

Parish Priest: Fr. Ger Ahern PP: 059 6482768
Parish Office: 059 64 81 254. Email: admin@baltinglassparish.ie

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Fiona Kavanagh, Anne Leigh, Martina Kennedy
Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP): Aisling Higgins 085 8021633



MASSES

St. Paul's Oratory
Tues. - Fri. 10am
St. Joseph's Church
Sat. 6pm / Sun. 11am
Available on Webcam
& Radio 100.2fm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



ST. PAUL'S ORATORY
WEDNESDAYS 7.30-8.30PM
Spend an hour in quiet
reflection before Jesus present
in the Blessed Sacrament.

NEWSLETTER

Articles for the Newsletter must be
received by 12 noon on Thursdays.

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Mon, Wed, Fri. 9.30am - 1.00pm
Tues. & Thurs. 9.30am - 1.00pm
& 1.30pm - 2.30pm

VISIT BALTINGLASS PARISH WEBSITE

For Weekly Newsletter, Information,
to make a donation etc.
www.baltinglassparish.ie

SUNDAY MASSES

	<u>GRANGECON</u>	<u>STRATFORD</u>
FEBRUARY	16	9/23
MARCH	2/16/31	9/23

WE REMEMBER

ANNIVERSARIES

Marita Kavanagh, Graigue & Bawnogues
Maura Whelan, Ridgeway, Knockananna
Bridie Dwyer, Gibraltar
Seán Bookle, Irongrange & deceased members
of the Bookle Family
Eileen Lynch, "St. Anne's", Baltinglass
Rita Kehoe, Clough
Matt & Phyllis Farrell, Tankardstown &
deceased members of the Farrell & Ryan Families
Anthony Kearney, Tuckmill
Elizabeth (Lil) Kinsella, Rampere
Peter Nolan, St. Joseph's Road, Blessington

STRATFORD: 9.30AM
Joseph Burke, Stratford
Noel Brady, Manger
Catherine Moore, Main Street

*Rest in
Peace*

The Irish Catholic

Ireland's biggest and best-selling religious newspaper!

ON SALE

in St. Joseph's Church each weekend.

€3

Highly recommended reading for all!
IF YOU TAKE ONE PLEASE PUT MONEY IN BOX!



BALTINGLASS - BIGSTONE - GRANGECON - STRATFORD
PARISH NEWSLETTER
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9TH FEBRUARY 2025

Message from Bishop Denis Nulty for Safeguarding Sunday



Today is Diocesan Safeguarding Sunday. It is the fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time and reminds us that the focus on Safeguarding is something that happens all year around. The new National Child Safeguarding Policy is called 'A Safe and Welcoming Church' and that is what our diocese is, a safe and welcoming church. The fact that 'Safeguarding Sunday' has become such a regular part of our Diocesan and Parish life, demonstrates how safeguarding has been so well embedded into every area of the life of our diocese and its fifty-six parishes.

Safeguarding Sunday is an occasion to acknowledge and recognise the years of dedication and work by so many to ensure that Kildare & Leighlin is a safe place for children and all who work with them. It's an opportunity to thank all who ensure safeguarding is so well embedded in our diocesan culture, Ailish Higgins, our Director of Safeguarding the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee, the Designated Liaison People, our Parish Safeguarding Representatives and our priests and people.

As ever, on my parish visits, I encourage ministry with children and young people, this is an essential part of the mission of the Church. Where altar serving, youth choirs, Sunday School have returned I welcome them warmly; where they haven't for whatever reason, I encourage their early return. The life of a parish is often defined by the active engagement of young people in that parish. Safeguarding Sunday is a reassurance to all that being involved in the parish is governed by best practices in safeguarding.

Every blessing & thanks,

Bishop Denis Nulty

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK

February 11th is World Day of the Sick, an observation started by Pope John Paul II as a way for believers to offer prayers for those suffering from illnesses. The day coincides with the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes.

A Prayer for the Sick

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence.

Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits.

May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts.

We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed. Amen.

