

Mountrath – Ballyfin Parish News – 29th – 30th January 2022

4th Sunday – 4th Week in Ordinary Time

St. Fintan's Parish, Mountrath – Ballyfin

Sat. 29th – 30th Jan. 2022 – 4th Sunday – Week in ordinary Time.

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 – www.mountrathparish.ie – Email jmbrophy2@gmail.com

Safeguarding Children Parish Representatives

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

For Anniversary Mass Remembrances see Parish Newsletters – Click
link on Right.

We remember in our Prayers

People, their families and carers, who are ill – at home, in Hospital or in a Nursing Home at this time

Parish Visitation February

Tues. 1st Feb. Mountrath Country

Wed. 2nd Feb. Mountrath Town

Thurs. 3rd Feb. Ballyfin Parish

2022 Diary Dates

Tues. 1st Feb. Feast of St. Brigid

Principal Patron of our Diocese

Wed. 2nd Feb. Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. - Blessing of Candles

Thurs. 3rd Feb. Feast of St. Blaise

Blessing of the Throats

As we are still very much in "Covid 19 Pandemic mode" and in interests of Safety - the ceremony of the Blessing of the Throats will be a general or communal Blessing this year. (No Individual Blessings)

Wed. 2nd March Ash Wed.

Mountrath - Masses 10.0 am and 7.30 pm

Ballyfin - 7.30 pm

As we did last year, we will be preparing small sachets of Bless Ashes for you to collect at our Churches on Ash Wednesday.

Blessing of Throats and Distribution of Blessed Ashes

Isn't it great to see many of the restrictions which were so much part of our lives for almost 2 years now being lifted from this weekend.

However we still need to keep safe and continue to look out for each other so the ceremony of the Blessing of the Throats will be a general or communal Blessing on the Feast of St. Blaise - and as we did last year, we are preparing small sachets of Bless Ashes for you to collect at our Churches on Ash Wed. (3rd March)

Apostolate of Santification begins Mon 17th Jan. --- Ballyfin Church.

Intercession for Bishops and Priests, through Our Lady of Knock takes place each Monday night at 6.45pm in our parish church, St.Fintan's Ballyfin. All are invited to join in the two hour session which consists of community prayer, reciting -

The Divine Mercy Chaplet, meditations on The Holy Rosary and a chaplet offered for our Bishops and priests in the presence of The Blessed Sacrament. When we pray for our priests, Our Lady of Knock blesses us and our families abundantly. All most welcome! Admissions/Enrolments to Ballyfin N.S. will open on January 13th 2022 until February 13th 2022. Forms will be available on the school website from January 13th 2022. Our school website is www.ballyfinns.ie Our Admission's Notice will appear on the school website from January 6th 2022

Statement from Bishop Denis Nulty and Bishop Pat Storey

Bishop Denis Nulty, Catholic Bishop of Kildare & Leighlin and Bishop Pat Storey, Church of Ireland Bishop of Meath & Kildare have issued a joint statement welcoming the new holiday dedicated to Saint Brigid.

Bishop Denis and Bishop Pat said, "The news that the Government has announced an additional bank holiday to take place around Saint Brigid's Day is to be welcomed.

"Brigid means many things to many people. Symbol and story feature strongly in her life. Brigid was born around 454 and died about 524. For people of faith Saint Brigid represents that transition from paganism to Christianity in Celtic Ireland. In 480 she founded her monastery in Kildare, the church of the oak tree. Every school child knows the song of Brigid and how her cloak covered the area we know today as the

Curragh, Saint Brigid's Field. Brigid is linked with the earth, with agriculture, particularly ploughing, sowing, milking, butter-making and, of course, vibrant Christian faith. Brigid was extravagant in her hospitality
 "It is very appropriate that a new public holiday will honour Saint Brigid. As the secondary saint in Ireland to Patrick, for too long she has been lost in his shadow. We warmly welcome the news that Brigid is being rightly, and long after time, acknowledged.

School Enrolment

Gaelscoil Thromaire now accepting enrolments for school year '22/'23 at gaelscoilthromaire00@gmail.com
 You can contact the school to speak to the Principal and Class Teacher. A visit to the school can be organised in line with Covid 19 Regulations.

Admissions/Enrolments to Ballyfin N.S.

Opened on Jan. 13th 2022 – Will remain open until Feb. 13th. Forms are now available on the school website
 Admission's Notice also on School website. www.ballyfinns.ie

Ballyfin Parish Lotto

26th Jan.

Nos. Drawn 1 14 19 27

No Jackpot Winner 15 Match 3 Rec. €67 ea.

1 Ballyfin Winner Paul Dunphy Promoter G. Dunphy

New Jackpot € 11,000

Sincere 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. We extend a very sincere "thank you" for your loyal support and your unending generosity.

