY

- 10:00AM Assemble for Walk from Nine Stones to Myshall on the Columban Way (2.5 hours)
- 1:00PM Buffet Lunch in Myshall Hall following walk
- 2:30PM Talk: "Columbanus, the Man from Myshall" – Former President Mary McAleese – Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Myshall
- 5:00PM Reception for Pilgrims and Guests hosted by Carlow County Council in Carlow College, St Patrick's
- 8:00PM Concert in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow followed by an Irish Music Night in Carlow Town

### SUNDAY 13TH JULY

- 8:00AM Breakfast in Carlow College, St. Patrick's
- 9:45AM Welcome for Religious Leaders & Civic Authorities in Carlow College, St. Patrick's
- 10:30AM XXVI Columbanus Day Mass in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow
- 12:30PM Pilgrims' Lunch in the Woodford Dolmen Hotel, Carlow



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

# Bingo

every Monday night

In St. Fintan's Hall at 8pm.

Come along and bring a friend.!!



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

*Here are our Bank Account details*

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

Lyster Square, Portlaoise.

Name of Account - Ballyfin Parish Pastoral Council

IBAN - IE44 AIBK 9332 7900 203030

BIC. - AIBKIE2D

**Mountrath Parish - Bank Account Details**

(Bank of Ireland) (Portlaoise Branch)

Name - Mountrath Parish Current Account -

Account number - 7274 7250

IBAN - IE93 BOFI 9018 2972 7472 50 -

BIC. - BOFIE2D

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

# *Anniversary Masses*

*Mountrath Ballyfin Parishes*

Sat. 24th May

To

Sun. 1st June

Lord, for your faithful people,

Life is Changed, not ended

# Ballyfin Anniversaries

## Anniversary and Mass Times

Sat. 24<sup>th</sup> May - Sun. 1<sup>st</sup> June

Sat. 24<sup>th</sup> May 8.00 pm Patrick, Ellen, Seán and Con Twomey  
and their sister, Mary Nolan, Pallas  
Seán and Michael O'Sullivan, Pallas.

Sun. 25<sup>th</sup> May. 10.00 am 6<sup>th</sup> Sun. of Easter  
2.00 pm 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Mass

Mon. 26<sup>th</sup> May. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification

Fri. 30<sup>th</sup> May 7.30 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Sat. 31<sup>st</sup> May 8.00 pm Vigil Mass of the Ascension.

Sun. 1<sup>st</sup> June 10.00 am Edward and Mary Brennan, Brockera.

Mon. 2<sup>nd</sup> June 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification

1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Mass Remembrance

Sun. 8<sup>th</sup> June 10.00 am Margaret Fitzpatrick, Springfield.

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# Mountrath Anniversaries

## Mass Times Anniversaries

Sat. 24<sup>th</sup> May Sun. 1<sup>st</sup> June

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

Sat. 24<sup>th</sup> May 7.00 pm Christy Cullen, Cloncourse Month's Mind

Sarah (Sally) Osborne, Fr. O'Connor Cresc. 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv.

Bobby Mulhall, Derrough. 4<sup>th</sup> Anniv.

Paddy Carroll, Cappagh 30<sup>th</sup> Anniv.

Liam McRedmond, Forest.

Sun. 25<sup>th</sup> May 9.00 am **The Hollow Church** 6<sup>th</sup> Sun of Easter

