

# Mountrath Ballyfin Parish News 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. '23

St. Fintan's Parish, Mountrath – Ballyfin

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## 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup> sept.. 2023

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

Fr. Joe (087) 2411 594

Mountrath Parish Radio transmits on

FM 104.5

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

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

A Big Welcome back to all our Schools  
Pupils, Parents, Teachers, School Staff and all  
involved in our Schools Communities  
A very special welcome to pupils and students  
who are starting school for the first time.



*A Note from Bishop's Office*

### Pastoral Area Meetings

Having met in June last we will gather again in each Pastoral Area in September to further reflect and tease out together the principles that will shape our future of co-responsibility and how we must think in terms of our cluster group and our wider pastoral area. These meetings are vitally important and representation from all parishes is encouraged. Our Meeting is arranged for Tues. 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. 7.00 pm (Portlaoise Parish Centre)

See Below for lots more on  
our Pastoral Areas  
Meetings  
Beginning on Page 19

## *A Note From Bishop Denis* *Ref. Pastoral Area Meetings*

Next week we begin a second series of Pastoral Area Meetings to further reflect and tease out together the principles that will shape our future of co-responsibility and how we must think in terms of our cluster group and the wider pastoral area. These meetings are all about building a Church of the future, a Church we all can feel part of. The DPC have put together the attached "Put out into the Deep Water" document to remind us what was shared at those earlier summer meetings and what actions were suggested.

It is critically important that at this stage we begin to put a shape and a timing on the agreed principles that will guide us on our shared journey. I cannot over emphasise how important these meetings will be over the month of September. It is vitally important that there is representation from all parishes. Kindly note the dates for your Pastoral Area as listed below. + Denis

**Our Meeting is arranged for Tues. 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. 7.00 pm - at Portlaoise Parish Centre.**

*People who have attended previous meetings are invited to attend this Meeting*

### **Patrick (Paddy) Wall. Galway - Formerly Woodbrook**

We pray for Paddy who died peacefully at his home on Thurs. 24<sup>th</sup> Aug. Paddy's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Mountrath on Sat. 26<sup>th</sup> Aug. followed by burial in Mountrath Cemetery. We extend sympathy to all his family, especially his brother, Michael (Mick) Woodbrook, neighbours and friends.

### **Vincent Fitzpatrick, (VF 66) Paddock. R.I.P.**

We pray for Vincent who died peacefully at his home on Thurs. 24<sup>th</sup> Aug. Vincent's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Edmund's Church, Castletown on Sun. 27<sup>th</sup> Aug. followed by burial in Mountrath Cemetery. We extend sympathy to his wife, Paula, Odile and Kate. mother Ann,

sisters Ann Marie, Bernadette, Mary, brothers Dan and Eddie, parents-in-law Fintan and Peg (Russell) Shannon St., and all their families. nephews, nieces, extended family, relatives, neighbours and friends.,

The following is an extract from my Newsletter of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019. – Entitled,

### **New Altar in Mountrath Cemetery**

During the Cemetery Mass on Friday evening (28<sup>th</sup> June) we blessed and dedicated a beautiful new altar, designed and made by Vincent Fitzpatrick, Paddock. The Logo on the Altar is St. Brigid's Cross, inspired by the Bridgine Sisters who have been an integral part of Mountrath life since 1809. The new altar is sited at the intersection of the "old" and "new" parts of the Cemetery and is faced towards the Spire of St. Fintan's Parish Church on Patrick St.,

### **Paddy Brennan, Pallas. Formerly Boghlone. R.I.P.**

We pray for Paddy who died peacefully at his home on Sat. 26<sup>th</sup> Aug..

Paddy's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Peter and Puul Church, Portlaoise on Mon. 28<sup>th</sup> Aug. followed by burial in Ballyfin New Cemetery. We extend sympathy to Mary, Martina and Michael and their families, Grandchildren, Cillian, Ciarán , Phoebe, Conall, Luke, Ellen and Zach.. Son in laws Gerard and Paul. Brother in law Timmy Butler. Nieces, nephews, relatives, neighbours and his many friends. Paddy is predeceased by sisters Betty (Short) and Kathleen (Kavanagh) -- Paddy was part of the fabric of Portlaoise town for many years where he was known far and wide and across the generations, as the man who supplied countless families with their weekly requirements of fruit and vegetables.

