

Mountrath Ballyfin

Online Newsletter

Sat. 12th Sun. 13th Sept. 2026

Official Blessing of Our New Astro Turf Pitch

A Note of Welcome from Brigid, Principal, Ballyfin N.S.

Bishop Denis will lead us in Opening of New School Year Mass at 11am on Tues. 15th Sept. (In Ballyfin Church) As well as praying for a happy and successful 2026/27 school year,

we will also pray during the Mass for all who supported the school's AstroTurf project. The completion of the AstroTurf pitch in March 2026 was a huge achievement for the whole school community, and we are very grateful to all who helped make it a reality.

After Mass (weather permitting) Bishop Denis will bless the AstroTurf pitch and then light refreshments will be provided in the School hall. Everyone in the community, whether you have a direct connection to the school or not, is more than welcome to join us for Mass and in the School hall for light refreshments, afterwards.

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

Mountrath Parish Lotto

Thurs. 10th Sept.

Nos. Drawn 3 12 14 22
1 €20,000 Jackpot Winner

Congratulations to our Jackpot Winner,
Margaret Brophy
and Promoter Betty O'Rourke

11 Match 3's Rec. € 91 each
4 Local Winners

Winner B&L	Promoter Liam Phelan
Lorraine Glynn.	Bernie Phelan
Rita Holland	Rita Holland
Anne Lanham.	Ann Lanham

New Jackpot € 13,000

Season of Creation 2026

Runs from 1st Sept. to 4th Oct. (Feast of St, Frances) This year's theme "Living Water," inspired by Ezekiel 47:9-12.

Each year from 1st Sept. to 4th Oct. the Christian family unites for this world wide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home.

See www.seasonofcreation.org

to access all materials

Diary Dates for 2027

Palm Sunday 21st March

Easter Sunday 28th March

First Holy Communion Dates in Mountrath Ballyfin Parishes

Mountrath Parish

Gaelscoil Thromaire

Sun. 2nd May 2027

9.00 am Mass in The Hollow Church.

Scoil Bhride St. Fintan's Boys School

Sun. 9th May 2027

11.30 am Mass in Mountrath Church

Ballyfin Parish

Barnashrone NS

Sun. 23rd May 2027

10.00 am Mass in Ballyfin Church

Ballyfin N.S.

Sun. 30th May 2027

10.00 am Mass in Ballyfin Church.

1st Penance Ceremonies

Mountrath Parish

Thurs. 15th April

Mountrath Church 10.30 am

Ballyfin Parish

Barnashrone N.S. Ballyfin N.S.

Thurs. 22nd April 2027

Ballyfin Church 11.30 am

Ballyfin Parish

Confirmation Day.

Fri. 28th May 2027

Obituaries

Fiona Wallis (Nee Walsh) Derrycouch. R.I.P.

We pray for Fiona who died peacefully at Ashley Lodge Nursing Home, Kildare on Mon. 31st Aug. Fiona's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Mountrath on Fri. 4th Sept. followed by burial in Clonenagh Cemetery. We extend sympathy to her family, David, Cindy, Karina, Adrienne and Colin and their families, grandchildren Muireann, Keara, Stephen, Finnula, Ruaidhri, Conall, Liam, Cian, Luke and Erin and their families and by her wide circle of loyal friends. Reading through and savouring the numerous tributes paid to Fiona on RIP the only conclusion one can draw is the Fiona Wallis was part of the fabric of Mountrath Town and Parish. known and appreciated by so many through her involvement in the family business on Shannon St (Wallis' Bakery) - her involvement in Mountrath SVP at so many levels, - her involvement with St. Fintan's Parish Choir and Portlaoise Choir, - for many, Fiona was synonymous with Christmas through her beautiful rendition of "*O Holy Night*" and "*In the Bleak Midwinter*" at Christmas Midnight Mass - her involvement in the world of Musicals (dating back to the 1950's), - her involvement with the young people of Mountrath. I understand Fiona was a founding member of a Youth Club in Mountrath. Fiona wasn't simply involved in Mountrath — she was truly part of the social fabric of Mountrath for generations. In one of the tribute on rip, Fiona was simply described her as "a small lady with a truly giant heart" perhaps one of the most fitting descriptions and tributes of all.

Liam King, Lorrha. R.I.P.

We pray for Liam who died peacefully at Galway Clinic on Mon. 31st Aug.
Liam's funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Ruadhan's Church, Lorrha
followed by burial in adjoining cemetery.

We extend sympathy to his wife Kathleen and family, Ronan, Fiona,
Amanda, Sheena and Paula and their families, granddaughter Indie.,
We extend sympathy also to his sister Maura and family and Audrey
and family, Patrick St. and Coolrain and to all the King, Tully, Reynolds
and Addis families.

**Eileen Scott (née Bannan) Portarlinton,
Formerly, Pallas. R.I.P.**

We pray for Eileen who died peacefully at Reg. Hosp., Portlaoise on
Wed. 9th Sept. Eileen's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Michael's
Church, Portarlinton on Sat. 12th Sept. followed by burial in St.
Michael's Cemetery. We extend sympathy to David, Orla, Kevin and
Enda and their families, grandchildren Eamon, Ciaran, Scott, Vanessa,
Anna, Noah, Ava, Hugh and Evan and their families, nieces, nephews,
relatives, neighbours and her many special friends.

May Fiona, Liam and Eileen rest in the peace of Christ

Safeguarding Children Parish Reps

Ballyfin Triona O'Rourke and Peter Byrne

Mountrath Caroline Moore Pacelli Walsh

Deputy Diocesan Liaison

Michelle Hughes c/o Bishop's House,

Dublin Rd., Carlow Ph: 085 802 1633

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person:

Ms. Ailish Higgins is 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.

Anniversaries

Masses

From

Page 39

Bishop Denis'
Pastoral Letter

Issued on
25th August 2026

Dear friends, I am writing this Pastoral Letter in response to the new reality that now faces us in Kildare and Leighlin Diocese. The decline in the number of priests, as some are recalled by their own orders or returned to their own dioceses, continues to present significant challenges. I am also very conscious of the age profile of our priests, many of them serving parishes, long beyond the acceptable retirement age in the secular world. While we continue to earnestly pray for vocations to the priesthood, we also must deal with these stark realities.

I acknowledge and appreciate that when a priest is moving on from a parish it can be difficult, both for the priest himself, and for parishioners with whom a relationship has been built. Following the recent announcement of diocesan changes, I want to once again thank all those priests involved in the changes this year for the great contribution they have made to their parishes and to their previous appointments - a contribution that is deeply appreciated by all.

Change is never easy, particularly when it involves those close to us or impacts our own lives in a very real way. This is very acute in the parish setting. Our diocese has 56 parishes and 117 churches who find their home now within 11 Pastoral Areas. This year's diocesan changes will require adjustments, greater cooperation and a willingness to do

The shortage of priests inevitably sharpens the focus on parish schedules and workloads. This will necessitate a deeper look at the sacramental activities in each parish, the Mass times, particularly where Mass times clash, optimum locations, the different chaplaincies (schools, hospitals, nursing homes etc) and how services can be delivered more efficiently by working more closely together. With any discussion on the number of Masses, there is also the fear of a reduction in income, so I thank you for your generosity and ask you to continue to find ways to support your parish. All this will have obvious implications for the individual parishes within each Area and I urge all priests and people to engage wholeheartedly in this process in which these difficult decisions are discerned and acted upon.

