

Priests: Fr. John Heinhold, Fr. Lawrence Kurgat and Fr. Vincent Agunbiade : 059 6482768

Priest on duty: 085 831 4793

Parish Office: 059 64 81 254. Email: admin@baltinglassparish.ie

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Fiona Kavanagh, Anne Leigh, Martina Kennedy



#### 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

#### CONFIRMATION

Saturday 5th April St. Joseph's Church,  
at 12 noon

#### FIRST CONFESSION

Baltinglass/Bigstone: Tuesday 25th March

#### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Stratford: Saturday 10th May at 11am  
Baltinglass/Bigstone: Saturday 17th May  
at 12 noon.

#### SUNDAY MASSES

GRANGECON    STRATFORD

MARCH	30	23
APRIL	13/27	6/20

#### WE REMEMBER

##### RECENT DEATH

Alice O'Connor, Parkmore

##### ANNIVERSARIES

Madge & Hal Dunne, Shrouhaun

Edward O'Brien, Raheen

Ned & Sarah Gahan, Carrigeen

James & Eddie Gahan Jnr., Carrigeen

Michael & Gracie Boran

Jim Breen, Deerpark

Jim Murphy, Irongrange

Patrick Lennon, Parkmore

Thomas & Brigid Alcock, Parkmore & deceased  
members of the Alcock Family

James Geraghty, Rathmines, Dublin

Margaret Kearney, Tuckmill

Patrick Doyle, Graney

Joe, Eileen & Colette Fitzpatrick, Ballyraggan

Margaret (Peg) Byrne, Walkinstown & Edward St

Bridie O'Kane, Edward Street

##### **STRATFORD: (Sun) 9.30AM**

Anna Whittle, Rathbran

April Amy Nolan, Ballinatone

Susan Byrne, Randalstown,

*Rest in  
Peace*

#### PLEASE NOTE

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



BALTINGLASS - BIGSTONE - GRANGECON - STRATFORD

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

23RD MARCH 2025

#### Reflection for Third Sunday of Lent

What comes to mind when I think about the three readings of today is the call of God and the obligation to be proactive with the call. This theme runs through each of the readings.

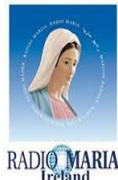
Today's first reading narrates the story of the call of Moses by God. God called Moses so that Moses would act as God's instrument to bring the people of Israel from slavery into the Promised Land. But first things first, God had to establish a relationship with Moses before he could be given this assignment. As with the start of any relationship, God called Moses by name. The symbolism of name-calling in the scriptures is to claim ownership. The one who gives the name is the superior. In calling Moses by name, God implicitly tells Moses that you are mine and I [God] am your Lord and Master. It is because of this that God refers to Godself as "I am who I am" when Moses asked for God's name. The "I am who I am" is a title rather than the name of God. It is God who can claim ownership to Moses and not the other way round.

In calling Moses by name, God established a relationship of trust with Moses. The "I am who I am" as an attribute of God is a statement of assurance that God will be with Moses in the assignment which he has been given. One biblical interpretation of the "I am who I am" is that God is a God of history. Because I am the God of your fathers in the past (Abraham, Isaac and Jacob), I will also be your God now, but also in future.

Like Moses, each one of us has received something from God. This is the message of Paul to the Christians of Corinthians. The greatest gift that we receive from God is salvation through Jesus Christ. We are challenged through St. Paul to reflect on our response to faith and salvation that we have gratuitously received. The lives of our ancestors in faith ought to be a lesson for us on how we ought to live out our own faith in the present time. St. Paul reminds his Christians and all of us not to be wasteful of God's gifts. The people of Israel experienced many saving acts of God but this did not stop them from apostasy at several times in their history. The gospel reading talks about the tree which fails to bear fruits despite the numerous efforts of the gardener. Perhaps, each one of us can identify ourselves as the tree which fails to bear fruit.

Through our baptism, each one of us has been called by God; God claimed us for himself. Our relationship with God which started in baptism is constantly renewed by the other sacraments of the Church. One way to discern my response to these would be to ask whether I am growing in my sacramental life or not.