### **Patricia (Patty) Dunne (Nee Dempsey) Pallas Little. R.I.P.**

We pray for Patty who died peacefully at her home on Mon. 28<sup>th</sup> Aug. Patty's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin on Wed. 30<sup>th</sup> Aug. followed by burial in Clondarrig Cemetery. We extend sympathy to Mary, Una, Patricia, Martina and Sean and their families,

sister, Bernie, brothers James, Pat, Denis, Sean (Boston) and their families. Sisters in law, brother in law, sons in law Pat and Christy and Mary's partner, Tom. Grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nephews, nieces, relatives and friends and her dear carers Christine Harris and Lynda Campbell.

*May Paddy and Patricia (Patty) rest in the peace of Christ.*

*May Patrick (Paddy), Vincent Paddy and Patricia (Patty) rest in the peace of Christ.*

**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. -

We wish them a speedy recovery.

## Parish Visitation for Sept.

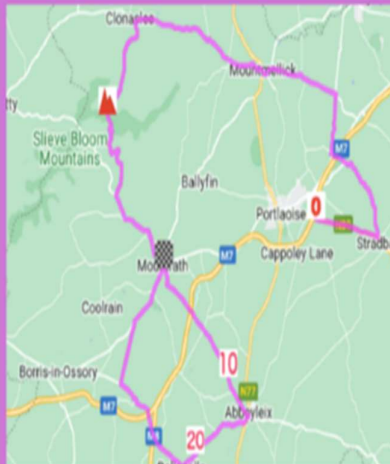
Tues. 5<sup>th</sup> Mountrath Country

Wed. 6<sup>th</sup> Mountrath Town

Thurs. 7<sup>th</sup> Ballyfin Parish



**IRELAND'S  
PREMIER WOMEN'S  
STAGE RACE**



**Stage 3 finishes in Mountrath on Friday September 8th.**  
**Portlaoise - Stradbally - Emo - Mountmellick - Clonaslee - The Cut - Mountrath - Ballacolla -  
 Abbeyleix - Mountrath**  
 See link for stage route: <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/41818995>  
 Further Information [www.rasnamban.com](http://www.rasnamban.com)  
 Imagery credit: Rás na mBan



# Rás na mBan Stage 3 Start Portlaoise – Finish Mountrath

Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Sept.

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Rás na mBan Ireland's biggest international stage cycle race with over 100 of the world's top women racers is coming to Mountrath! Stage 3 - Friday September 8<sup>th</sup>, starts in Portlaoise at Laois County Council Offices from 11:00am passing through Stradbally, Emo, Mountmellick, Clonaslee, The Cut, Mountrath, Ballacolla and Abbeyleix. The race will pass through Mountrath at approximately 1pm before finishing in Mountrath at approximately 2pm. The race will finish on Patrick Street with the finish line/stage approximately 200m from St. Fintan's Church. Midlands 103 will broadcast live from The Square in Mountrath from 12 – 3pm. The race is also broadcast on RTE and Eurosport.

You are invited to come and support Ireland's top racers including the Irish national team doing battle with riders from all over the world representing 25 teams, 15 nations, over 100 riders and put Mountrath on the map!

See [www.rasnamban.com](http://www.rasnamban.com) See below for some pics.

For the full stage 3 race route  
see <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/41818995>.



Snap taken at Launch (of Stage 3) in Mountrath (Bloom HQ) on 23<sup>rd</sup> July

## Deadline for Parish Newsletters

Items for Parish Newsletters are always most welcome. If you wish to have an item included in the Parish Newsletters (Print or online Edition) we request that they be in by 12 midday on Thursdays

Text Message, Email, Whatsapp, Letter or Pop into Parochial House.

(Our Parish Newsletters are online and on App. from early Saturday morning)

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

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Our New-Look Parish App. Came online during the week Check it out.

*A Very Sincere "Thank you" for Your Most Generous Support*

*of all our Parish Collections*

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## In This Issue

Safeguarding Children Parish Reps.