I am aware that our priests carry an enormous burden of responsibility and are expected to be available 24/7 to cope with all kinds of situations, meet all kinds of challenges and attend so many gatherings and functions beyond their normal sacramental duties – more than that could be too great a challenge. I ask parishioners not to make unreasonable demands or to have unrealistic expectations of their priest. The pastoral needs of parishes are centred around the sacraments and the Eucharist, and these must be the top priority of every priest.

I have ordained 16 permanent deacons and we have 25 lay pastoral ministry students, who are about to begin Year II of their two-year Diploma. Both are and will be tremendous assets to parishes. Lay involvement, with the support of priests and deacons, is one way in which we can continue to nourish the faith of all and sustain our parishes as vibrant faith-filled Gospel communities. Lay-led prayer services, funeral and baptism ministries, sacramental preparations and volunteerism around the liturgical life of the church are essential.

Supporting each other in these tasks is double edged – priests/deacons need to allow and encourage lay involvement in an even greater way than is happening right now and lay people need to step up into greater roles.

I believe we must now pause and step back while thinking about more available and sustainable solutions, praying that the Holy Spirit will help us understand '*What is God saying to the diocese of Kildare and Leighlin at this time?*'

The synodal journey our Church has embarked on in recent years, reminds us that the most important sacrament is baptism – our baptism. It is out of a deeper and richer understanding of what our baptism means that we all begin to find our place in the Church today.

What we are experiencing in Kildare & Leighlin is no different to any other diocese in Ireland. However, we must never forget the Church belongs to Christ whom we serve and, as St. Oscar Romero reminded us, "*we may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own*". I see this as a time that is certainly challenging but is also hope-filled. There will always be changes in life, but there are realities which do not change and that is our faith in God "*who can do immeasurably more than we can ever ask or imagine*" (Eph.3:20).

+ Denis Nulty

25 August 2026

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Season of Creation 2026

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See www.seasonofcreation.org

to access all the materials and to link to a live worldwide online opening prayer at 2.00 pm Irish time on Tues. 1st Sept.

Volunteer Drivers

at volunteer@irishcancer.ie

We at the Irish Cancer Society is seeking compassionate volunteer drivers to join our pool of drivers. As a volunteer driver you would be bringing patients undergoing chemotherapy to the hospital and back home for their treatment. Gifting your time means that cancer patients will have comfortable (one on one) transport to attend appointments for their lifesaving treatment. If you can spare 2 days per month, have a valid driving licence, and a safe, reliable vehicle, you are the perfect candidate to make a significant difference. The Irish Cancer Society provides training before starting as a driver for us. Your generosity not only eases the journey for many during a challenging time but also offers comfort and support when it's needed most. The feedback we receive from patients that have relied on the Transport Service in the past is heart-warming and underlines the need of its existence. We would be extremely grateful for your support, as it will help us to continue supporting those who are impacted by cancer. For more information and to become a volunteer driver, contact Monica or Emily at volunteer@irishcancer.ie



WALK THE CROSS

25th, 26th & 27th September 2026

KILDARE TO CROKE PARK

33 MILES OVER TWO DAYS
A MILE FOR EVERY YEAR JESUS LIVED



Day 1 - Friday 25th September 2026

Meet at St Brigid's Catholic Church, Kildare (R51 XY48)

9:30am - Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop Nulty

Pilgrimage begins, walking to Naas

Day 2 - Saturday 26th September 2026

Meet at Hazelhatch & Celbridge Train Station

9:00am - Pilgrimage resumes

Walk to St Agatha's Church (D01N7F6 near Croke Park)

6:00pm - Holy Mass

Day 3 - Sunday 27th September 2026

Meet at The Blessed Sacrament Chapel (D01NW14)

(20 Bachelors Walk, North City, Dublin 1, Ireland)

9:45am - Eucharistic Procession to Croke Park

Holy Mass by Bishop Dempsey, Benediction, Holy Rosary, Talk by Fr. Mark Goring

Renewal of Ireland's Consecration to the Sacred Heart

Divine Mercy Prayers at the Hour of Mercy

Lighting of 32 county candles, with a final candle honouring the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Sorrowful Heart of Our Lady, placing Ireland under the refuge of their two Flames of Love.

Register with name, number & county by emailing walkthecross33@gmail.com

www.walkthecross.ie

PLEASE NOTE - ENTRANCE TO CROKE PARK IS TICKETED ONLY



Official Blessing of Our New Astro Turf Pitch

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As well as praying for a happy and successful 2026/27
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to access all materials

Bishop Denis' Kildare and Leighlin Diocesan Appointments

Fr. Tom Dooley, PP Portarlington and Emo to retire.

Fr. Yanbo Chen, SVD CC, The Cathedral Parish, recalled by the SVD Order.

Fr. Theodore Tomasik, SVD CC, The Cathedral Parish, recalled by the SVD Order.

Fr. Erik Ebot, SVD CC, Portlaoise, recalled by the SVD Order.

Fr. Eugen Dragas Tamas, CC, Portarlington & Emo

Returning to Iasi Diocese in Romania.

Fr. Ciprian Matei, C C, Portlaoise returning to Bucharest Archdiocese in Romania.

Fr. Joe O'Neill, PP, Kill to take sabbatical leave.

Fr. David Vard P P Stradbally taking personal leave of absence with my full support.

Fr. Pat Hughes, P P, Myshall and Clonegal, to become PP, Portarlington and Emo.

Fr. Andy Leahy, C C, Myshall and Clonegal, to become PP Myshall & Clonegal while continuing to reside in St. Patrick's Missionary Society, Kiltegan.

Fr. Yohan Fernando, C C, Naas, Sallins and Two-Mile-House, to become Adm., Kill while remaining part of the team in Naas, Sallins and Two-Mile-House Pastoral Area.

Fr. Piotr Jakubiak, Polish Chaplain, to become C C in the Portarlington Mountmellick Pastoral Area, while continuing to support the Polish community.

Fr. Petru Medves, C C, Abbeylax, Ballinakill & Raheen, to become also CC, Portlaoise.

The three curates in Portlaoise (Fr. Adriano de Oliveira, Fr. Simon Jin and Fr. Petru Medves) will assist in ministry in the wider Pastoral Area.

As previously announced (which came into effect on 1st August):

Fr. Sean Maher, P P Balyna, appointed to staff of the St. Patrick's College Maynooth.

Fr. Brian Kavanagh, C.C, Allen & AP Newbridge, to become P P, Balyna.

Recovery College Southeast

You are invited to join us in our new Recovery Education Programme for Autumn/Winter 2026. All our courses and workshops are co-produced and co-delivered by those who have lived experience in partnership with professional expertise, *“the expert by experience working alongside the expert by profession”*. Courses and workshops at the Recovery College South East are for everyone and are free. For more detailed information on the workshops go to the Workshop Section of our Website –

www.recoverycollegesoutheast.com

Thank you

*for your continued and generous support of
Mountrath and Ballyfin Parish Weekly Lotto
and Mountrath and Ballyfin Parish Collections.*

-

*Your kindness and your generous support
is always much appreciated.*

National Synodal Pathway Update

Preparations are continuing for the National Synodal Assembly, which will take place in October. Working groups from across the country are reflecting on the key priorities identified through the synodal process and helping to shape the next stage of the Church's journey in Ireland.

