

Priests: Fr. John Heinhold, Fr. Lawrence Kurgat and Fr. Vincent Agunbiade : 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
Mon. - 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>
MARCH	2/16/30	9/23
APRIL	13/27	6/20

WE REMEMBER

ANNIVERSARIES

Philomena O'Connor, Baltinglass & Beara
Annie Kingston, Bantry, Cork
Kathleen Fitzgerald, 47 Parkmore
Elizabeth McLoughlin, Edward Street
Patrick Coffey & James O'Shea, Carrigeen &
deceased members of the Coffey & O'Shea
Families, Kerry
Catherine Heffernan, Eadestown
Christopher Foley, Belan Street

Rest in
Peace

CONFIRMATION

Saturday 5th April St. Joseph's Church,

FIRST CONFESSION

Stratford: Tuesday 11th March

Baltinglass/Bigstone: Tuesday 25th March

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Stratford: Saturday 10th May

Baltinglass/Bigstone: Saturday 17th May



5TH MARCH

Mass at 10am & 7.30pm in Baltinglass
Church.

Ash Wednesday is a day of fast & abstinence.

PLEASE NOTE

During Lent there will be Mass
on Monday mornings at 10am.



BALTINGLASS - BIGSTONE - GRANGECON - STRATFORD

PARISH NEWSLETTER

EIGHT SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2ND MARCH 2025

Newsletter for Weekend of the 1st & 2nd March 2025



As we approach the Season of Lent, beginning next week on Ash Wednesday, March 5th, 2025, let us pause and reflect on how we can prepare for an amazing Lent.

Growing up, I always seemed to miss the true point of giving something up for Lent - or maybe I just ignored it because I liked chocolate too much. Once I found out that Sundays were not technically part of the 40 days of Lent, I would save whatever chocolate I would have eaten during the week and indulge in it all on Sunday. As a result, I looked forward to Sundays more than I focused on growing in my faith.

Lent is a season when we prepare for Jesus' suffering, death, and Resurrection. The purpose of Lent is to help us grow in our faith and become spiritually stronger. It offers us the chance to spend time in the desert with Jesus (Read for yourself Matt. 4:1-11), reflecting on our lives and deepening our connection with God.

Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are the three traditional actions of Lent. Therefore, take the next few days before Lent begins to reflect on what you need to grow or change in your life.

Prayer is an essential part of Lent, allow yourself time to pray and listen. God may gently reveal an area of your life that he wants you to focus on this Lent. Trust him to guide you.

Fasting is also an essential part of Lent, where you give up something that is part of your life as an offering to God. The purpose of fasting is to help you grow closer to God. Reflect on what sacrifice you can make that will draw you nearer to Him.

Almsgiving is another crucial aspect of Lent. When you give alms, you dedicate part of your time, talent, or resources to assist someone in need. This practice involves making a sacrifice for the benefit of others, reminding us that everything we have is ultimately from God. By sharing your gifts and talents, you not only grow in faith but also contribute to the well-being of others.

As you prepare yourself for Lent, keep in mind that success doesn't require grand plans. A successful Lent is about drawing closer to God and frequently turning your mind and heart to him. By journeying with Jesus through the desert, through his passion, suffering, and death on the cross, you can fully embrace the transformation that comes with his Resurrection on Easter Sunday morning.

Have an amazing Lent everyone!

WEST WICKLOW HISTORICAL SOCIETY

will host a Roundtable Discussion on "Stratford on Slaney -Exploring its history" on Tuesday 11th March at 8pm in Stratford Community Room. Everyone is welcome. The WWHS will talk through the published research on the village, and historical images and photographs. Everyone is invited to bring any photographs or artifacts or stories they have, and to take part and share insights and information about the history of Stratford. The event is free of charge. It is hoped that this event will be the precursor to a heritage walk in the village planned for later in 2025.

WEST WICKLOW DAY CARE CENTRE FILL A BAG WEEKEND

Friday 7th & Saturday 8th March

Friday 14th & Saturday 15th March

Friday: 9.30am- 12 noon & 2.30 - 5pm.

Saturday: 10am - 2pm.

Get Spring Cleaning & tidy out that hot press.

Bring all your unwanted clothes, shoes, sheets, pillowcases, duvet covers, curtains and towels. No dirty garments please or clothing not suitable for re-wearing.

No duvets, pillows, rugs, blankets or carpets.

Drop off your bags at the old ambulance depot at Baltinglass Hospital please.