Mass Times – Anniversaries

Cemetery Mass In Boghlone

Mountrath - Ballyfin Lotto Results.



# Parish Finances. - A Word of Thanks

## Different ways of Supporting your Parish:

### Mary Sheridan, Virginia R.I.P.

We pray for Mary who died peacefully at her home on Wed. 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug. Mary's Funeral was celebrated in Mary Immaculate Church, Virginia on Sat. 26<sup>th</sup> Aug. followed by burial in Virginia Old Cemetery. We keep and hold in our prayers, her daughter, Betty Hosey, Trumera and all her family at this sad time.

May Mary rest in the peace of Christ.

## Safeguarding Children Parish Reps

Ballyfin Parish    Triona O'Rourke and Peter Byrne

Mountrath Parish    Caroline Moore and Pachelli Walsh

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person: Ms Kathleen Sherry

*Deputy Diocesan Liaison Person: Ms Michelle Hughes,*  
c/o Bishop's House, Dublin Rd, Carlow Ph: 085 802 1633

**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. –

We wish them a speedy recovery

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**Mass Times – Anniversaries**

**Mountrath**

**Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sun. 10<sup>th</sup> Sept.**

Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept. 7.00 pm Vigil Mass for 22<sup>nd</sup> Sun. in Ord. Time

Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. 9.00 am **The Hollow Church.**

. 11.30 am John Gee. 30<sup>th</sup> Anniv.

Edward and Mary Ann Walsh, Tinnakill.

Sons, Ned, Paul, Pat, Jim, Baby John

Mon. 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. 10.00 am

Tues. 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. 10.00 am Con Moloney, Avondale.

John and Jim Farrell, Woodbrook.

Wed. 6<sup>th</sup> Sept. 10.00 am

Thurs. 7<sup>th</sup> Sept. 10.00 am John and Anastasia (Statia) (Nee Clooney) Phelan,  
Golf Links Road, Mountrath

Fri. 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. 10.00 am Altar List of the Dead.

Sat. 9<sup>th</sup> Sept. 7.00 pm

Sun. 10<sup>th</sup> Sept. 9.00 am [The Hollow Church.](#)

. 11.30 am Elizabeth (Lily) Russell, Clonad (formerly Patrick St) 5<sup>th</sup> A.

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## Mass Times Anniversaries [Ballyfin](#)

Fri, 1<sup>st</sup> - Sun. 10<sup>th</sup> Sept.

Fri. 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. 7.30 pm Altar List of the Dead.

Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept. 8.00 pm

Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. 10.00 am

Mon. 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification

Wed. 6<sup>th</sup> Sept. 7.00 pm Boghlonge Cemetery Mass

Fri. 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. 5.00 pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament.

. 7.30 pm Altar List of the Dead.

Sat. 9<sup>th</sup> Sept. 8.00 pm Vigil Mass of 23<sup>rd</sup> Sun. in Ord. Time.

Sun. 10<sup>th</sup> Sept. 10.00 am 23<sup>rd</sup> Sun. in Ord. Time.

Mon. 11<sup>th</sup> Sept. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification..

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## Month's Mind Mass

Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> Sept. 8.00 pm Breda Heffernan (Nee McCann) R.I.P.

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### Cemetery Mass *(Commences at 7.00 pm)*

Mass in Boghlonge Cemetery will be celebrated on Wed. 6<sup>th</sup> Sept. If you would like to read at this Mass or if you would like to prepare and lead the Prayer of the Faithful, or prepare (and read) a Post Communion Reflection please let Fr. P.J. know

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

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## Mountrath - Ballyfin Lotto Results.

Ballyfin Lotto Results Wed. 30<sup>th</sup> Aug

Nos. Drawn 3 7 23 27

No Jackpot Winner



35 Match 3 Winners Rec. € 27 ea

### 3 Local Winners

Shane O'Rourke

Promoter, Harry Allen

Bridie Byrne -

Promoter, Bridie Byrne

Bridget Gorman,

Promoter, Paul Dunne

**Next Week's Jackpot € 18,000**

A note of thanks to everyone involved in Ballyfin Parish Lotto - Organising Committee, 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 support and generosity.