To learn more and view the latest video update from Fr. Declan Hurley, Chairperson of the National Synodal Pathway, and Patricia Carroll, member of the National Synodal Pathway and Pastoral Coordinator for the Archdiocese of Dublin, please visit <https://theway.ie/the-irish-synodal-pathway-progress-and-purpose/>

Irish Synodal Pathway

The 7 Priorities Proposed

Belonging: Fostering a Church of welcome, inclusion, and safety where each person finds a home in community and in Christ.

Coreponsibility and Lay Ministry: Empowering all the baptised, women and men alike, to share responsibility for leadership and mission through new models of ministry and decision-making.

Family: Supporting the domestic Church as the primary place of faith transmission and belonging, and strengthening its connection with parishes and schools

Formation and Catechesis: Deepening faith through lifelong formation that is Christ centred, experiential, and equips the baptised for discipleship in today's world.

Healing: Acknowledging wounds, especially those caused by abuse; committing to accountability, justice, and reconciliation; and ensuring safe spaces for survivors and all who carry pain.

Women: Recognising and including women's gifts, leadership, and coreponsibility at every level of Church life, as a matter of justice and credibility.

Youth: Engaging young people with authenticity offering our youth meaningful roles in leadership and mission, and listening to their hopes and challenges.



WALK THE CROSS

25th, 26th & 27th September 2026
CROKE PARK, DUBLIN

**33 MILES OVER TWO DAYS
A MILE FOR EVERY YEAR JESUS LIVED**

CONFESSIONS
SPEAKERS

BENEDICTION
EXALTATION OF THE CROSS
HOLY MASS

Beginning at St Brigid's Church, Kildare
Day 1: Holy Mass at 9:30am, followed by the walk to Naas
Day 2: The pilgrimage resumes from Naas, walking to St Agatha's Church, near Croke Park, concluding with Holy Mass at 6:00pm
Day 3: Eucharistic Procession from Saint Agatha's to Croke Park ending with Holy Mass, Benediction & talk from Father Mark Goring

Register by emailing walkthecross33@gmail.com

www.walkthecross.ie



New Defibrillator at Ballyfin Old School

Official Name of Device - Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

(An AED is a portable device and can be used by anyone to help someone experiencing cardiac arrest)

A new state of the art defibrillator and cabinet have been installed at Ballyfin Old School. This Unit has been installed for the protection of patrons of Ballyfin Old School and Ballyfin Community Centre / Ballyfin Parish Hall.

A note about the Defibrillator.

The Cabinet containing the defibrillator is not locked and is available to use, instantly, at any time. When the cabinet door is opened an alarm sounds.

I would like if a number of local people would engage in a training / familiarization programme in the safe use of the Defibrillator. If a number of people come forward, I will organize suitable training –

To ensure that the defibrillator is always in working order and fit for purpose, it needs to be checked out on a regular basis. I would like if a kind local person would commit to looking after the unit on behalf of the Parish. I very much appreciate your help and co-operation.

Please contact me if you are interested in becoming .
involved in this project.

Thank You

*Thank you for your continued and generous
support of Mountrath Parish Weekly Lotto
and Mountrath Parish Collections.*

And

*Ballyfin Parish Weekly Lotto
and Ballyfin Parish Collections.*

*Your kind and generous support is
much appreciated*

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 continued loyal support and generosity.

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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

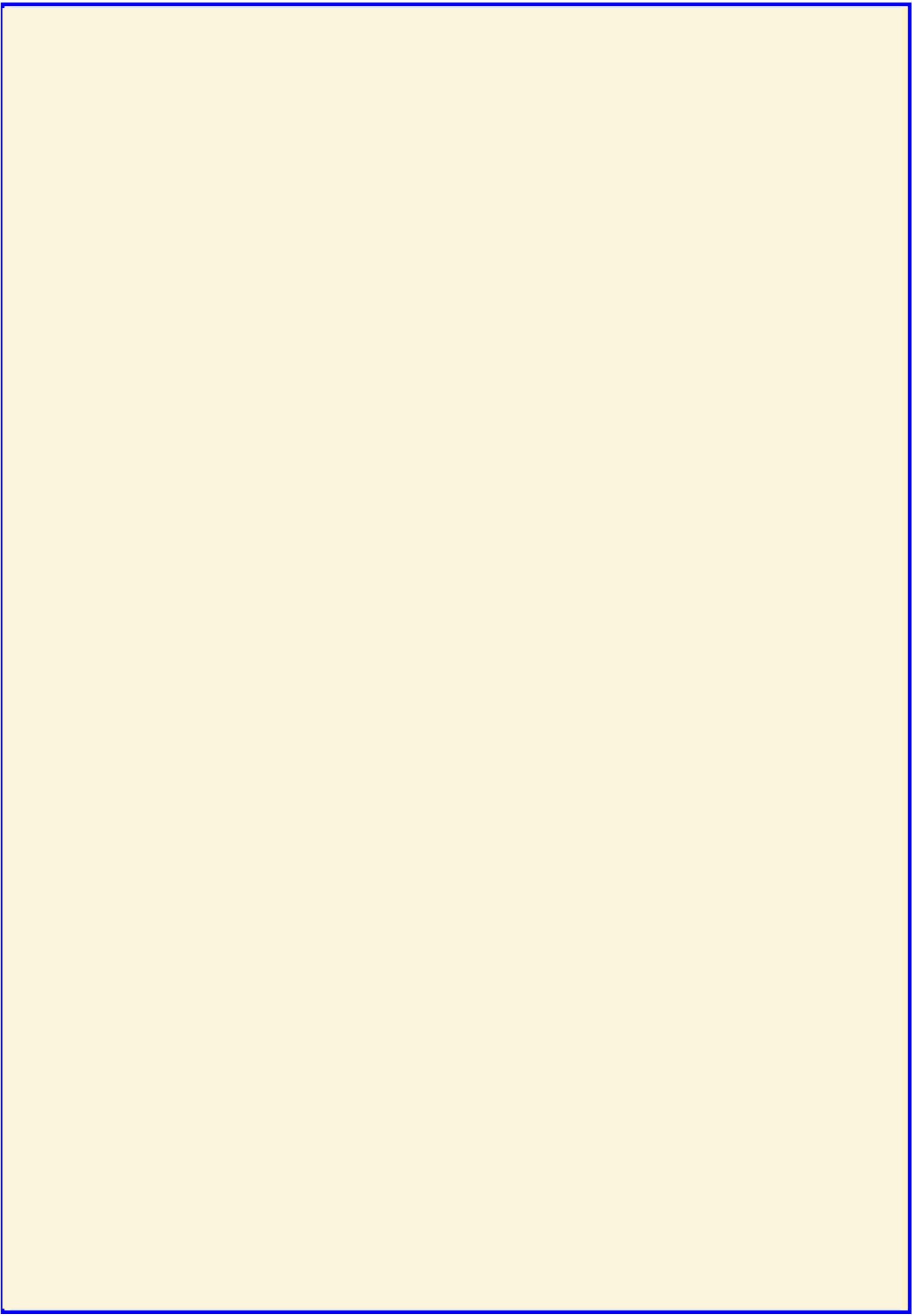
Diocesan Designated Liaison Person:

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.