**11.30 am** 6<sup>th</sup> Sun of Easter

Tues. 27<sup>th</sup> May 10.00 am

Wed. 28<sup>th</sup> May 10.00 am

Thurs. 29<sup>th</sup> May 10.00 am

Fri. 30<sup>th</sup> May 10.00 am Altar List of the Dead

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# Mountrath Anniversaries

## Mass Times    Anniversaries

Sat. 31<sup>st</sup> May — Sun. 1<sup>st</sup> June

Sat. 31<sup>st</sup> May 7.00 pm    Paddy Lowry, Kiln Lane. Month's Mind

Sun. 1<sup>st</sup> June 9.00 am    The Hollow Church    Ascension of the Lord

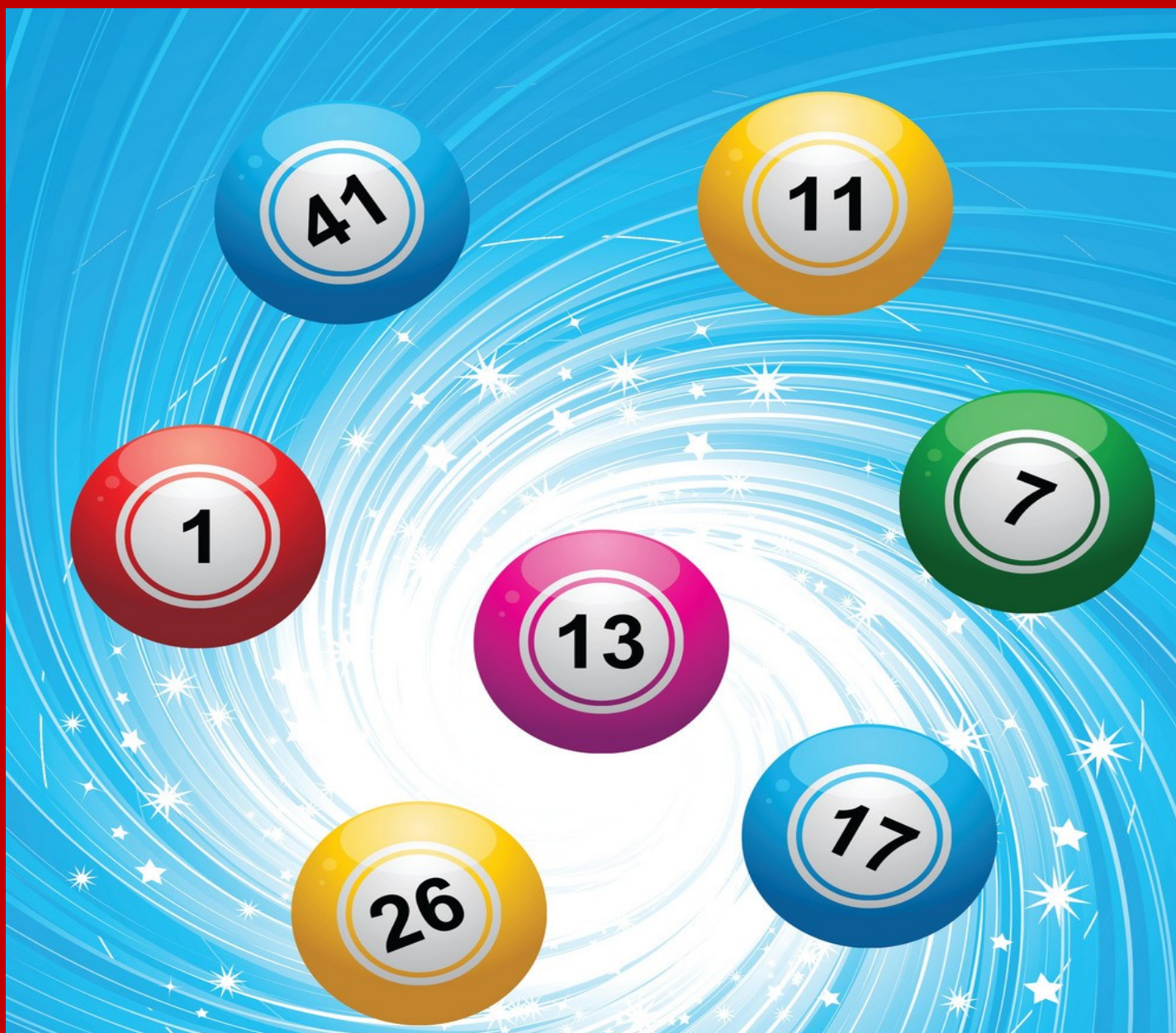
Michael Holland, Trumera. 15<sup>th</sup> Anniv.

Annie Brophy (Nee Scully) Glasshouse. 14<sup>th</sup> Anniv.

11.30 am    Feast of the Ascension of the Lord

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

# Parish Lottos



# Ballyfin Parish Lotto,

Wed 21st May

Nos. Drawn 3 18 23 31

No Jackpot Winner

10 Match 3 Winners

Rec. €100 each

Next Week's Jackpot €11,000

*Thank you for your continued  
and generous support of  
Ballyfin Parish Lotto.*

# Mountrath Parish Lotto Thurs. 22nd May

Nos. Drawn 3 7 14 23

No € 20,000 Jackpot Winner

27 Match 3 Winners rec. € 38 each

## 7 Local Winners

Winner	-	Promoter
Ruby Darcy and Ruby Conroy		Lucy Conroy
Cian Kinsella		M. Farrell
Decan O'Rourke		Betty O'Rourke
Peter Haslam		Mary Haslam
Amy and Shane Dowd		Catherine Kearns
Ann Carroll		Ann Carroll
Dan Kissane		Liam Kelly

## Next Week's Jackpot € 20,000

# 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      € 20,000

Ballyfin      € 11,000



# News From Around The Diocese

Kildare and Leighlin Annual  
Diocesan Collection for our  
Retired Priests takes place  
24th/25th May (This weekend)  
We appreciate your generously  
and continued support of our  
Retired Priests.

Thank you.