**Mountrath Parish Lotto** Nos. Drawn 4 5 6 20

**Thurs. 31<sup>st</sup> Aug** No Jackpot Winner

15 Match 3's Rec. € 67 ea.

### 7 Local Winners

Catherine Kearns - Promoter, Catherine Kearns

Mick Marum - Promoter, David Tobin

Morrin Family - Promoter, Teresa Morrin

Rebecca Feighry - Promoter, Breda Conroy.

Breda Hosey - Promoter, Bernie Tynan

Ann Keane - Promoter, Heather Mortimer

M Farrell - Promoter, M Farrell

**Next Week's Jackpot. € 15,000**

**A note of thanks** to everyone involved in Mountrath Parish Lotto - Organising Committee, 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.

*Next  
Week's*



**€ 15,000 - Mountrath**

**€ 18,000 Ballyfin**

# Boghlone Cemetery.      Wed. 6<sup>th</sup> Sept.

All our Cemetery Masses will begin at 7.00 pm

## Treasure Ireland

A new video series launched recently by the Irish Dominicans is an ambitious project that will take the friars to every county in Ireland, filming roughly ten videos in each county, highlighting the many and varied stories that make up the history of Irish Christianity. The series is currently focussed on the counties which overlap with the territory of the diocese of Kildare and Leighlin: Laois, Kildare, Carlow, and (soon!) Kilkenny.

Some of the sites visited include Timahoe, the Rock of Dunamase, and the Brownhill Dolmen. The story of Jesuit photographer, Fr Frank Browne, is told in a video recorded in Emo Court, and that of pioneering scientist, Fr Nicholas Callan, in a video from Maynooth.

The stories of the great saints of these counties feature prominently: there are videos on St Brigid, St Mochua, St Moling, St Fergal of Aghaboe, and the Dominican martyr, Blessed Peter O'Higgins. There'll soon be added to that list the stories of two

great bishops of Kildare and Leighlin: Daniel Delany (d. 1814) and James Doyle (d. 1834), also known as J.K.L. ('James of Kildare and Leighlin').

All of these stories are told in a way designed to interest believers and non-believers alike, showing, bit by bit, that the Gospel is woven inseparably into the fabric of Irish history.

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The videos can be viewed

on <https://www.kandle.ie/treasureireland/> and <https://www.youtube.com/irishdominicans>

## Marriage Encounter Weekend

Catholic Marriage Encounter is a Weekend experience for any  
Sacramentally married couple.

Every relationship is a journey, and the grind of everyday life can cause  
you to lose touch with your spouse.

This is a space for you and your spouse to pause, reflect, and  
reconnect privately. Our next Marriage Enrichment Weekend is Friday  
3rd to Sunday 5th November 2023.

At "The Cork International Hotel" Cork. To book your place visit our  
website: [www.marriageencounter.ie](http://www.marriageencounter.ie) Tel. 087-2162436



## Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Portlaoise Parish to the Holy Land led by Msgr John Byrne, travelling from 7th Sept – 15th Sept 2023. Cost per person €2190, single supplement €769. Cost includes coach transfer from Portlaoise to Dublin airport return, flights, accommodation on half board basis, courier service in the Holy Land and a full religious programme. For more details please contact Tullys Travel Carlow on 059-9136100.

## All-Ireland Pollinator Plan

Avoid using insecticides, fungicides and herbicides These potent chemical cocktails are designed to kill various organisms. One of the best things you can do for pollinators is avoid using them. Why: Insecticides have been found to kill, harm, and disorientate pollinators. Herbicides kill the 'weeds' that provide them with important food. [www.pollinators.ie/top-ten-ways-to-help-pollinators/](http://www.pollinators.ie/top-ten-ways-to-help-pollinators/)

# Kildare Carmelite Annual Pilgrimage to Knock

Sun. 10<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2023. Bus will leave The Square, Kildare Town at 8 am

SHARP. To secure a place on the bus, inquiries to Carmelite Church

Shop Kildare, or contact: Martin Cowley 087 255 3582

Esther Brady 087 673 2848 - Cost €20 per person.