To care for those
who once cared for us
is one of the highest
honors in life.

— Tia Walker



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(Online from Early Saturday mornings)

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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

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Anniversary

Masses

Mountrath Ballyfin

Parishes



Anniversary Masses

Mountrath Ballyfin Parishes

Sat. 12th Sept.

To

Sun. 20th Sept.

Lord, for your faithful people,

Life is Changed, not ended

Ballyfin Anniversaries

Anniversary and Mass Times

Sat. 12th Sept. to Sun. 20th Sept.

Fri.. 11th Sept. 5.00 pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

Sat. 12th Sept. 8.00 pm Vigil Mass - 24th Sun. in Ord. Time

Joseph, Ellen and Ruairi Culleton, Clonagown.

Sun. 13th Sept. 10.00 am 24th Sun. in Ord. Time

Mon. 14th Sept.. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification

Fri.. 18th Sept. 5.00 pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

Sat. 19th Sept. 8.00 pm Pat and Ann Dunne, Cappinrush

And Deceased members of Dunne and Madden Families

Sun.. 20th Sept. 10.00 am 25th Sun. In Ord. Time

Mon. 21st Sept. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification

Sun. 4th Oct. 10.00 am Margaret (Peg) Fitzpatrick

(Nee Phelan) Rossmore. Month's Mind Mass

Mountrath Anniversaries

Mass Times Anniversaries

Sat. 12th to Sun. 20th Sept.

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

Sat. 12th Sept.. 7.00 pm Mary Phelan, Shannon Rd., 1st Anniv.

Sun. 13th Sept. 9.00 am [The Hollow Church](#)

William and Mary Seale, Clonadacasey.

Jim, Molly and Michael Seale, Clonadacasey.

11.30 am Aidan Sinnott, Lr. Sconce 2nd Anniv.

Paddy Carthy, Shannon St., 12th Anniv.

Tues. 15th Sept 10.00 am

Wed. 16th Sept. 10.00 am Maureen McDermott, Woodbrook. 10th Anniv.

Thurs 17th Sept. 10.00 am Altar List of the Dead.

Fri. 18th Sept. 10.00 am John and Kathleen Ryan, Fr. O'Connor Cresc.

Mountrath Anniversaries

Mass Times Anniversaries

Continued

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

Sat. 19th Sept. 7.00 pm Vigil Mass 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Thomas Doheny, Fr. O'Connor Cresc. 1st Anniv.

Denise Delaney, Kiln Lane. 3rd Anniv.

Sun. 20th Sept. 9.00 am [The Hollow Ch.](#)

. 11.30 am Gerry Cashin, Fr. O'Connor Cresc.,

Month's Mind Mass

Sun. 11th Oct. 11.30 am Fiona Wallis (Nee Walsh) Derrycouch

Ministries Rota

Sat. 19th ,

Sun. 20th Sept..

Ballyfin Parish

Ministries Rota Sat. 19th – Sun. 20th Sept.

	Reader	Ministers of Holy Comm
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Sat. 8.00 pm	Helen Coughlan	Adrian Greene
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Sun. 10.00 am	John Coughlan	Maria Dowling
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Collectors for September

Sat. Michael Carroll

Adrian Greene

Sun. Chris Phelan

Mountrath Parish

Ministries Rota

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Readers

Sat. Sun.

Ministers of Holy Communion

Sat. 7.00 pm

Sun. 11.30 am

Collectors During Sept.

Sat.

Sun.

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

Can I ask you -

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

please give me a call on 087 241 1594

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

Here are our Bank Account details

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

Lyster Square, Portlaoise.

Name of Account - Ballyfin Parish Pastoral Council

IBAN - IE44 AIBK 9332 7900 203030

BIC. - AIBKIE2D

Mountrath Parish - Bank Account Details

(Bank of Ireland) (Portlaoise Branch)

Name - Mountrath Parish Current Account -

Account number - 7274 7250

IBAN - IE93 BOFI 9018 2972 7472 50 -

BIC. - BOFIE2D

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

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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Weekly Envelopes

Contributing to the Offertory Collection during Mass

Supporting Ballyfin Parish Lotto

Standing Order or Transfer directly to Parish Account

Direct payment - Cash / Cheque

If contributing by cheque please make cheques payable
to "Ballyfin Parish"

Please indicate - Parish Fund

or Clergy Fund (for support of the priests of the Parish)

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

or deposited in the wall safe in the Church porch

Online Facility See Diocesan Website – www.kandle.ie

Ballyfin Parish

Times of Funeral Masses

Funeral Masses are celebrated in Ballyfin Parish at the following times

Weekdays (Monday to Saturday) 11.00 am

Sundays 10.00 am

The Celebrant is the priest on duty in the Parish.

Funeral Masses are transmitted live on the Parish Webcam

And are recorded and available to playback or download

Mountrath Parish

Times of Funeral Masses

Funeral Masses are celebrated in Mountrath Parish at the following times

Weekdays (Monday to Saturday) 10.00 am

Sundays 11.30 am

The Celebrant is the priest on duty in the Parish.

Funeral Masses are transmitted live on the Parish Webcam

And are recorded and available to playback or download

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

As

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

We would welcome your involvement.

Please contact either Fr. P.J or myself
with an expression of interest.

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

Parish News



Parishes Alive - Becoming Synodal:

Bishop Denis and the Diocesan Pastoral Council invite you
to the 3rd Annual Parishes Alive Day on Sat. June 20th from 10am to 4pm
in Carlow College, St. Patrick's. The day will be facilitated
by Dr Donagh O'Brien, CEO of Mount St Anne's Retreat and Conference Centre
and Janet Forbes the Youth Director
in the Archdiocese of Armagh and a Member of the National Synodal Team.

Much of the day will be interactive and workshop based.

Lunch and refreshments provided.

There is no charge to attend or for the hospitality.

Because these are "roundtable" sessions,
numbers are limited so early booking is advised.

To book or for further information email

Pat Roche, Diocesan Director of Parish Development,
on parishdevelopment@kandle.ie or phone (office hours) 083-830 5681.

Thank you
for your continued and generous
support of
Mountrath Parish Weekly Lotto
and Mountrath Parish Collections.

