

Parish Team:- Fr. Tommy Dillon 059 6482768 / Fr. Seán Maher 059 6481123 / Srs. Brigid & Carmel 059 6481561 / Parish Office 059 6481254 / Email address: admin@baltinglassparish.ie

Newsletter available on www.baltinglassparish.ie
 Newsletter also available on www.mylocalnews.ie This free service is open to all community groups, eg, sports/youth clubs, Arts, Schools, etc.
 Diocesan web site: www.kandle.ie

Anniversary Masses:

This weekend:

Baltinglass: 7.30pm:

Anniversaries:

Tommy Andrews, Moneymore
 Hugh Kelly, Boleylug
 Pat Rogers, Edward Street
 Dan McGrath, Whitestown
 Pierce & Annie O'Neill, 49 Parkmore
 Patrick & Mary O'Neill, Parkmore
 Ignatius McDonagh, Edward Street
 Jack Kelly, The Dales, Carrigeen
 Jack Doyle, Tinoran
 Dan & Annie O' Neill, Tuckmill & Agnes Berry, Tuckmill
 Kathleen Campion, Castlecomer
Stratford: 6pm: (Sat)
 Dan McGrath, Whitestown
 Ignatius McDonagh, Edward Street.
 Mick Kehoe, Stratford

Grangecon: 9.30am:

Jack Doyle, Tinoran
 Michael & Margaret Germaine, Bessina

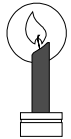
We pray for

Martin Swayne, Parkmore

Who died during the week.

May he rest in peace.

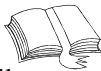
Amen



The Folk Group will participate at the 11am Mass in St Joseph's Church this Sunday 13th December.

Sunday 20th December 2009

Readers:
Stratford: 6pm (Sat) Peggy Kelly
Baltinglass: 7.30pm (Sat) Jane Fleming
 11am (Sun) Elaine Byrne
Grangecon 9.30am (Sun) Anita O'Hara



Eucharistic Ministers

Carmel Doyle
 Matt O'Brien/May Kennedy
 Mona Nolan/ Ann Lee
 Mary O'Riordan



Weekend Mass Times

Stratford: Saturday 6pm.
Baltinglass: Saturday 7.30pm.
Sunday 11am.
Grangecon: Sunday 9.30am.
Weekday Mass Times
Daily 10am: St. Paul's Oratory,
The Parish Centre, Baltinglass.
Confessions in St. Joseph's
Church after 10am
Saturday Mass.

The Sick and the Housebound.
Fr. Tommy & Fr. Seán will visit the people in the **Town** Areas on **Monday 14th December** from 10.30am onwards.

Fr. Tommy & Fr. Seán will visit the people in the **Country** areas on **Tuesday 15th December** from 10.30am onwards.



The St. Vincent de Paul collection will be taken up at all Masses in the Parish this weekend.

The next date for cleaning Baltinglass Church is **Frid.the 18th Dec.2009 @ 10.30am.**

Annual Parish Review Magazine '09. On sale in the Parish office and the local shops. Cost •5.



Christmas Penitential Services 2009

Hacketstown: Tuesday 15th December @ 7.30pm.
Rathvilly: Thursday 17th December @ 7.30pm.
Tullow: Monday 21st December @ 7.30pm.
Baltinglass: Tuesday 22nd December @ 7.30pm.
Rathoe: Tuesday 22nd December @ 7.30pm.
Clonmore: Wednesday 23rd December @ 7.30pm.



Stratford Folk Group.

Present 'A Christmas Carol' *in aid of Cancer Support*, in St. Mary's Church, Stratford @ 8pm on the 18th of December. Featuring Stratford Folk Group. **Special Guests:** Aspiro Choir, Carlow Saprano, Catriona Tynan, Stratford N.S. Choir & lots more. Tickets •5 each & are available from the Parish Office, or call 087 6391015. Tickets will also be available at the door on the night. Come along for a music filled night to really get you into the spirit of Christmas.



Afternoon of Prayer and Reflection in Preparation for Christmas.

Sunday 13th December, 2009 from 3pm – 6pm.
Venue: Mount St. Anne's Retreat & Conference Centre, Killenard, Portarlinton, Co. Laois. Cost •10 (incl. Tea/Coffee). All Welcome. For Bookings/ Enquiries contact - The Secretary, Mount St. Anne's on 057-8626153 or email: msannes@eircom.net

Carol Service.

Mount St. Anne's invites you to come and celebrate the Christmas season through carols and music. **Date:** Saturday 19th December @ 6pm & Sunday 20th December 5pm. Tea/Coffee Served. Mount St. Anne's Retreat and Conference Centre, Killenard, Portarlinton, Co. Laois. Phone: 057-8626153 email: msannes@eircom.net

We remember all in our Parish who are sick at this time. May God bless them.

LINK PEOPLE

Would all the Link People please call to the Parish Office **from TUESDAY the 15th December** to collect the 2010 annual weekly envelopes for distribution & the Parish Calender.

Christmas Collection for the Priests of the Parish. Please note that this envelope is in your box of envelopes now & can be dropped into the collection bags when you wish. Spare envelopes are available at the back of the three Churches.

Christmas shopping with a conscience. If you're having trouble finding that perfect gift, then buying ethical gifts like Trocaire's global gifts may be for you. Prices start at •10 upwards. Contact Theresa Doyle on 087 8595718.