# Irish bishops concelebrate inaugural Mass of Pope Leo in Rome

Archbishop Eamon Martin of Armagh, Archbishop Dermot Farrel of Dublin and Bishop Brendan Leahy of Limerick



Archbishop Eamon Martin of Armagh, Archbishop Dermot Farrel of Dublin and Bishop Brendan Leahy of Limerick concelebrated the Solemn Mass of Inauguration of the Petrine Ministry of Pope Leo XIV, in Saint Peter's Square Rome on 18 May last.

After the Mass, Archbishop Martin said, "God has called Pope Leo XIV to be for His people, a visible source and foundation of unity in faith and communion. May God look with favour on him, the servant He has chosen to be successor of Peter.

Please join us in prayer for him."

## 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).

# Adult Studies in the Catechism of the Catholic Church National Pilgrimage

Adult Studies in the Catechism of the Catholic Church National Pilgrimage to Ireland's Eucharistic and Marian Shrine takes place in Knock on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025, the liturgical feast of the visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth.

Morning Session:

11.30am: Sowing Seeds of Hope –  
Families, Parishes and Workplaces

Venue: St. John's Rest and Care Centre

## Schedule of Ceremonies:

2.00pm: Outdoor Stations of the Cross  
and Rosary Procession

3.00pm: Holy Mass in the Basilica

Eucharistic Adoration and Sacrament of Reconciliation  
throughout the day.

# Liturgy Association of Ireland

## Annual Conference"

*Proclaiming and Receiving the Word of God"*, Saturday, 31st  
May, 2025, Renehan Hall, St Patrick's College, Maynooth

The conference will include two morning papers with  
responses, an afternoon panel, workshop,  
and closing act of worship. Papers will be presented by  
Dr Luke McNamara, OSB,  
and Pauline Byrne (Doctoral Candidate).

The Workshop will be led by LAI committee member,  
Mary Connolly.

Booking essential through Eventbrite.

# Dominican Retreats

Please see details of upcoming Dominican Retreats:

Donagh O'Shea OP

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Subject: Go down to the Potter's House

Cost: €70.00 including lunch/Non-Residential

To book call 01 4048189

or email [dominicanretreats@gmail.com](mailto:dominicanretreats@gmail.com)

