

### Baltinglass GAA Club.

Last Weeks Winning Numbers: **01, 10, 23, 26.**



**Jackpot winner: No winner.**

**This Week's Jackpot** €8,000.

**Match 3 winners:** €300 each.

Michael O'Keefe, Parkmore.

**Christmas Voucher Winners.**

Winnie Byrne, Trish & Zoe, Con Murphy, Robert Fleming, Catherine O'Brien & Celie O'Connor.

**Next Draw** in Horan's Pub, Main Street on Monday, 12th December.

Play online [www.localotto.ie](http://www.localotto.ie) Have a go.

### Stratford/Grangecon G.A.A.

**Lotto Results.** Last Week's Winning Numbers: 04, 11, 16, 17.

**Jackpot Winner - No winner.**

This Week's Jackpot €8,000.

**Match three winners:** Enid Cush, Andrea Geraghty, Colin Staunton, Conor Foley, McGraths (Hollywood) & Peter Case.

**Sellers Prizes:** Karen Mangan, Brigid Bollard, Nicko O'Neill & Michelle Lavelle.

**Extra Prizes for Sweets & Biscuits.** Andrew O'Gorman, Aaron Barrett & John Egan.

**Vouchers:** Michelle Lavelle, Bridget Foley & Phil O'Connor. Tickets €2.

### 1st Anniversary celebrations

Will be held in Stratford Arms on 19th December. There will be plenty of extra prizes on the night. Tea & light refreshments will be served after the draw.

### Stratford Grangecon Juveniles

Are holding a book sale on Sunday 11th December from 10.30a.m. to 1.30p.m. in the Club House. Stock up on your Christmas reading or buy some Christmas presents. Great value in books. Please do come along.

### Baltinglass & District Country Market,

Stratford Lodge Old School. **Dates for your Diary:** Christmas Fayre starts on Sat., Dec. 3rd & continues every Sat. until Dec. 17th from 10a.m. to 1p.m. Mince Pies, Christmas Cakes, Puddings, Chutneys & Beautiful Crafts. An excellent way to source your presents locally.

### Baltinglass Parish Bingo

In Fatima Hall, Baltinglass, every Monday night @ 8.30p.m. Jackpot this Monday night is €1,125. Your support would be appreciated.



### Christmas Lights.

Things have come together reasonably well over the weekend for the Christmas Lights around the Town & it is now confirmed that the official Switch on of the Christmas Tree is this **Saturday night** (10<sup>th</sup> Dec.) @ 7pm. Santa will be arriving.

### 'The management, staff & residents of Baltinglass Hospital

Wish to sincerely thank everyone who was involved in any way in making the Annual Christmas Bazaar such a huge success. All the local business's & individuals who donated items and to all who worked voluntarily on the day.

### Scoil Chonglais Parents 'Council

Are holding a Disco in Fatima Hall on Friday, 16th Dec., 2011 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. Adm: €8. Fully supervised by members and teachers. Come along & enjoy!

### West Wicklow Gifted Children's Association.

Winter Wonderland, Donard Village, Allan Farm Sale of Gifts and a Raffle on December, 11th from 2 to 6p.m. Fun & Frolics for the Children, Grandparents & Families. For information contact 059 64 82 123. All proceeds & Workshops for "Gifted Children Volunteer Organization.

### NEWSLETTER.

Items for inclusion in the newsletter must be received **BEFORE 12 NOON ON THURSDAYS.** Items may be phoned, faxed or emailed to the Parish Office. Please include your name & contact details. **The Parish Office Opening hours are:**  
**Monday to Friday:**  
**9.30a.m —1.00pm & 1.30pm—2.30pm.**

### *Newsletter*



## *Baltinglass, Bigstone, Stratford & Grangecon*

3rd Sunday of Advent.

11th December 2011.

"I am a voice that cries in the wilderness." Today's Gospel.

I know a lady who visits a young prisoner in St. Patrick's Institution. Both of his parents are alcoholics and so he has lived and lives a very troublesome life.