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## Put out into Deep Water

DIOCESE OF KILDARE & LEIGHLIN Listening

Sessions in May and June 2023 \_\_\_\_\_

Put Out into Deep Water -

### BUILDING THE CHURCH OF THE FUTURE

It's not always easy to look to the future, and sometimes looking back can be a lot more comfortable than looking ahead. The same applies to making the move into that future – a future often unclear and unfamiliar. But we need to begin 'put out into deep water' (Luke 5:4) and in doing so to understand our shared baptismal calling and the promises made on that day. What do these promises amount to? What does baptism call us all to? How can we allow the Holy Spirit to speak to us of what the Church in Kildare & Leighlin

In addition over the past ten years we have welcomed in many priests from abroad who generously serve here: four from Romania; two from Poland; two from China, one each from Brazil and Sri Lanka and two from India.

Over the last number of years, working alongside the Diocesan Pastoral Council and the Council of Priests, with the help of both Julie Kavanagh and Jim Deeds we have engaged in this process called: 'Put out into Deep Water', inspired by the story found in Luke 5:4-4. We invite you all to hold this Gospel story close and pray with it often as we navigate our way into the deep water of the future.

might look like into the future?

**These were questions that underpinned a series of evening meetings across the Diocese in May and June.**

**Gathering in our newly formed clusters of parishes, these evenings were about letting the Holy Spirit speak to us in a new and fresh way, and to form us as communities in service of the Gospel now and into the future.**

In August 2023 it will be ten years since the appointment of Bishop Denis to the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin. In those ten years he has buried 23 of our priests. In those same ten years he has ordained 4 priests: two for the diocese, an SVD priest and a Jesuit. Doing the sums, twenty-three dying in ten years replaced by two doesn't make for good sums.

Our diocese is challenged by the rising age profile of our clergy, men in their late seventies and some well into their eighties who are very generously administering parishes.

These men are held in deep love and affection by their parishioners and indeed by all of us.

At each meeting of our clusters of parishes in May and June we presented a map with the outline of the new clusters each parish sits in. These evening meetings provided a time of fellowship, prayer and conversation together. They marked our first step on the way to 'putting out into deep water' together, going and growing where the Holy Spirit is leading us. Practically, the meetings gave those who attended a chance to reflect on the new clusters and to begin to imagine how they might work in the coming time.

**The meetings were facilitated in the spirit of prayer, using scripture & small group**

**conversations as our process. While each meeting had its own 'flavour', three main themes emerged as being those which the Spirit might be calling us to attend to.**



## Change ---

*'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.'* (Hebrews 13:8)

These are challenging times for the Church, not only in Kildare and Leighlin, but also right across the country. Most, if not all, Dioceses are undergoing processes like our own; processes that call for parishes to work closely together and, in time, to share resources. We heard people express worry and anxiety about the future. Some were not in full agreement with the clustering of parishes. Others knew that change was coming and was inevitable and, even with the worries and anxieties that were expressed, they were willing to embrace the change. Indeed, we are at a point where change is not just coming; it is here. While 'how' we are as Church changes, what it means to 'be' Church does not - we are God's people on God's mission. Changed times, call for changes in how we go about that mission.

### What people said in prayer on this theme:

- Let our nets down in new waters
- We have a lot of faith and fear – don't let fear win over If we feel that
- God is urging us to do something and we are brave, we won't be disappointed

### ● ● --- Identity

*'...he would bring everything together under Christ, as head, everything in the heavens and on earth.'* (Eph1:10)

**There are over 2,500 parishes in Ireland. Within every parish there are several faith communities. There are 56 parishes in our diocese, with at least 117 distinct faith communities. Parish boundaries determine our football club, our hurling club, the school we attend, the church we receive sacraments in and the cemetery where we will be laid to rest.**

During our meetings, we heard that people were keen to hold on to their identity as being from a particular parish. Some were concerned that their parish identity would be subsumed into another parish. This was often expressed by people who came from smaller, more rural parishes. Conversely, we also heard from people from those parishes, that greater co-operation with other, larger parishes could strengthen their own parish as resources could be shared. Parish identity is indeed very important. At the same time, we are now called to adopt additional, new identities as friends in clusters of parishes; indeed as members of the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin. Where do we draw our real identity from as Christians, one might ask? As communities of faith, we draw that identity as followers of Christ and as people in need of the nourishment that only the Eucharist can bring.