Your kind and generous support
is always much appreciated

Thank you

for your continued and generous

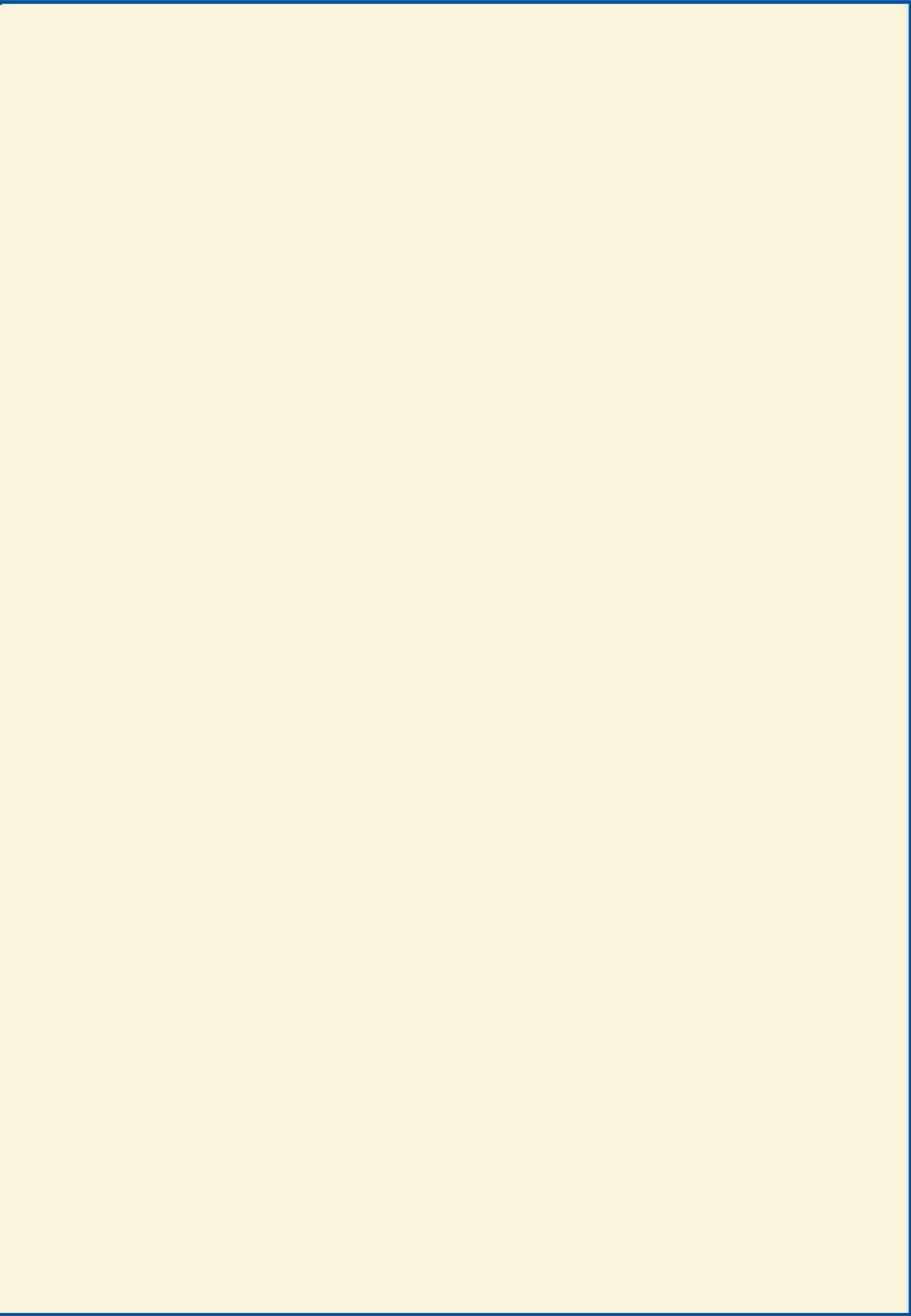
support of

Ballyfin Parish Weekly Lotto

and Ballyfin Parish Collections.

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is always much appreciated



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

A Catholic movement, now formally recognised by the Holy See — its Statutes were approved by the Vatican on 11 March in the presence of Cardinal Kevin. Farrell. For over fifty years, Marriage Encounter Weekends have helped thousands of couples across Ireland and the world to deepen their relationship with each other and with God, through the gift of communication, renewed commitment, and shared faith.

Weekend Details

Venue: Focolare Centre, Curryhills, Prosperous, Co. Kildare -

Dates: Fri 2nd – Sun 4th Oct. Arrival: Friday from 7:00 p.m.,
programme concludes Sun. approx. 4:30 p.m.

Register at: www.marriageencounter.ie

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!!



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 in-
clude your own name as the reference.*

Parish Lottos



Ballyfin Parish Lotto

9th Sept.

Nos. Drawn 2 13 23 25

Jackpot €11,000

No Jackpot Winner

5 Match 3's Rec. €200 each

Next Week's Jackpot €12,000

Mountrath Parish Lotto

Thurs. 10th Sept.

Nos. Drawn 3 12 14 22

1 €20,000 Jackpot Winner

Congratulations to our Jackpot Winner,

Margaret Brophy

and Promoter Betty O'Rourke

11 Match 3's Rec. € 91 each

4 Local Winners

Winner B&L

Lorraine Glynn.

Rita Holland

Anne Lanham.