KIDS ALOUD COMMUNITY CHILDCARE SERVICE PRE-SCHOOL.
 As a result of the identified lack of sufficient places in the locality for the Government Early Childhood Care & Education Scheme, Kids Aloud will now provide an additional Pre-School Service from 9.30am to 12.30pm. each day, 5 days per week starting 11th January. This scheme offers **FREE** Pre-School education to children who were aged between 3 yrs 3months months and 4 yrs 6 months on September 1st last.

To register, phone 086/ 0553699 / 059 6482502 or call to 16 Parkmore, Baltinglass.

Baltinglass GAA Club

Last Weeks Winning
Numbers: 09, 16, 17, 25.



Jackpot winner: No winner.

This week's Jackpot •10,000

Match three winners: •300 each.

No match three winners.

•500 added to Jackpot.

Voucher Winners:

Theresa Prendergast, Kyle, Tom Burke,
Belan Street, Neville Fisher, Clough,
Pauric & Ronan, Tom Whelan,
Barronstown & Aisling Byrne.

Tickets •2 each.

**Next draw in Harbourn's Pub on
Monday 14th December 2009.**

Play online www.localotto.ie

Calanders on sale.

In local shops, with all teams of
Baltinglass GAA. From under age up to
senior. This is a fund-raiser for the
Juveniles. This would be a nice gift for
Christmas. Anyone looking for gear for
Christmas, contact Breeda.

Baltinglass & District
Country Market

Saturday the 19th December is the last
market before Christmas. Come along and
do your Christmas shopping. Christmas
wreaths, cards gifts etc.

Stratford/ Grangecon
Community Employment Scheme.
Have positions available. Usual eligibilty
applies. Contact Tom Whittle on 087
9227051 or email stratfordce@gmail.com

Baltinglass Hospital.

Wish to thank all who helped to make the
Annual Christmas Bazaar a great success. All
the businesses & individuals who sponsored
the event, the volunteers who worked & all
who attended on the day.

Dancing for pleasure.

O'Toole Memorial Hall, Rathdangan, on
12th December 2009 from 9:30pm -
12:00a.m. Music by Solitaire.

**Ramblers Galore the third friday of
every month.** Music, song, recitations,
story telling and much more.

Scoil Naomh Iosaf

In association with Fishers Centra & The
Judge's Inn, are having a "Parents
Christmas Night Out" on Sat. 19th Dec.in
the Judge's Inn. Music by Jumping
Johnny Peters. Special door prize, raffle
and fun! Proceeds to Scoil Naomh Iosaf
PTA. Tickets •5. Available through the
school, in Centra & the Judge's Inn. Your
support is greatly appreciated.

Baltinglass & District
Active Retirement.

Launch of their cookery book, family
favourites from the Slaney Valley. Avail-
able in local shops and the Bank of Ireland.

Cost •10. A lovely Christmas Gift.

Baltinglass & District
Active Retirement.

Night out at the pantomime at GBS Theatre,
Carlow on Thursday 17th Dec. Bus leaving
@ 6.30p.m. sharp from Weaver Square. To
confirm contact Vera on 6481469.

**DRIVE WITH CARE,
FOR LIFE HAS NO SPARE.**

NEWSLETTER

Items of information for the
newsletter may be phoned, faxed
or emailed to the Parish Office on
(059/ 6481254) Fax: 059/ 6451529
admin@baltinglassparish.ie

before 12 noon on Thursdays

OPENING HOURS

**Monday - Friday 9.30am -1.00pm
1.30pm - 2.30pm**

Baltinglass Grangecon Stratford & Bigstone Newsletter

3rd Sunday in Advent

13th December 2009.

Gaudete Sunday

Rejoicing Sunday.

Most people have been to a big football or hurling match and have heard
the cheers and shouts when there is a score. Or indeed when one passes a
school playground at lunchtime, it is wonderful to hear the shouts of
children out playing.

'Shout for joy daughter of Zion'.

'Rejoice, exult with all your heart'.

I am asked today, 'to be happy, always happy in the Lord'. As I journey on
towards the celebrations of the birth of Jesus, I invite him to be born in
my heart. It may be a slow birthing, and I may need to repeat this invitation
every day - as each day is a new creation.

I need to make room for Jesus in my life, to repent, to change my attitude,
to accept people without wanting to change them, to give over all my faults
and failings to Him so 'he will renew me by his love'.

St. Paul tells us today to ask for anything we need 'with prayer and
thanksgiving so that the peace of God will guard our hearts and our
thoughts, in Christ Jesus'.

It is wonderful to enjoy the matches and the shouts of children out playing,
but let us also give ourselves permission to sing and shout and dance for
joy 'for great in our midst is the Holy One of Israel' - Christ Our Lord.

A. S

CHRISTMASS SERVICES:

Vigil Mass: Thursday 24th December 2009.

Baltinglass: 8pm. Grangecon: 8pm. Stratford: 7.30pm.

Christmas Day: Friday 25th December 2009.

Baltinglass: 9am. & 11 am. Grangecon: 9.30am. Stratford: 11am.



BAPTISMS:

St Joseph's Church, Baltinglass:

Sunday 3rd January @ 11.45a.m.

Sunday 7th February @ 11.45a.m.

Sunday 7th March @ 11.45a.m.