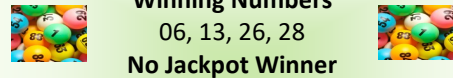
KILKENNY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

Kilkenny Bereavement Support invites you to an evening with Fr. Jim Cogley, Thursday 20th Feb. from 7 to 10pm, in Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny. Admission is free. Fr. Jim will present his renowned approach to grief and healing through his use of wooden symbols. He is Parish Priest & Director of Pilgrimage at Our Lady's Island (Wexford) and author of 12 books in the 'Wood You Believe' series and facilitates retreats & seminars on Spirituality, Human Development and Healing in his own unique way. (www.jimcogley.com)

The Kilkenny Bereavement Support Service provides free one to one listening support to people who are bereaved and can be contacted on 086 0670566 website: www.kilkennybereavementsupport.com



STRATFORD/GRANGECON GAA LOTTO



Winning Numbers

06, 13, 26, 28

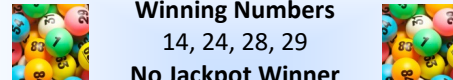
No Jackpot Winner

1 Match 3 Winner - €200 - Eamon McEvoy

Seller's Prize: Maurice Mangan

This week's Jackpot: €10,400

BALTINGLASS GAA LOTTO



Winning Numbers

14, 24, 28, 29

No Jackpot Winner

2 Match 3 Winners - Share €300

Orlaith O'Toole, Elaine Kenny

This week's Jackpot: €8,400

BALTINGLASS LIBRARY - FREE EVENTS

Tuesday 11th Feb: 3.30 - 5pm

Crafting with Olha for Children (age 5-9) (BE)

Tuesday 11th Feb: 6.30 - 8pm

Conversational English - New volunteers

welcome - to chat with adult English learners in a friendly, informal setting.

Friday 14th Feb: Crafting with Olha (Adults)

Week 3 of a 6 week Crochet Course for Beginners 3 - 4.30pm Materials Provided (BE)

Saturday 15th Feb: Crafting with Olha (Adults)

11am -1pm. - Embroidery (BE)

Sat. 15th Feb: Creative Writing Class

11am - 12.30pm

Please book at the Library on 059 648 2300 or

baltinglasslib@wicklowcoco.ie

BE=Booking Essential



PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

Wednesday 27th Aug to 3rd Sept. 2025

Dublin to Medjugorje return. Half Board. Cost: €865

For information contact: Parish Office 059 64 81 254,

Fr. Ger 087 629 8881, Andy Murphy 087 09 00 819



FR GER FAREWELL MASS & APPRECIATION

As you know Fr. Ger is leaving our parish before the end of February.

His last weekend Mass is at 11am next **Sunday (16th)** We would hope that there would be a big turnout at this Mass and everyone is invited to the Parish Centre afterwards for light refreshments. This will be an opportunity for people to say "farewell" and to show their appreciation for all his work in the parish over the last seven years. We wish him well in Tullow.



MAGIC SHOW

3pm Fatima Hall - Sunday 9th Feb

Adm: €12 pp / Family of Four €40

Tickets available 30 minutes before show. Don't miss our Macaw Parrot as he talks to the audience. All new 2025 show! For info phone 087 002 5899.

WEST WICKLOW MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION 'HEADS UP'

Supporting U and your mental health. 7-week Evidence-based Programme for Men coming to Baltinglass Parish Centre in March. If you are over 18, want to learn to build your mental fitness, boost your confidence and take action to get back on track, then this Heads Up Programme in West Wicklow is for you! If you would like to know more contact Deirdre on 085 106 8305 / Deirdre@countykildarelp.ie or Lorna on 085 842 1347 / Lorna@countykildarelp.ie www.heads-up.ie



SCOIL NAOMH IÓSAF CAKE SALE

Friday February 14th from 9.30am to 12noon in the school hall. All welcome.

CONGLAIS CRAFTERS

Thanks to everyone who donated wool to the crafters. We have enough for now. We can appeal again at a later date if needed.



BALTINGLASS PARISH FUNDRAISING DANCE

Bigstone Community Centre (R93 E956) **Saturday April 26th**

Music: Tommy B from 8.30pm - 9.30pm.

Music: Limelite from 9.30pm - 12am.

Tickets: €15 including raffle entry.

1st Prize: Weekend break for two in Woodford Dolmen Hotel.

Full Bar & large Dancefloor

Tickets available from the Parish Office, Pattersons, P.J. O'Reillys and Fishers Centra.



CONFIRMATION

Saturday 5th April St. Joseph's Church,

FIRST CONFESSION

Stratford: Tuesday 11th March

Baltinglass/Bigstone: Thursday 13th March

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Stratford: Saturday 10th May

Baltinglass/Bigstone: Saturday 17th May



BALTINGLASS MEN'S SHED

Warm welcome for any man wanting to join the group. Gatherings take place in the building beside the Tearmann Gardens on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to 12noon.