Now we are all invited to give praise, thanks and rejoicing for all we have and all we are given as we journey on towards the fullness of Christ. Wholeness, holiness and fullness is for everyone. It's so important to receive Jesus into our lives for that is all he wants of us - to Receive him.

So often we want to change other people thinking that this will solve our Problems - but we can only change ourselves.

Today's Gospel tells us how John the Baptist was a witness for the coming of Christ. We also are invited to witness to him. We don't have to do anything extraordinary as Christ is to be found in the bits and pieces of everyday life.

Perhaps this young prisoner - like John the Baptist is calling out 'I am a voice that cries in the wilderness' and that this lady is listening to his voice and his story waiting to be heard.

'He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in Prisons'. 1st Reading Isaiah. A.S.

### Christmas Services 2011:

Vigil Mass: Saturday 24th December 2011.

Grange Con: 6pm. Stratford: 7pm. Baltinglass: 8pm.

Christmas Day: Sunday 25th December 2011.

Baltinglass: 11 am.

Monday 26th December: Baltinglass 11am. in St. Paul's Oratory Mass on Tuesday 27th December to Friday the 30th December @ 10a.m. in St. Paul's Oratory.

### Confession on Christmas Eve - Saturday 24th December 2011.

St. Joseph's Church, Baltinglass: 11a.m.—11.30a.m.

Grangecon Church: 5.30p.m.—5.45p.m. Stratford Church: 6.30p.m.

### Baptisms - Baltinglass Church 2012.

Sunday 1st January @ 11.45p.m. Sunday 5th February @ 11.45p.m.

**Parish Team:**  
Fr. Tommy Dillon: 059 - 648 27 68, Srs. Brigid & Carmel: 059 - 64 81 561, Parish Office:  
Maria - Phone: 059 - 64 81 254. Fax: 059 64 51 529 Email: admin@baltinglassparish.ie

**Next Weekends Mass Times and Ministers - 17th & 18th December 2011.**

**Ministers of the Word:**

**Baltinglass:** 6pm (Sat) Jane Fleming  
11am (Sun) John Paul Kenny  
**Grangecon:** 9.30am (Sun) Joe Hamill



**Eucharistic Ministers:**

**Baltinglass:** 6pm (Sat) Matt O'Brien/Mai Kennedy/Pat Fleming  
11am (Sun) Kate Deans  
**Grangecon:** 9.30am (Sun) Marguerite Salmon



**This Weekend:**

**Baltinglass: 6p.m.**

**Months Mind Mass of**

Hugh Nolan, Belan, Moone

**Anniversaries:**

Hugh Kelly, Boleylug  
Ignatius McDonagh, Edward Street  
Tommy Andrews, Moneymore  
Pat Rogers, Edward Street  
Peter & Elizabeth Kehoe, Lathaleere  
Martin Swaney, Parkmore  
Jack Doyle, Tinoran  
Mai Farrell, Rathmoon  
Dan McGrath, Whitestown  
Matt Farrell, Tankardstown & all the deceased members of the Farrell Family  
John Lally, Main Street  
Jack & Marcella Kenny, Clough  
Dan O'Neill & Annie O'Neill, Tuckmill  
Agnes Berry, Tuckmill  
Bridget Hannafin, Tralee & Rathmoon  
Edward O'Keefe, Parkmore  
Ned & Mick Byrne & deceased members of the Byrne family Rathmoon  
Henry & Sarah Norton, Knockrigg, Grangecon  
**Stratford: (Sun) 9.30a.m.**  
Jimmy Barrett



**Weekend Mass Times.**

**Baltinglass: Saturday 6pm & Sunday 11am.**  
**Weekly Confessions after 6pm Mass on Saturday.**

**Stratford & Grange Con**  
**Every Second Sunday @ 9.30am.**  
**Mass in Grangecon next weekend.**

**Weekday Mass Times**  
**Daily 10am in St. Paul's Oratory, the Parish Centre, Baltinglass.**

**REVIEW**

The 2011 Review Magazine is on sale for €5 in the local shops, newsagents & parish office.