Promoter Liam Phelan

Bernie Phelan

Rita Holland

Ann Lanham

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

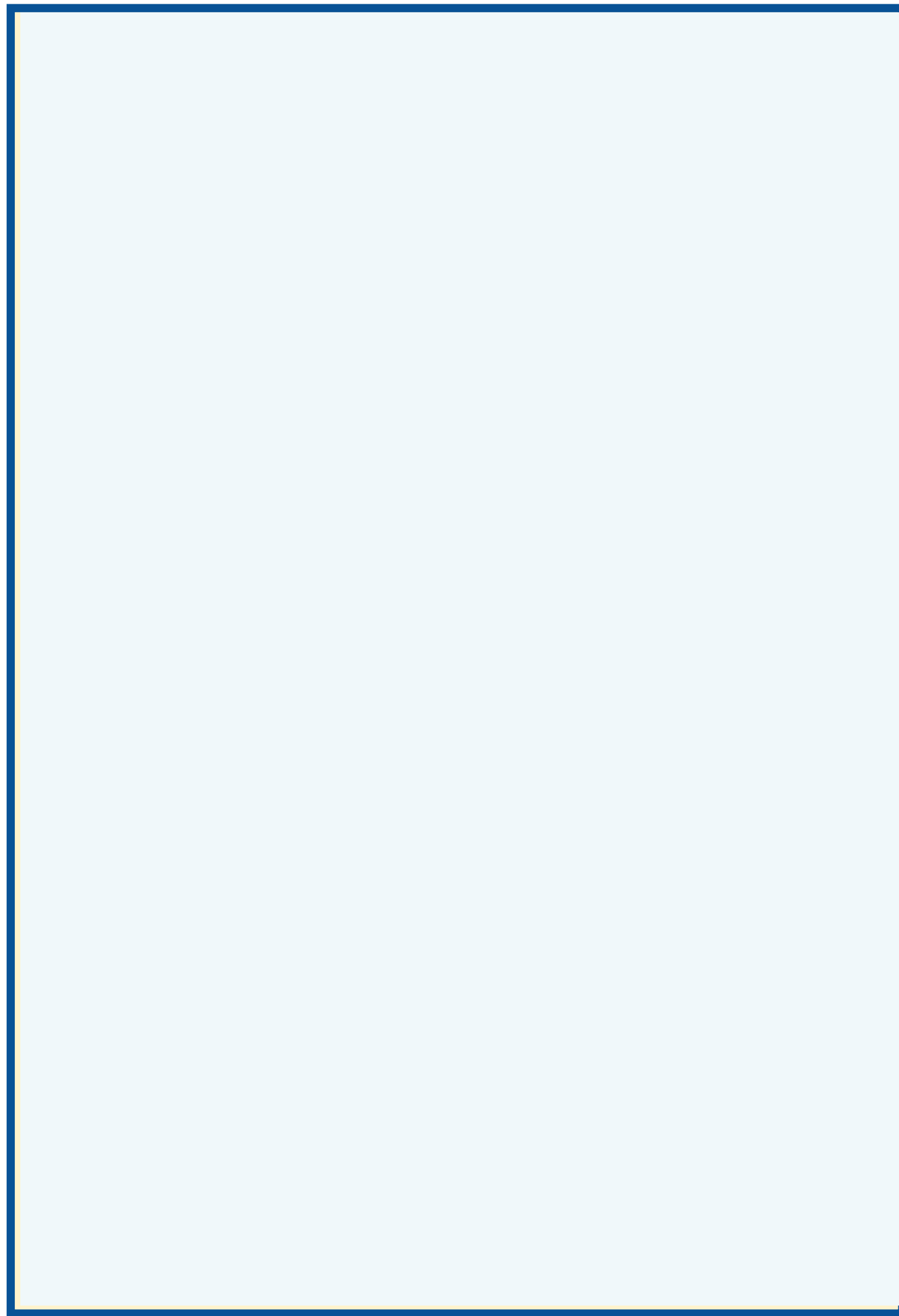
Ballyfin € 12,000

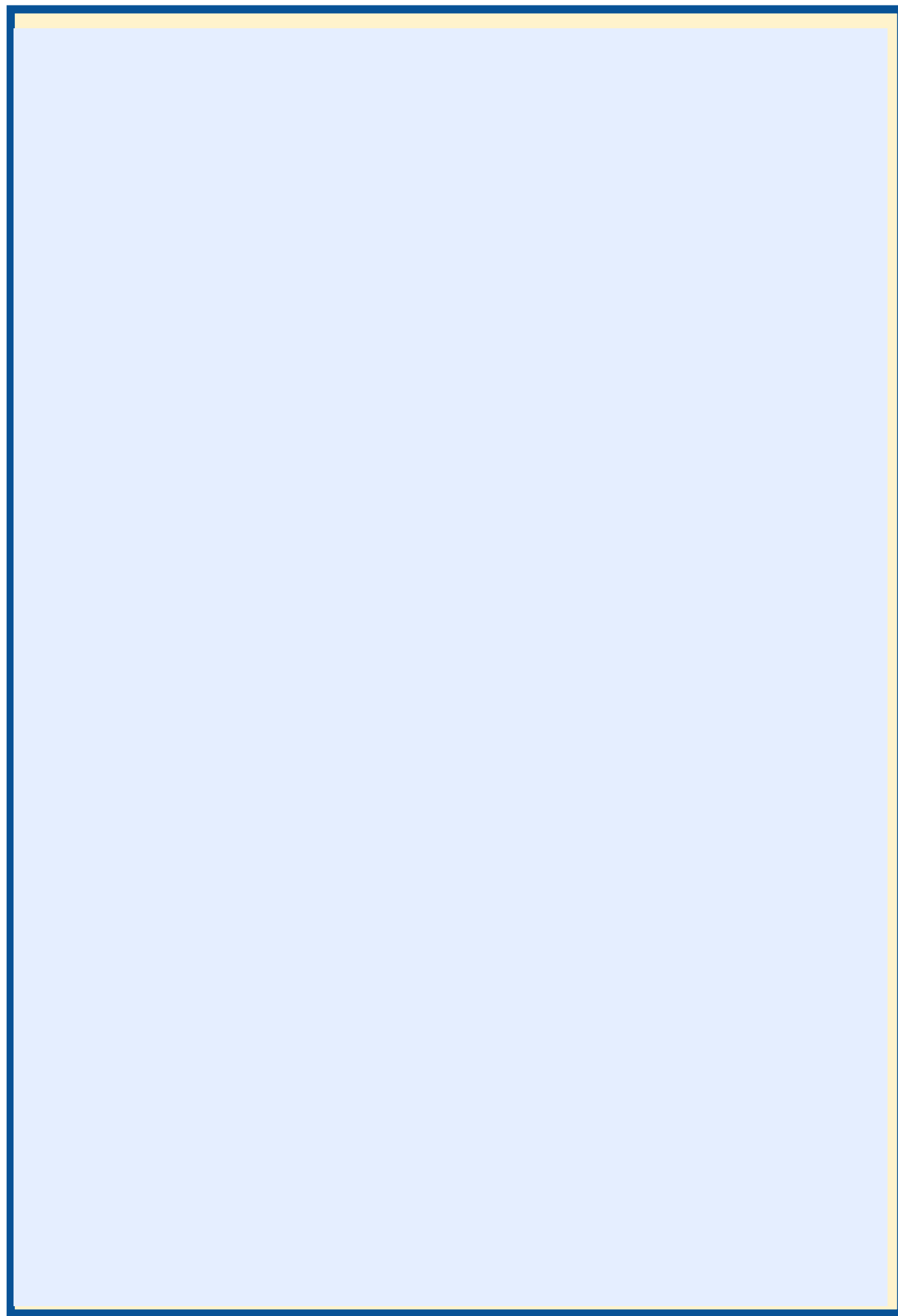


News From Around The Diocese

Events
at
Bloom HQ







Mountrath Health and Fitness Academy

Our early bird classes are starting soon and
places are filling up fast, we have just
3 spaces left for our 6am and 4 left for our
7am, hit the link and book you're space
today..