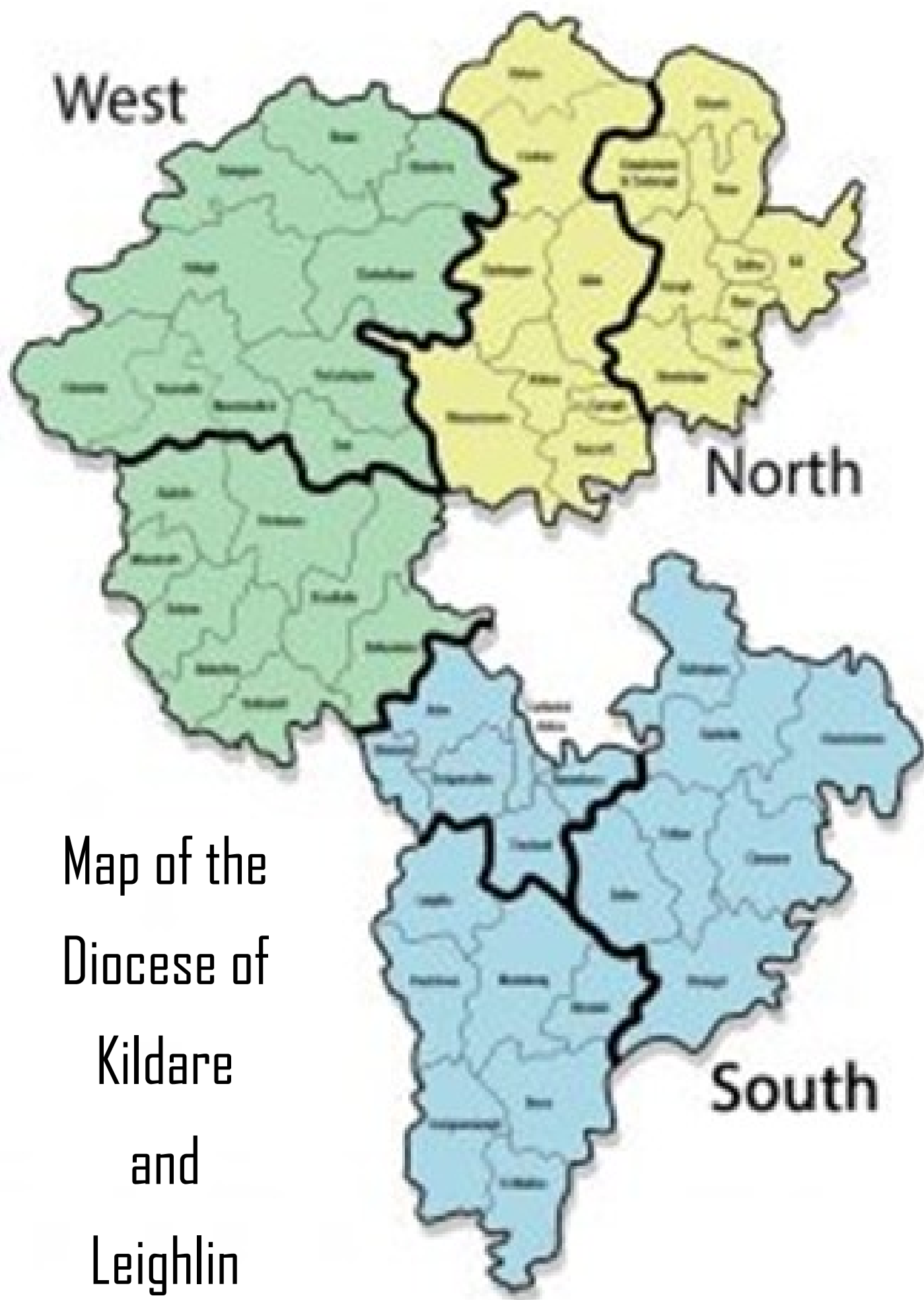
Sr. Colette Kane OP

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Subject: Exploring Mystery at the Heart of Creation

Cost: €255 Residential, €140 Non-Residential

To book call 01 4048189 or email [dominicanretreats@gmail.com](mailto:dominicanretreats@gmail.com)



Map of the  
Diocese of  
Kildare  
and  
Leighlin

# **Go Down to the Potter's House**

## **Donagh O'Shea, OP**

**24th May 2025**

Working with clay as a different path to meditation.  
No previous experience of pottery or meditation required.  
(Optional Eucharist at 4pm)



**Cost: €70.00 including lunch. non-residential.**

**To book call 01 4048189 or  
email [dominicanretreats@gmail.com](mailto:dominicanretreats@gmail.com)**





28. > 29.

JUNE 2025

## Methods and places of Participation in the local Church

Promoted by the Evangelii Gaudium Center at Sophia University Institute (Italy) in collaboration with the General Secretariat of the Synod.



### The Synodal pathway goes forward!

We have entered the implementation phase of the Synod «For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission» that will bring the People of God to an ecclesial Assembly in 2028. The Church in Ireland is engaged in this process, through the development of its Synodal Pathway in harmony with the whole Church.

In this workshop we will learn more about the theological fundamentals and synodal Spirit; we will practice synodal methods (listening, discerning, evaluating the impact, conversation in the Spirit), to help make the places in our churches more synodal.

It is a way of building a Church that is journeying together more and more, within the horizon of the hope that does not disappoint.

### Participants:

The course is open to all who desire to lead fruitful synodal processes – clergy, religious men and women and active parishioners.

### Dates:

Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th June 2025

### Location:

Curryhills House Prosperous Co. Kildare - Ireland

### Program:

Friday 27th, beginning with dinner at 6pm

ending on Sunday 29th at 4pm

(Day participants are welcome for the Saturday programme only: 9.30am - 5.30pm.)

### Cost:

€ 160.00 (Course fee € 20.00 and accommodation € 145.00)

Non residential: € 70.00 (Course fee, Friday and Saturday dinner and lunch on Saturday and Sunday)

Day participants on Saturday: € 32 including lunch (€ 20 without lunch)

**Registration by 15th June 2025 using the following link:**  
**<https://forms.gle/1haKNuZSxX8LpH5t6>**



**Graiguecullen Killeishin Parish**

# OFFICE MANAGER



**WE ARE LOOKING FOR AN EXPERIENCED AND  
SELF-MOTIVATED INDIVIDUAL**

- ✓ 30 hours per week
- ✓ Previous experience in an office environment essential
- ✓ Accounting experience/background necessary
- ✓ Role profile and duties available from  
**GKparishrecruitment@gmail.com**



Email a letter of application, CV & two recent referees to  
**Gkparishrecruitment@gmail.com**  
by 5pm Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June

Events  
at  
Bloom HQ



# February 2025 TIMETABLE

## Monday

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

## Tuesday

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

## Wednesday

11 am Mature Movers  
7 pm Mixed Circuit Training

## Thursday

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

## Friday

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

## Saturday

11.30 am Pilates\*

**PAYG  
and  
Members  
Always  
Welcome**

\*These Classes  
are not included  
in the  
Membership fee

For more info contact  
Ruth on 089 2647761



# Classes will be held in BloomHQ

Spacious, modern rooms    Wifi

Sound proofed areas    Free parking

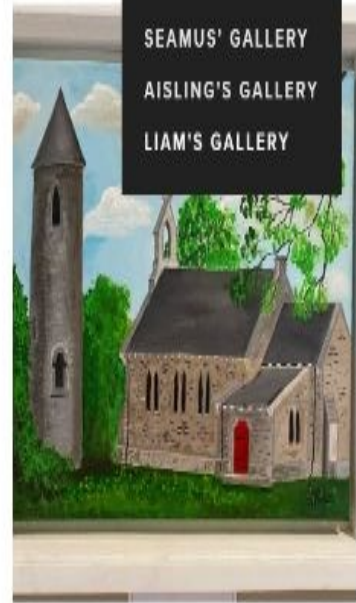
Music stands    And much more...