BIGSTONE TRACTOR RUN RESCHEDULED

EIRCODE: R93 KP89



in aid of Bigstone Community Centre will take place Sunday 2nd March. Registration starts from 12 noon with the run commencing at 1pm. Lorries and Vintage Cars are also welcome. Hope you can join us for this community day. Meet up and have a cuppa - face painting for younger people. The run will finish at O'Neills, Castledermot where the Raffle and Drivers Prize will take place. Some of the funds raised will go to Community First Responders.

BINGO

MONDAYS 8PM FATIMA HALL

STRATFORD/GRANGECON GAA LOTTO



Winning Numbers

16, 20, 21, 24



No Jackpot Winner

2 Match 3 Winners - €100 each

Podge Humphries, Billy Mangan

This week's Jackpot: €11,300

BALTINGLASS GAA LOTTO



Winning Numbers

15, 21, 26, 29



No Jackpot Winner

3 Match 3 Winners - Share €300

Mary Farrell, Annette Kavanagh

Trish Patterson

This week's Jackpot: €9,000



BALTINGLASS & DISTRICT ACTIVE RETIREMENT

Coffee Mornings: in March each Friday at 11am in Hug-a-Mug.

Tulfarris Hotel: is the venue for our **Afternoon**

Tea Outing: Wednesday 12th March at 3pm.

€35 per person. Own transport necessary.

St. Patrick's Day Parade: Members will be assembling to join the Parade at Scoil Conglais at 12.15pm.

Bundoran is the venue for our short *Summer Holiday Break*.

Dates: Monday 19th May - Friday 23rd (4 nights). Cost €495 per p.p. sharing. Single supplement €30 per person per night. Details from Mary on 087 299 9571.

Our *next meeting* is on Wednesday 26th March in Germaines. **Donations of Easter Eggs** are invited, to be gifted to the Charity "In Their Shoes".



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



CREATIVE PLACES BALTINGLASS PRESENTS: 'BIDDIES OF BALTINGLASS!'

An initiative of Wicklow County Council.

Storytelling Workshops for Women 35+. Come gather, ladies of Baltinglass, for this introduction to the craft of storytelling. Over three consecutive FREE workshops, learn how to value, shape and share your stories. Tea, biscuits and good company and some great yarns! In the Lalor Centre on Saturday March 1st, 8th and 15th from 10.30am - 12.30pm Booking essential. Facilitated by actor and storyteller Carmel Stephens. Ph 086 248 46 95 or Email: carmelstephens@gmail.com

BALTINGLASS LIBRARY - FREE EVENTS

Tuesday 4th March: 3.30 - 5pm. Crafting with Olha Ages 9 - 12. (B.E.)

Tuesday 4th March: 6.30 - 8pm.

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

Saturday 8th March: Crafting with Olha (Adults) Felt Sewing. 11am -1pm. Embroidery. (B.E). B.E. = **Booking Essential** Please book at the Library on 059 648 2300 or baltinglasslib@wicklowcoco.ie

FRIDAY 7TH MARCH 2025

IN CARLOW CATHEDRAL AT 6.30PM

A Holy Hour to pray for and remember victims and survivors of abuse within our Church will be led by Bishop Denis.

A Candle of Atonement will be lit.

You are invited to attend this important Diocesan event. It will also be live streamed on the Cathedral Parish website www.carlowcathedral.ie/webcam for those who wish to join online.'



World Day of Prayer

Informed Prayer. Prayerful Action

Will be celebrated on Friday 7th March in St. Paul's Oratory, Baltinglass at 7.30pm. The Theme is "I made You Wonderful". All are welcome.

TRÓCAIRE BOXES

available in all Churches and at the Parish Centre.

We encourage each family to give it a central place in their home during Lent, as we ensure others have a decent quality of life.

(€3,065.donated in 2024)



FAMILY MASS

We invite families to join with the children preparing for Confirmation & First Holy Communion for Mass next Sunday 9th March 9.30am Stratford /11am Baltinglass.

EUCCHARISTIC HEALING SERVICE LED BY FR JOHN KEANE

In Ss. Mary & Laurence Church, Crookstown on Thursday 6th March at 7pm. All are welcome.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

12th April - 19th April. For details contact Duffy Coach Hire on 087 254 3235 or 059 64 71 681.

WEST WICKLOW DAY CARE COMMITTEE

invite you to the A.G.M. on the 11th March at 8pm at the Day Care Centre. Everyone is welcome.