starting early may , anyone who send on
emails

will receive email this week

**BOOK A TOUR OF OUR
OFFICES TODAY**



**Find the office that fits your
business**



Early Bird Classes

NEW



Monday, Wednesday, Friday

6:00am - 6:50am → first class

7:00am - 7:50am → second class

*10 Spaces available in each class

6 am



7 am

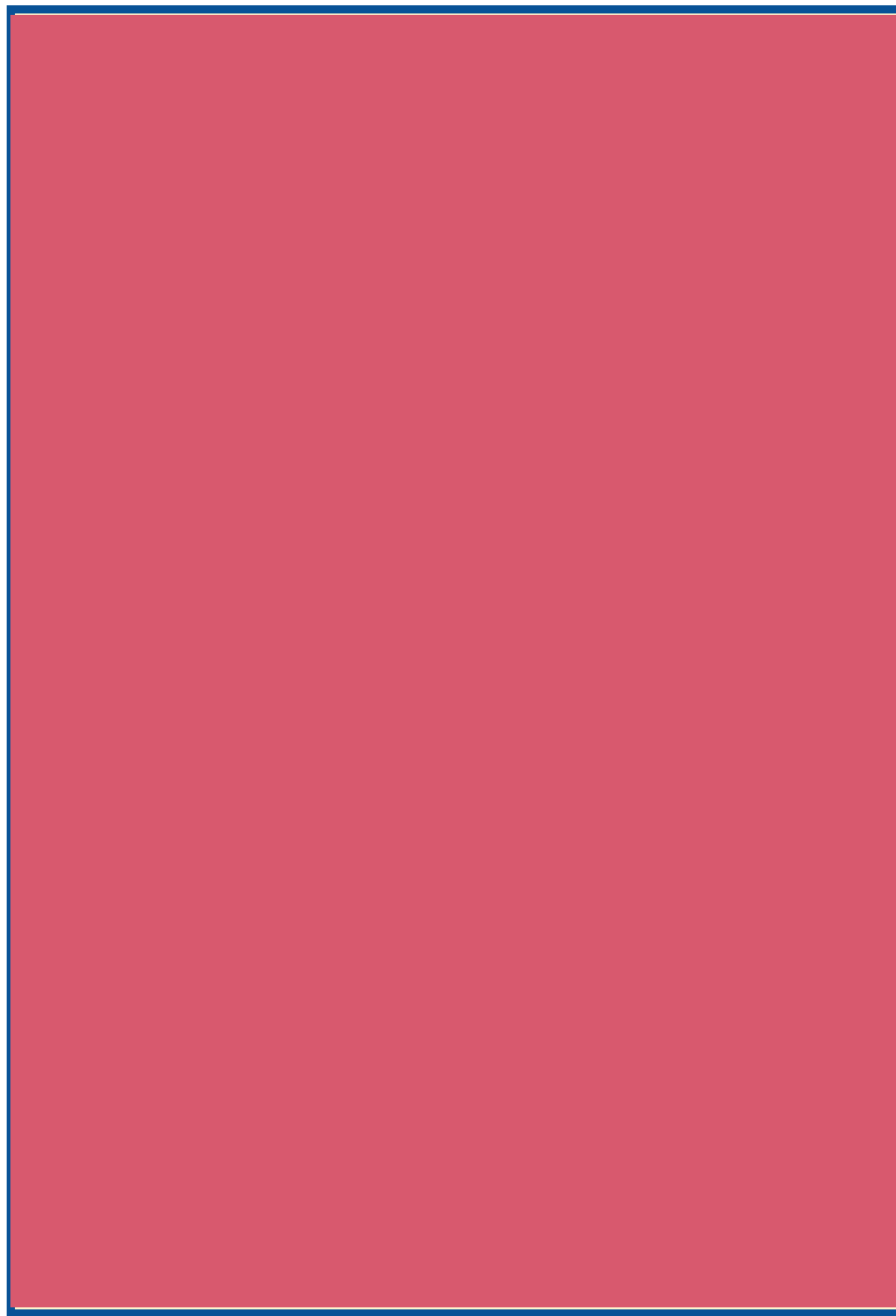


These Classes will be starting
in 2-3 weeks once we have the numbers

€80 per month

→ That's 12 Classes for less than €7 per class!

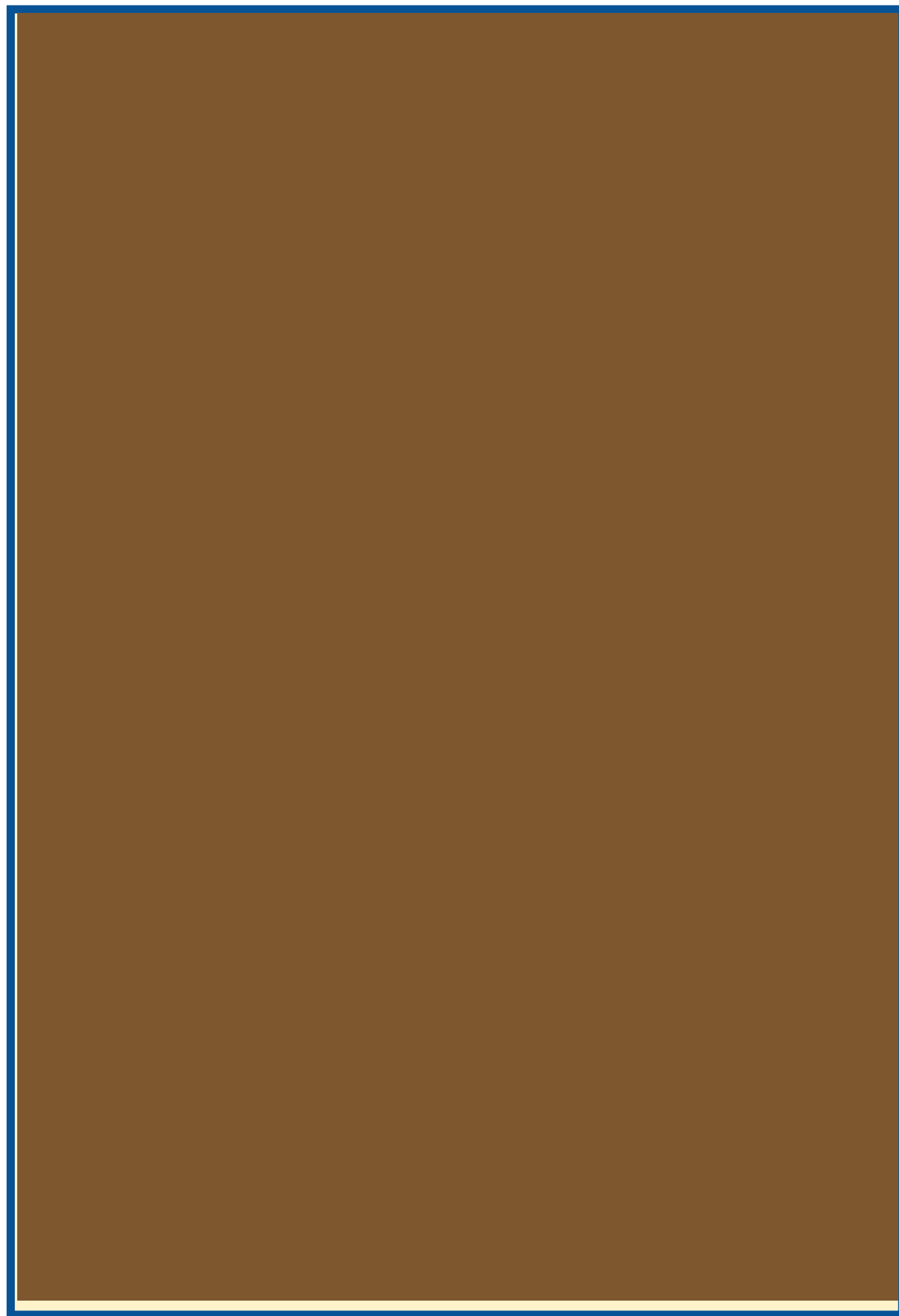
- Treadmills
- Air Bike
- Rowing Machine
- Skiing Machine
- Med Balls
- Dumbbells
- Kettlebells
- Squat rack



At BloomHQ, we are with our clients every step of the way. From the initial enquiry to settling into your new workspace, we are committed to making the experience seamless, supportive and stress-free! We are here to support your journey from day one and beyond

 [#BloomHQ](#) [#clientexperience](#)

[#flexibleworkspace](#)





MATHS GRINDS

HIGHER LEVEL
LEAVING CERT
MATHS GRINDS

FOR 5TH AND
6TH YEAR STUDENTS

CONTACT:
Orlaith
0892336930

BLOOM HQ



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....