**MUSIC  
TEACHERS  
WANTED!**

Teachers on ALL instruments accepted

Contact Lucy on 087 259 7895



Canadian Rockies

Timahoe Church and Tower

ABOUT US

SPACES AND SHOP

CONTACT US

MEETING ROOMS

HOT DESKS

SERVICED OFFICES

BOOK A DESK

BILLY'S GALLERY

SEAMUS' GALLERY

AISLING'S GALLERY

LIAM'S GALLERY

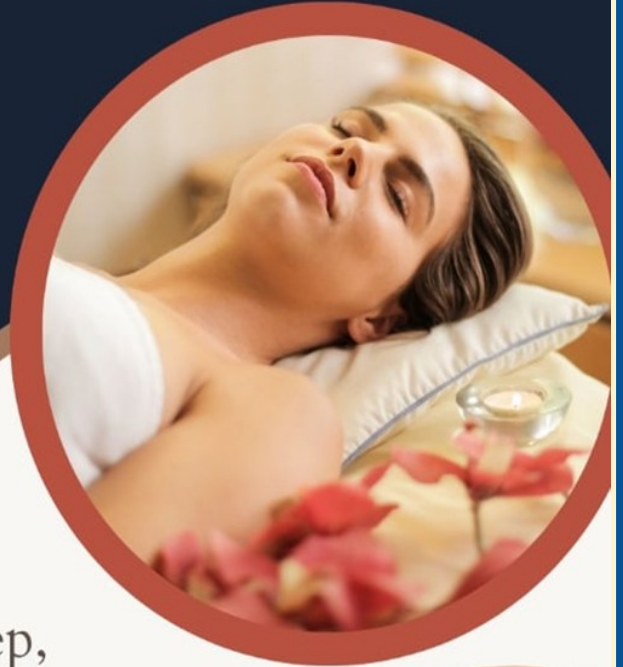
**Just a quick reminder,  
you can explore the  
paintings we have for  
sale on our website!**

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



# Revive Swedish Massage

—  —  
REVIVE SWEDISH MASSAGE  
RELAX AND REVIVE TODAY



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

## Our Services

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

 085 200 2497

 Bloomhq, Mountrath, R32 DC58

[Book Your Appointment](#)







# White-Horse

Adults

## INDOOR BOWLS

Every Thursday (8pm )

St Philomena's Hall -Bloom HQ

Beginners Very welcome

Come along and give it a try!

Runners or Flat sole shoes are all you need!





Feeling tired sitting at your desk all day?

# LUNCHTIME HIIT WORKOUT



**Tuesdays and Thursday @1.00pm**

Contact Ruth 089 264 7761

Bloomhq, Patrick St, Mountrath, R32DT9F



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ciste na  
gcuntas díomhaoín  
the dormant  
accounts fund



SPÓRT ÉIREANN  
SPORT IRELAND



# French Grinds with native speaker



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



## Available times slots :

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

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



## Fees:

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

## ✉ Email:

[youandfrench@gmail.com](mailto:youandfrench@gmail.com)



## Phone:

+353 89 491 3931  
Myriam Schultz

# OFFICES TO RENT IN LAOIS



**FREE WIFI**



**SPACIOUS PARKING**



**CANTEEN ACCESS**



**089 2722885**



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



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





# Mountrath Health and Fitness Academy



**MOUNTRATH**  
Martial Arts & Fitness Academy

**JOIN NOW**

Ruth- 086 326 2570



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



R32 DT9F, Patrick St.  
Mountrath, Co.Laois



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the dormant  
accounts fund



LAOIS SPORTS PARTNERSHIP  
COMHAR SPÓIRT NA LAOISE

# 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)**



# UNISLIM

## *Join Today!*

### Bloom Hq

### Wednesdays 7-8pm

### Class Talk 8pm

New members  
always welcome!

9 stone  
weight  
loss



**Mairead McCaul**  
Unislim Member

**Join Unislim for €25**

**Pay €12 weekly fee thereafter**

For more info visit [unislim.com](https://www.unislim.com)



[unislim.com](https://www.unislim.com) | 1800 603020

# Music Teachers wanted



for Mountrath Music School

**\*soundproof rooms**

**\*free parking**

**\*waiting area for parents**



**contact Lucy 087 259 7895**



LOOKING FOR AN  
**OFFICE TO RENT**  
IN LAOIS?