### What people said in prayer on this theme:

- There are no spectators – we are in this together
- Having two boats involved was mutually beneficial for both boats –
- more were nourished Go on with others, not on our own

Action

*"There is a variety of gifts, but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people" (1Cor12:4-6)*



In our conversations during May and June we heard often the comment that 'we have been here before and done nothing about it'. Many people called for action to be taken now, rather than spend too much more time on planning. Other voices we heard called for more time to be taken in prayer and conversation, getting to know what God is calling us to, and getting to know each other. We took a both/and approach to this theme. We will continue to meet, pray and talk. We also asked parishes and clusters of parishes to set realistic first steps. Here is a sample of the kind of actions that were agreed,

A write up of the meeting to be shared at all Masses

Parish Pastoral Council members from all the parishes in the cluster to meet

Priests from the parishes in the cluster to say Mass in neighbouring parishes

Parishioners from all the parishes in the clusters to be invited to a joint pilgrimage day

A joint training day for Ministers of the Word to be held

- The map of the cluster of parishes to be put up in church porches
- 
- These are action points from a number of clusters. Not all clusters felt themselves at the point to be able to set action points over the summer months, but committed to coming back in September to continue the conversation.

### What people said in prayer on this theme:

- • There is abundance with God, accept the challenges Cast out the
- • nets, keep trying and we will get results Nothing is impossible if
- • you have belief

### Principles to Guide our Journey

**As part of our evenings, we asked people to suggest principles that would guide us in our decision making and our action. We heard many great ideas. Here is a synthesis of the principles people suggested**

- There are no spectators – we are in this together
- Bring the Gospel to speak to people where their lives are
- Pray together - keep Christ at the centre
- Cast the net wide, trusting and respecting one another
- Be open to accepting the changes that are going to come
- Value and respect each other
- Ensure the broadest participation and input from all
- Rediscover youth participation
- Remain hopeful, the Spirit will help
- Have courage to let go – be not afraid

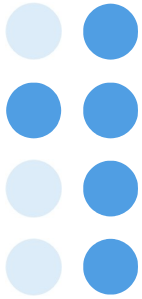
DIOCESE OF KILDARE & LEIGHLIN

Listening Sessions in May and June 2023

# Put Out into Deep Water -

BUILDING THE CHURCH OF THE FUTURE What's next?

The Synodal pathway which Pope Francis so beautifully invites us on and models every day is pivoted on a praying, listening and discerning Church where every voice matters, every voice counts. Our 'putting out into deep water' is an outworking of this Synodal pathway. Working together we hope that we will continue to determine some simple roadmarkings that allow us to shape the next steps of our onward journey; a journey which we share because of our anointing at baptism.



Practically, the production of this report and its dissemination to all of the parishes of the Diocese will be a first step. Please share this report with your family and friends. Talk to each other about it and about the process we are engaged in, listening to how the Spirit will want to shape us as a Church in the future.

**There will be a second series of meetings in September, to continue the conversation and to plan for more Spirit-inspired action.**

**Already, we can see that there are important issues that will require action in the coming months. For example:**

- We will source and provide training and formation for lay people and clergy on leadership skills. We will provide formation for lay people in leading communal prayer and liturgy. Always mindful that the
- Eucharist is the source and summit of our liturgical life, our lay led liturgies will not replace the Eucharist; rather they will enable the community to gather and pray together, preparing the community for the Eucharist when it is celebrated.
- We will gather the clergy later this year for them to be built up, nourished and readied for this next phase in their ministry.

*All of us, priests and people,  
are called to be really present in the field hospital that is the Church today.  
The field hospital that is our parishes, all modelling a new way of ministering together.  
This is the beginning of writing another chapter in the story of the Good News, in Kildare and Leighlin  
Diocese; a chapter centered on sharing our co-responsibility.  
Setting out on that journey, we can be strengthened and consoled by these powerful last words of Jesus in St.  
Matthew's gospel:  
'And look, I am with you always till the end of time' (Mt.28:20)*

*Parish Finances. - A Word of Thank*

*Thanks for your generous contributions to Parish Funds.*



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

Thank you for your continued support and generosity - it is very much appreciated.