Mountrath Lotto 27th Jan

Nos. Drawn 5 13 24 31

No Winner of €12,000 Jackpot

5 Match 3 Rec. €200 each

1 Mountrath Match 3 Winner

Ally and Finn Russell Jacob

Promoter Heather Mortimer

Thanks for your continued and generous support

Next Week's Jackpot €13,000

Thanks for your continued and generous support

New Envelope Boxes for Mountrath Parish

Many thanks for your generous contributions to Parish Funds throughout the year. Your generosity is much appreciated. We rely totally on the Contributions made through the envelopes each week to run the Parish and keep the bills paid, so thank you for making your contributions to Parish Funds through the Envelopes each week over the past year. If you wish to continue to contribute to Parish Funds through the envelopes system, the new Envelope Boxes are now available to collect. (They are on the Tables at the back of the Church)

If you know a friend who would like to receive a Box of Envelopes (but may feel uncomfortable stirring out during these Covid times) you might consider dropping them in a box. Your kind gesture would be much appreciated.

If you wish your contributions to Parish Funds to be recorded, just write your name and address on the first envelope you return to us and we will take it from there.

Receipts for all contributions to Parish Funds are always available. (Just Ask)

Once again, Sincere thanks for your generous support of Mountrath Parish throughout the year.

Dates for Confirmation and 1st Holy Communion Celebrations in 2022.

We have made the following arrangements for the celebration of the Sacraments of Confirmation and 1st Holy Communion during 2022.

While putting these arrangements in place we are mindful that we are still very much in "Covid 19 Pandemic mode" – Once again the safety of our children and their families and indeed, the safety of everyone involved in the preparation and celebration of these sacraments has been (and must be) our priority and first consideration.

Ballyfin Parish

Confirmation - St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin. 2 Celebrations of Confirmation

Time of each Ceremony 11.00 am.

Sat. 26th March 2022 (Last Sat. in March) - Sat. 2nd April 2022 (First Sat. in April)

Celebration of 1st Holy Communion. 2 Ceremonies. Time of each Ceremony 2.00 pm

Sunday 22nd May 2022 Sunday 29th May 2022

Mountrath Parish

Confirmation - St. Fintan's Church, Mountrath. 2 Ceremonies.

Scoil Naomh Brid. Wed. 16th March. Time 11.00 am

St. Fintan's Boys Nat. Sch. Wed. 16th March 2.00 am

Celebration of 1st Holy Communion - 2 Ceremonies. Time of each Ceremony 2.00 pm

Sunday 8th May 2022 Sunday 15th May 2022

Where there are more than one in a family intending to receive the Sacraments next year (For example – one family member receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation and another member of family, receiving 1st Holy Communion) families are most welcome to combine these ceremonies and have these 2 Celebrations during one Ceremony of their choice. If a family prefers to bring their son or daughter to any of our Parish weekend Masses to receive either of the Sacraments, they are most welcome to do so. *Just contact Fr. Joe.*

Once again, this year, despite all the odds, we managed to celebrate all our Sacraments with respect, dignity and meaning and in a timely way - all in a safe and secure environment for everyone. This in no small way was due to the cooperation and goodwill of everyone involved, Candidates for the Sacraments, parents and families of Candidates, Our teachers and schools staff, Sacramental coordinators and people who prepared our churches and kept them safe for us.

Once again, I wish to express sincere thanks to everyone involved in the celebration of Sacraments of 1st Penance, 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation this year - With your help, goodwill and cooperation, we can *(and Please God, we will)* do the same again next year. *Fr. Joe*

Ballyfin Community Alert Seniors Alert Scheme

Personal monitored alarms offer security & peace of mind particularly during Winter season. If you are aged 65 or over and would like more information on applying for a government grant aided alarm,
Please contact Sheila on 086 1570145

Ballyfin Ladies Football Club, whose junior team recently won the county championship want to celebrate this amazing achievement by hosting a Christmas Draw. Win a nights accommodation in Ballyfin Demense for two people in one of the deluxe rooms the prize also includes an a la carte meal and a full breakfast the following morning. Tickets are on sale for €10 each and can be bought by texting or calling Clare Brennan 087 7641184 or Clare Carroll 086 3584777 or contacting anyone on the Committee.

Thanks so much for your support

A Prayer for Healthcare Workers and front-line workers.

Loving God, we place into your care

All our doctors, nurses and all hospital staff and healthcare workers.

Give them courage of heart

And strength of mind and body

Keep them safe from harm

May they know our deep gratitude

For all they are doing

To heal and care for those affected by The Coronavirus

God of all consolation,

May they know your protection and peace

Continue to bless them in these very challenging days

And bless their families. Amen.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment

receive You sacramentally,

come spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Coronavirus Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, our refuge in every danger, to whom we turn in our distress; in faith we pray look with compassion on the afflicted, grant eternal rest to the dead, comfort to mourners, healing to the sick, peace to the dying, strength to healthcare workers, wisdom to our leaders and the courage to reach out to all in love, so that together we may give glory to your holy name. Amen.