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

**CONTACT 089 272 2885  
OR**

**MANAGER@BLOOMHQ.IE**



*Bloomhq, Patrick St, Mountrath R32 DC58*



# Music Classes in Mountrath



## Trad Music

Saturdays from 11 am 6 + years

€ 8 for 30 min group class

Eabha 083 856 6083



## Piano

Sunday mornings 5+ years

€20 per 30 min lesson

Heather 083 054 7772



LOOKING FOR AN  
**OFFICE TO RENT**  
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**FULLY SERVICED  
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FREE PARKING  
CANTEEN  
POSTAL ADDRESS  
PHOTOCOPYING**

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



*Bloomhq, Patrick St, Mountrath R32 DC58*





# Music Classes in Mountrath



## Violin

Thursdays 3-30 pm on from 3 years -adult

€ 20 for 30 min individual lesson

Irene 089 981 8065



## Trad Music

Saturdays from 11 am 6 + years

€ 8 for 30 min group class

Eabha 083 856 6083



## Piano

Sunday mornings 5+ years

€20 per 30 min lesson

Heather 083 054 7772







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

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





# Meeting Room

"Rachel's Room"

Brigidine Convent,  
Patrick Street,  
Mountrath

- Broadband Wifi
- Ample free parking
- Canteen

Contact  
[manager@bloomhq.ie](mailto:manager@bloomhq.ie)  
089 2722885



LOOKING FOR AN  
**OFFICE TO RENT**  
IN LAOIS?

RENT FOR AN HOUR/A  
DAY/WEEKLY

CONTACT 089 272 2885 OR  
[MANAGER@BLOOMHQ.IE](mailto:MANAGER@BLOOMHQ.IE)



# Music Classes in Mountrath



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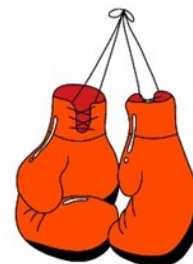
## Karate

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

## Kickboxing

First trial class free

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



## Brazilian

8-12 years,

## Jiu-jitsu\*

Wednesdays 7-8 pm & Saturdays 10-11 am  
€ 35 per month or €5 per class  
Jamie: 085 200 2497



## Art & Craft

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

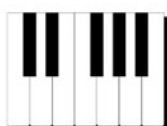
## Violin



Thursdays 3.30 pm on. From 3 years - adult  
€20 for 30 min individual lesson  
Irene: 089 981 8065



## Trad Music



## Piano

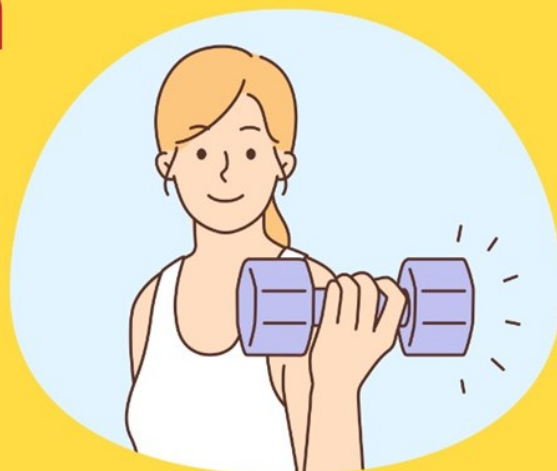
Sunday mornings €20 for 30 min individual  
lesson Heather 083 054 7772

to book talk to the relevant teacher



# Saturday Morning Circuit Training

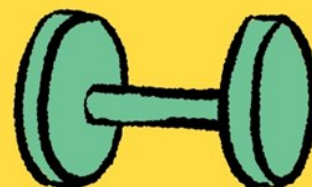
9-10 am



€ 7 PAYG

or

part of your monthly  
membership



contact 086 3262 570

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





# Mountrath Music Rooms

Lessons in BloomHQ



Violin Lessons

by Irene Ramos

089 9818065

[iramos.violinstudio@gmail.com](mailto:iramos.violinstudio@gmail.com)