## Different ways of supporting your Parish:

⇒ Weekly Envelopes ←

⇒ Direct payment - Cash/Cheque ←

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

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

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

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

⇒ Standing Order or Transfer directly to our Accounts ←

The following are our Bank Account Details

## Mountrath Parish - Bank Account Details

(Portlaoise Branch)

Name - Mountrath Parish Current Account

Account number - 7274 7250

IBAN - IE93 BOFI 9018 2972 7472 50

BIC. - BOFIE2D

## Ballyfin Parish - Bank Account Details

(Portlaoise Branch)

Name - Ballyfin Parish Pastoral Council

IBAN - IE44 AIBK 9332 7900 203030

BIC. - AIBKIE2D

Please include your own name as the reference.

⇒ Support Mountrath and Ballyfin Parish Lottos ←



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

## Trial Balance – Formatted - Ballyfin Parish

### Ballyfin Parish

Date Range 1st Jan 2022 To 31st Dec 2022

Code	Description	2022	2021
		Current €	Comparative €
Profit and Loss			
Sales			
001	Basket Collection	14,838.73	8,149.38
002	Envelope Collection	28,782.63	28,603.02
003	Shrine Income	743.19	725.72
004	Rental Income	12,680.00	1,215.00
005	Fundraising	-	-
006	Donations Bequests	526.00	-
007	Tax Refunds/Rebate	17,250.71	600.23
008	Weddings/Graves/Church Bookings	-	-
009	Income from Parish Investment Fund	-	-
010	Deposit Interest Received	-	-
011	Other Investment Income	-	-
012	Office Shop Margin	-	16.40
013	Lotto Income	7,302.00	12,206.65
014	Diocesan Levy Collection	-	-
015	Other Collections	120.15	-328.63
020	Other Income	701.37	-
		<b>€82,944.78</b>	<b>€51,187.77</b>
Cost of Sales			
		-	-
	<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>€82,944.78</b>	<b>€51,187.77</b>
	<b>Gross Profit %</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Overhead Expenses			
301	Wages and salaries	-	-
303	Employers NIC (UK) PRSI (Ireland)	-	-

305	Pension costs	-	-
309	Pastoral Programme Expenses	1,517.00	1,250.80
322	Rent payable	-	-
326	Insurance	4,520.68	4,901.67
330	Security	273.24	273.24
331	Light and heat	14,484.25	9,643.12
332	Cleaning	245.01	1,885.45
333	Rates, Water, LPT Waste Collection	261.28	2,843.77
334	Repairs and maintenance	15,475.32	4,398.56
335	Diocesan Levy	6,576.00	4,110.00
336	Clergy Fund	-	-
337	Diocesan Retirement Fund	1,000.00	2,000.00
341	Missalettes, Printing Stationery	3,244.32	4,661.08
342	Altar Shrine Requisites	3,766.12	2,455.10
345	Telephone, Broadband and Internet related expenses	4,661.02	1,814.03
346	Computer software, hardware and servicing costs	1,440.00	2,202.09
347	Hire of Equipment	262.88	400.00
348	Music/Choir Expenses	-	-
365	Legal and Professional	-	904.76
368	Accountancy Fees	1,576.03	220.08
370	Youth and Community Expenses	-	-
371	Bank charges	1,632.13	776.32
375	Donations/Collections	-	-102.94
376	Interest on Parish Investment Fund Loans	-	-
378	Other Loan Interest	94.51	4.19
381	General expenses	-	-
391	Depriciation of intangible assets	-	-
392	Depreciation of tangible assets	-	-
394	Profits/losses on disposals of tangible assets	-	-
399	Capital gains/losses on disposal of property	-	-
		<b>€61,029.79</b>	<b>€44,641.32</b>
	Other Income	-	-
	<b>Operating Profit</b>	<b>€21,914.99</b>	<b>€6,546.45</b>
	Bank Interest Income	-	-
	Investment Income	-	-
	Interest Payable	-	-
	Profit and Loss Suspense	-	-
	<b>Profit for the year</b>	<b>€21,914.99</b>	<b>€6,546.45</b>

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