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## BINGO

**BINGO MONDAYS 8PM FATIMA HALL**

### STRATFORD/GRANGECON GAA LOTTO

 **Winning Numbers**  
02, 09, 18, 28   
**No Jackpot Winner**  
**3 Match 3 Winners** - €70 each  
Aisling Grace, Mary Moore & Tracy Norton  
**Seller's Prize: Shirley O'Neill**  
**This week's Jackpot: €12,400**

### BALTINGLASS GAA LOTTO

 **Winning Numbers**  
07, 15, 17, 21   
**No Jackpot Winner**  
**Match 3 Winners** - Share €300  
Mary Patterson, Chloe O'Neill,  
Sandra O'Brien, Maurice Byrne  
**This week's Jackpot: €9,600**

### BALTINGLASS LIBRARY - FREE EVENTS

**Tuesday 25th March:** 3.30 - 5pm. Crafting with Olha Ages 5-8. (B.E.)  
**Tuesday 25th March:** 6.30 - 8pm.  
Conversational English - New volunteers welcome - to chat with adult English learners in a friendly, informal setting.  
**Friday 28th March:** 3pm - 5pm Crafting with Olha (Adults) - Felting. All creations to be donated to Baltinglass Nursing Home. B.E.  
**Saturday 29th March** 10.30am - 12noon Creative Writing Group. All welcome.  
**Saturday 29th March:** 11am -12.30pm. Crafting with Olha (Adults) (B.E.)  
**B.E. = Booking Essential**  
Please book at the Library on 059 648 2300 or [baltinglasslib@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:baltinglasslib@wicklowcoco.ie)

### 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.

## 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



### 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.



### PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

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

### TOP TEN WAYS TO HELP POLLINATORS

Reduce mowing to allow native wildflowers like Dandelions, Clover and Birds-foot Trefoil to naturally return over time. By reducing mowing even to once a month, you will help them to slowly return, one pocket at a time.  
**Where?** Everywhere! Even tiny biodiversity margins are valuable.  
[pollinators.ie/top-ten-ways-to-help-pollinators/](http://pollinators.ie/top-ten-ways-to-help-pollinators/)

### STRATFORD FORUM & STRATFORD/GRANGECON GAA CLUB

Present a Comedy/Drama play about the life of a Irish builder's Labourer called "From the Shoulders Down"  
On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm at the Stratford/Grangecon G.A.A. Clubhouse.  
Tickets €20. Includes light supper. Available at The Glen Shop, Barbara 085 125 8295.

### JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Priests House of Baltinglass Parish are seeking to employ any interested and responsible person for cooking and some light housework at the parish house. The work time would be 20 hours a week, 4 hours per day from Monday to Friday. Interested persons should send their CV to the Parish Office: Parkmore, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow, W91 V4P9. The deadline for submission is Friday, 4th April 2025.

### JUBILEE 24 HOURS FOR THE LORD CARLOW

Takes place in the Cathedral Assumption on **Friday 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**Opening Mass:** 7pm  
**Stations of the Cross:** 9pm  
**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**10am:** Morning Mass  
**12 noon:** Directed Prayer -Sorrowful Mysteries  
**3pm:** Directed Prayer - Divine Mercy  
**6.15pm:** Evening Mass/Closing Liturgy  
Sacrament of Reconciliation throughout the 24 hours except during Mass and hours of Directed Prayer.

### CONFESSIONS

Will take place every Saturday morning in St. Paul's Oratory in the Parish Centre from 10am - 10.30am **OR** by appointment by phoning the Priest on duty at 085 831 4793.

### VISIT BALTINGLASS PARISH WEBSITE

For Weekly Newsletter, Information, to make a donation etc.  
[www.baltinglassparish.ie](http://www.baltinglassparish.ie)


### BALTINGLASS & DISTRICT ACTIVE RETIREMENT

Our next monthly meeting will be held in Germaines' on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm. Members are invited to bring some **small Easter Eggs** for donation to the Charity 'In Their Shoes'. New members are very welcome to join us.

### ANNUAL EPILEPSY IRELAND CHURCH GATE COLLECTION

Will take place on the weekend of Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th March. Your support would be gratefully appreciated.

### DAFFODIL DAY 2025

To benefit  **Irish Cancer Society**  
In aid of the Irish Cancer Society will be held in Baltinglass and surrounding areas on Friday 28th March from 8am. Merchandise will be on sale at different locations in the town. Anyone wishing to help with sales are very welcome. Please come to the main stall at McAllister Monument or leave your name and number in Pattersons Butchers, Main Street. Donations of fresh daffodils would be very much appreciated. You can leave them at the Maint Street Stall or in Pattersons on Thursday 27th March. Thank you!  
Emma Hayden - Area Organiser for the Irish Cancer Society.

## The Irish Catholic

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ON SALE

in St. Joseph's Church each weekend.

€3

IF YOU TAKE ONE PLEASE PUT MONEY IN BOX!