Thursdays



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

Cliona & Eabha Dowling McDonald

083 8566083

Saturdays



Piano Lessons

by Heather Gavigan 083 054 7772

Sundays



Contact the relevant teacher  
for times, prices etc

# Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu/BJJ in Mountrath



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

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

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

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

**Wednesdays**

Kids 7-8 pm

Teens /Adults 8-9 pm

**Saturdays**

Kids 10- 11 am

Teens /Adults 11 am -12 pm

contact Jamie 085 200 2497



SPÓRT ÉIREANN  
SPORT IRELAND



LAOIS SPORTS PARTNERSHIP  
COMHAR SPÓIRT NA LAOISE



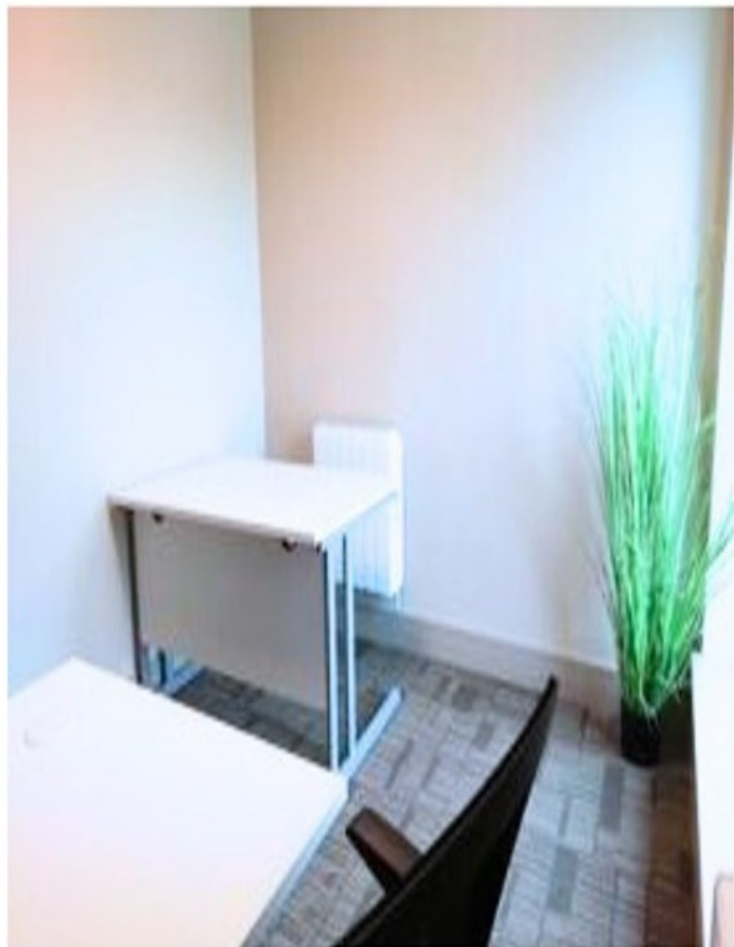
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accounts fund

Brigidine Convent, Patrick St, Mountrath, R32 DC58





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



**Contact 0892722885 [manager@bloomhq.ie](mailto:manager@bloomhq.ie)**



# Mountrath Music Rooms



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

**\*Soundproof rooms**

**\*From € 15 per hour**

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

**\*free easy car park**

**\*Waiting space**

Brigidine Convent,  
Patrick St,  
Mountrath R32 DT9F





# 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)





# Activities suitable for Senior Citizens in Mountrath

Mature Movers 50 +  
Mondays & Wednesdays 11 am



Bowls inclusive 11 am Tuesdays  
Bowls 8 pm Thursdays

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



Activator Poles Inclusive  
Thursdays 11 am

contact Ruth 086 3262 570





# VIOLIN LESSONS

by Irene Ramos

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

FULLY QUALIFIED SUZUKI TEACHER & ABRSM DIPLOMA IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE

**FOR RATES AND/OR MORE  
INFO PLEASE CONTACT ME**

Phone: 0773222323

Email: [iramos.violinstudio@gmail.com](mailto:iramos.violinstudio@gmail.com)

 Irene Ramos  
VIOLIN STUDIO



# Mountrath Men's Shed



**Old School on  
Patrick Street**



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

**Contact 0857053855**





# Karate Classes

**Mondays & Thursdays 7 - 8 pm**



**Juniors and Adults**



**Okinawan Karate**



**Black Belt Instructors**

contact Sensei Donal, 5th dan  
087 760 7063

Martial Arts Centre, Old  
Convent, Mountrath,  
R32 DC58





# **HIIT Lunchtime class**

## **High-Intensity Interval Training**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays**

**1.15 pm for 40 mins**

**5 euro a class**

**or**

**part of your monthly  
gym package**

**Book with Ruth 086 3262 570**





Irish Traditional

# MUSIC LESSONS

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



Clióna and Éabha  
Dowling McDonald

**More Information :**  
Contact 083  
8566083





# ***Mountrath Scouts***



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

**For all ages from beavers to ventures and into leaders !**



## **Scouts is a way to**

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

## **Friday nights**

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

7:00 till 8:30

€5 pp

or

€4 per sibling





Other

News

# Lovely LAOIS HOMECOMING FESTIVAL

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



## Remember The Past

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

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

## Glimpse The Future

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

## Enjoy The Present

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

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

**Laois Sports Partnership Office • Telephone: 0578671248**



# Lovely LAOIS



HOMECOMING FESTIVAL

**FREE** Afternoon

**TEA** Dance

SUNDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER

FROM 2PM - 5PM

ST. PHILOMENA'S HALL

BLOOM HQ (FORMERLY THE BRIGIDINE CONVENT)

