

Mountrath – Ballyfin Parish News - 27th March 2022

4th Sunday - 4th Week of Lent

St. Fintan's Parish, Mountrath - Ballyfin

Sat. 26th - Sun. 27th March 2022 - 4th Sunday – Week of Lent

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

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

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

Special Collection for Ukraine:

The Irish Bishops have asked for a Special Collection to be taken up at Masses this weekend to support humanitarian efforts in Ukraine and especially the families and children who have had to flee their homeland in advance of the Russian invasion. The proceeds of this Special Collection will be directed to Caritas Internationalis, which is the helping hand of the Church on the ground in Ukraine and surrounding region. The Irish Bishops ask us to be as generous as we can and express thanks for your support. Please drop envelopes marked "Special Collection for Ukraine" in the Envelope Collection Boxes – or into the wall safe (at the back Church Door)
 Many thanks, Your support is very much appreciated.

Bingo has Returned Bingo Returned last Monday

Bingo resumed last Monday night in St. Fintan's Community Hall at 8pm. We really appreciate your support

All are very welcome to come along and be part of a lovely social evening



Sat. 26th Mch 11.00 am
 Celebration of Sacrament of Confirmation with Children from Ballyfin and Barnashrone Schools

Bishop Denis' Prayer for the People of Ukraine

Bishop Denis invites this prayer for peace in Ukraine to be prayed at all our Masses during Lent:

Loving God, We pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world
that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in need. Amen.

For Anniversary Mass Remembrances - See Parish Newsletters

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

Caretaker Required.

A caretaker is required for Scoil Bhríde, Girls School, Mountrath. If you are interested in applying for this job please send your C.V. into the school. Application closing date is Friday, 8th April.

Laois Libraries Project

“Laois Libraries are looking for people aged 55 and over to help improve their library services. You are invited to share your opinions and suggestions by filling out a short questionnaire at your local library during the months of April and May. Share with your families, friends and community groups.

Please help us to spread the word so we can hear from as many older persons as possible".

Prison Visitation

The following recruitment notice is from the Guild of St. Philip, Portlaoise which is part of St. Vincent de Paul Society. Members visit inmates in both prisons in Portlaoise.

Matthew 25 Verse 40 *"I was in prison and you came to visit me."*

Inmates are easy to forget. Locked away they seem to disappear from society.

The Guild of St. Philip is a voluntary organisation that visits inmates in prison twice per month. Do you have time to spare? Would you like to offer a hand of friendship? If so please contact Catherine on 086 046 2405 for more information

Towards a Synodal Church

We had a lovely meeting in the Convent on last Wednesday evening when we prepared our Parish Submission for the Synod. Thanks to everyone who attended. Following the meeting our Submission was collated and is now ready to be forwarded to the Diocesan Office in Carlow. At the end of May after conducting consultation and listening, and after hosting a Synodal

gathering to synthesize the fruits of this consultation, each diocese will submit their Synodal document to the Irish Bishops' Conference .

Synod News: Practical Information on our Listening Lent

The K&L Synod Committee is preparing templates for parishes to use in listening sessions during Lent. Parishes are very welcome to join with other parishes in hosting these sessions. We will also be offering an online survey that we ask parishes to promote during Lent. Parishioners might be invited to take out their phones at an appropriate point at Mass, perhaps during the homily, and find the link to the survey for use later. While the diocesan committee will host focus groups during Lent, Parishes are also very welcome to identify particular groups they wish to hear from using the template as a tool. The intentional listening that might take place between two people over a cup of coffee will be equally welcome . A youth listening template will be offered also.

Digital submissions from parishes will be able to be submitted to a dedicated email address Guidelines for how the submissions can be assembled will also be offered in due course.

Towards a Synodal Church,

On 7th March 2021 Pope Francis convoked the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, to be held in October 2023 on the theme: "For a synodal Church: - Communion, Participation and Mission". Over the coming weeks we here in the Parishes of Mountrath – Ballyfin will be meeting to prepare our submission to be presented to the Diocese – At the end of May after conducting consultation and listening, and after hosting a Synodal gathering to synthesize the fruits of this consultation, each diocese will submit their Synodal document to the Irish Bishops' Conference .

We will be engaging with 3 Questions

1. Thinking about the Church and about my local Parish, how and when did I find being part of it a source of joy or nourishment for me in my Faith - When might it bring me disappointment or pain ?
2. When I hear the word "Church" - who do I think of ? Who is missing? Whom do we need to listen to ?
How can we become more inclusive ?
3. Thinking about how we as Parish community bring the love of Christ into the world, what one thing does our local Parish do really well ? What one thing could it do better with ? What one thing could I do ?

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock

The 2022 Annual Kildare and Leighlin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine has been arranged for Sunday 5th June --- Full details in due course.

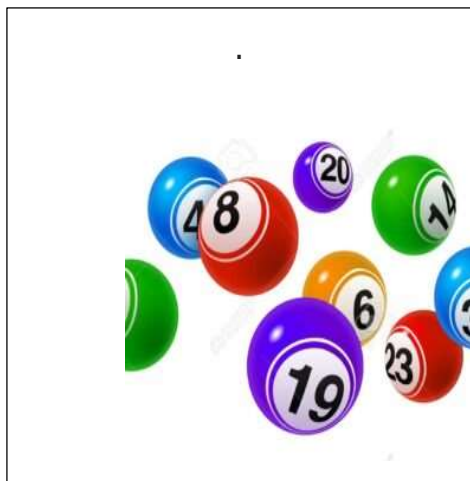
The Gifts of the Holy Spirit



Apostolate of Sanctification - Monday 15th June

St. Fintan's Church, Church. Starts at 7.00 pm

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!



Ballyfin Lotto 23rd Mch

Jackpot € 10,000

Nos. Drawn 1 10 17 22

No Jackpot Winner

18 Match 3 Rec. € 56 ea.

2 local Winners

Grainne Linden - Promoter G. Dunphy

Aedin Duff - Promoter Kathleen Dunne

New Jackpot € 11,000

Sincere thanks to everyone involved in Ballyfin Parish Lotto – your loyal support is much appreciated

Mountrath Lotto 24th Mch

Jackpot € 15,000

Nos. Drawn 1 5 12 18

No Jackpot Winner

14 Match 3 Rec. € 72 ea.

3 local Winners

McDermott Family Promoter Teresa Morrin

Kevin Coss - Promoter Declan Fitzpatrick

Dolores Mulhare Promoter Mary Costello

New Jackpot € 16,000

Sincere thanks to everyone involved in Ballyfin and Mountrath 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. We extend a very sincere "thank you" for your loyal support and your unending generosity

ALONE - The Organisation that supports Older People to Live Independently.

"ALONE supports older people to age at home, combatting loneliness and isolation. Would you like to volunteer from the comfort of your own home? ? We are seeking volunteers to make Support and Befriending calls to older people. Please visit our website at www.alone.ie or call our National Support and Referral line on 0818 222 024 to find out more about volunteering.

DPC News: (Diocesan Pastoral Council)

There is now a dedicated page on the diocesan website for the DPC – you can view it at <https://www.kandle.ie/pastoral/diocesan-pastoral-council/> where you will find information on membership, the mission statement and identified themes. It also announces Gerry Martin as the new Chair of the DPC and Jean Roche as its secretary.