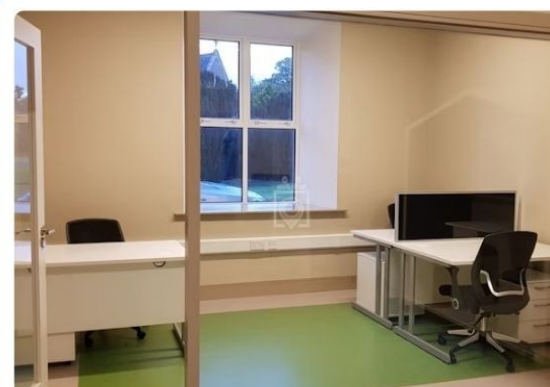
- ✓ Flexible Workspace Options
- ✓ High-Speed Internet
- ✓ Meeting and Conference Rooms

Contact Us



089 2722885

www.bloomhq.ie







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

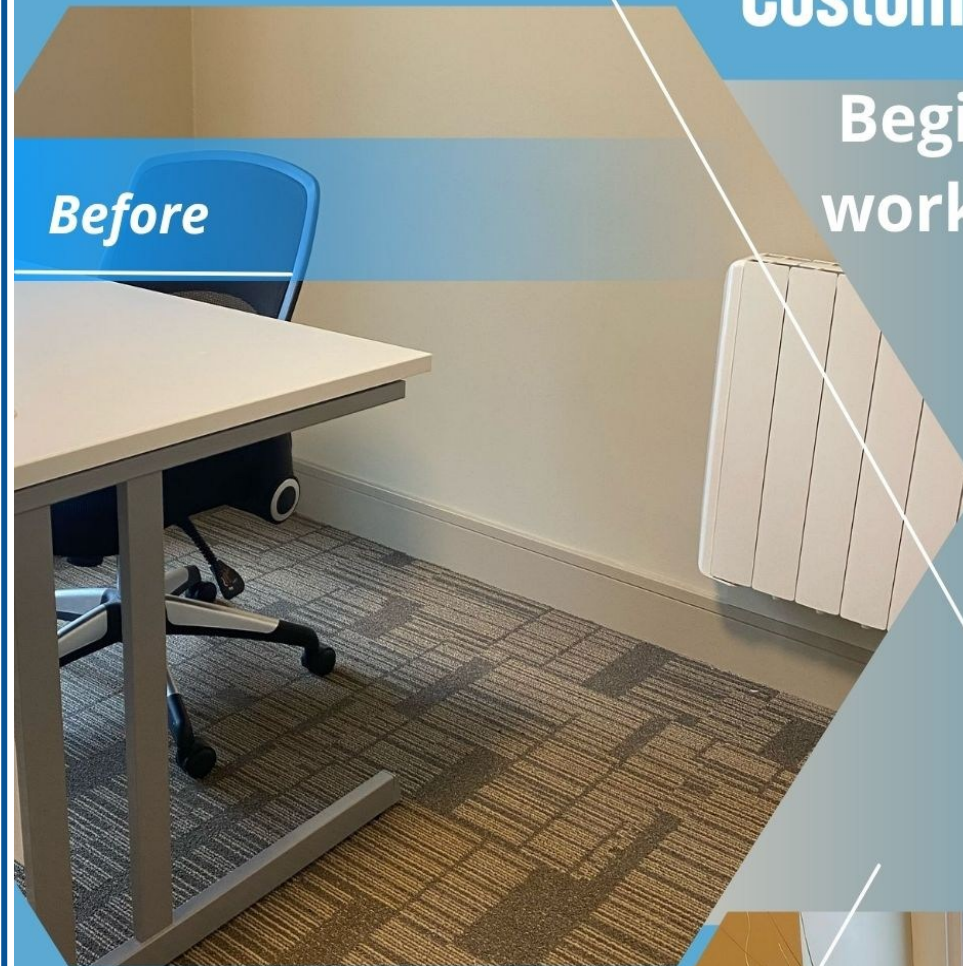
manager@bloomhq.ie

Visit our website www.bloomhq.ie

Customize your space!

**Begin your remote
work journey today**

Before



Contact US!

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

After



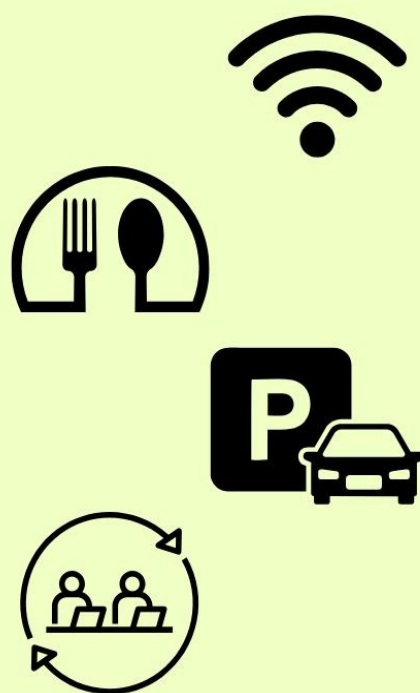


**Dive into your
remote work
with every thing
you need on
hand**

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



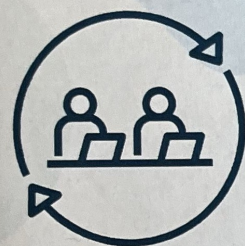
- Join our large, loving gym community! 💪❤️
- Build strength and friendships. 🤝
- Everyone's included —come as you are!
- Don't miss out, join today! ☀️

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

Parish Finances

TOTS AND CO PLAYSCHOOL

REGISTRATIONS FOR
SEPTEMBER 2026



20 YEARS' EXPERIENCE
IN QUALITY CHILDCARE

**ECCE & NCS
SCHEMES AVAILABLE**

**CONTACT COLETTE:
0874162377**

MOUNTRATH, CO. LAOIS

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)*

Tax Back Scheme Mountrath Parish

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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

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

*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
for Mountrath Parish for 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st Dec. 2024)

Mountrath Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account
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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)

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

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

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

Thank you for your cooperation in this regard.

A very sincere *Thank You*

to you and your family -

for your very generous support of

and continued commitment to

Mountrath and Ballyfin Parish Funds

And

Mountrath and Ballyfin Parish Lottos

Mountrath Parish Statement of Account 2023

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

Income		Expenses	
Basket Collection	€ 35,932.00	Pastoral Programmes	€ 721.00
Envelope Collection	€ 33,378.00	Insurance	€ 38,065.00
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Rental Income	€ 30,890.00	Light/Heat	€ 23,349.00
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Donations	€ 71,400.00	Rates/Water/Waste	€ 579.00
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Church Bookings	€ 500.00	Diocesan Levy	€ 11,006.00
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		Youth/Community	€ 260.00
		Hire of Equipment	€ 1,141.00
		Music/Choir	€ 250.00
		Legal/Professional	€ 828.00
		Donations	€ 1,700.00
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*A very sincere "Thank You" for your continuous and generous
support of Mountrath Parish*