MOUNTRATH, CO. LAOIS

DANCING TO

MICHAEL CAHILL  
with Special Guest

**SHAWN CUDDY**

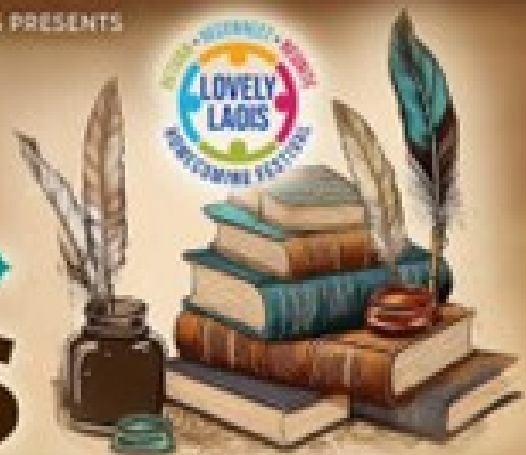
Complimentary Refreshments Served






BURCHAS PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

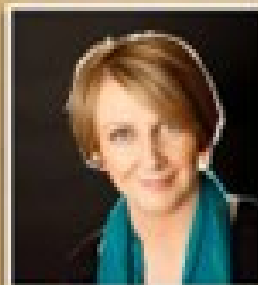
# Lovely LAOIS



## HOMECOMING FESTIVAL

# LITERARY EVENT

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



**11AM-1PM**

### CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

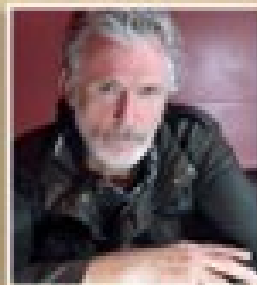
with Helen Moorhouse  
Mountmellick native,  
author of five  
published novels and  
Creative Writing Tutor,  
Helen Moorhouse  
hosts *First Steps  
To Your Story* for  
writers starting their  
first novel.



**2PM-4PM**

### PLAYWRIGHT WORKSHOP

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



**4PM-5PM**

### AN AUDIENCE WITH PATRICK BERGIN

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



**5PM-6PM**

### OPEN MIC

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

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



BUIOCHAS PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

# Lovely LAOIS

## HOMECOMING FESTIVAL

### GALA DINNER

THE MIDLANDS PARK HOTEL, PORTLAOISE  
SATURDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2025

#### PACKAGE INCLUDES:

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

Doors Open 7pm  
Dinner served  
@ 8pm sharp

TICKETS  
€59



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

Flying with TAP Airlines

Also 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025 for Feast of Saint Anthony,

13<sup>th</sup> October 2025 for Miracle of Sun

Contact James Treacy 061921470

[jamestreacyphotography@gmail.com](mailto:jamestreacyphotography@gmail.com)

Payment can be made by instalments



# Daily Itinerary

## Day 1 - Holy Thursday (Apr 17th)

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

## Day 2 - Good Friday (Apr 18th)

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

## Day 3 - Holy Saturday (Apr 19th)

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

## Day 4 - Easter Sunday (Apr 20th)

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

## Day 5 - Easter Monday (Apr 21st)

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

## Day 6 - Tuesday (Apr 22nd)

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







# FATIMA PILGRIMAGE

17th - 22nd APR '25

Group Leader: James Treacy

Escorted Tour

**Barter's**  
Travelnet

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

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

## INCLUDES:

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

## EXTRAS:

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

## HOTEL SANTA AMARO:

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

## Cost Per Person

**€859pp sharing**

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

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



For further information please contact:

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

**Barter's Travelnet** : 021 485 1700 or [kcallaghan@travelnet.ie](mailto:kcallaghan@travelnet.ie)



BUIOCHAS PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

# Lovely LAOIS

## HOMECOMING FESTIVAL



# LITERARY EVENT

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



**11AM-1PM**

### CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

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



**2PM-4PM**

### PLAYWRIGHT WORKSHOP

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



**4PM-5PM**

### AN AUDIENCE WITH PATRICK BERGIN

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



**5PM-6PM**

### OPEN MIC

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

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





09:29



Lovely Laois Homecomi...



Trudi Lalor



21h



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

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



# Parish Finances

# Mountrath Parish Statement of Account 2023

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

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



## Ballyfin Parish Third Party Collections 2024

Retired Priests € 1,525.00

Peter's Pence € 852.00

World Mission € 1,123.00

Trocaire € 2,462.96

Collection for Gaza (Good Friday) € 500.00

Total € 6462.96

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

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		Legal/Professional	€ 828.00
		Donations	€ 1,700.00
		Total:	€ 186,173.00

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

# Mountrath Parish

## Third Party Collections 2024

Retired Priests      € 530.00

Peter's Pence      € 550.00

World Mission      € 615.00

Trocaire      € 2,615.00

Collection for Gaza (Good Friday) € 390.00

Total      € 4,700.00

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