**St. Patrick's Missionary Society**

Christmas Cards & Christmas Mass Bouquets in aid of St. Patrick's on sale in Baltinglass Parish Office. Please save your used stamps for the Missions. Tear it off with a half inch margin around the stamp & drop them into the Parish Office.

**St. Mary's Church, Stratford.**

**First Friday of the month - 6th January 2012.**  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Rosary from 2pm to 5pm. Everyone welcome.  
**Please note change of time.**

**We welcome into our Christian Community through the Sacrament of Baptism during the month of November 2011.**

Alexandra Elizabeth Shortt  
Alexander Seán Earley  
Daisy Josephine Nolan McConnell



**St. Vincent De Paul**

Christmas collection for St. Vincent de Paul will be taken up at the Parish Masses this weekend, the 10th & 11th December. Calls to us for help have increased greatly. Please help us to help the needy.

**Newsletter now available on [www.baltinglassparish.ie](http://www.baltinglassparish.ie)  
Diocesan web site: [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)**

**Christmas Penitential Services 2011**



**Tullow:** Monday 19th December @ 7.30pm.  
**Hacketstown:** Tuesday 20th December @ 7.30pm.  
**Baltinglass:** Wednesday 21st December @ 7.30p.m.  
**Rathvilly:** Thursday 22nd December @ 7.30pm.



**LINK PEOPLE**

Would all the link people please call to the Parish Office from Thursday the 15th December to collect the 2011 annual weekly envelopes for distribution. *Many thanks.*

**Bigstone National School.**

Are now taking enrolments for term starting 2012. Children must be 4 years before the 1st of September 2012. Contact the School for enrolment form or phone 059 91 61 171.

**Ethical Gifts for Christmas**

Give a very special gift this Christmas with Trocaire's 9 life changing gifts. From fruit trees to safe motherhood, your gift will change lives for thousands of families in need this Christmas. Contact: Theresa Doyle - 087 85 05 718.

**St. Joseph's Church Piety Shop.**

In the Porch on the Main aisle. Statues, Rosary Beads, Pictures, Candles, Bibles, Baptismal Candles, Mass Cards, Christmas Cards, Christmas Mass Bouquets, Review Magazine 2011 etc. Shop open before & after the 6p.m. & the 11a.m. Mass.

**Christmas Quiet Time.**

For reflection and perspective @ Sli an Chroi, Kiltegan @ 8pm. on Monday 12th & 19th December. Wishing all a Very Happy Christmas.

**West Wicklow Day Care Centre.**

**Committee** next meeting takes place in the Day Care Centre on Wed., 14th December @ 8.30p.m.

**Community Dinner Dance.**

Thanks to all who supported the Community Dinner Dance on Fri. 18th Nov. Thanks to the Sponsors of the Raffle Prizes. The dance was a great success. A lovely meal was served by Germaines & their staff. Music on the night was by 'The Dreamers'. Compliments to the Community Support Group of the Pastoral Council & the Social Committee of St. Mary's Parish for organising the event.

**Christmas Retreat 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> Dec. '11.**

Youth 2000 Ireland annual Christmas youth retreat in Newbridge College from Fri. 16<sup>th</sup> to Sun. 18<sup>th</sup> Dec. Over 500 people aged 16-35 are expected to attend this donation only event. A packed programme including prayer, workshops, drama, inspirational talks, testimonies, music, etc. It's an opportunity to learn more about your Catholic faith & to meet other people. Book online & bring a sleeping bag if you wish to avail of on-site accommodation. Retreat starts with registration on Friday @ 8.00pm. Free buses available. check out our website [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie) or call 01 6753690 / 0858289231 & see us on Facebook.

**Parishes of Baltinglass/Ballynure & Stratford.**

Thank to everyone who supported or sponsored their recent Parish Bazaar.

**Day Trip to Newry**

On Saturday 17th Dec. 2011.

**Pilgrimage to Medjugorje**

On 1st April 2012. For details on both of the above trips phone Duffy's Coach Hire on 059/ 64 71 681 or 087/ 2543235.

**To all who are sick in the Parish at this time, may God bless them.**