

Baltinglass GAA Club.

Last Weeks Winning Numbers:
07, 18, 19, 20.

Jackpot winner: **No winner.**

This Week's Jackpot €8,500.

Match 3 winners: €35 each.

John Fleming, Karol Doherty, Michelle Keane, Tom Whelan, Tom Kearney, Eddie Kelly, Ben Doran, Paul Moore & Bernie Williams.

Christmas Voucher Winners.

Brian Fleming, Carmel Coulahan, Dee Coffee, Brigid Byrne, Tom Whelan & Sinead Tallon.

Next Draw in Dutchman's Pub, Edward Street on Monday 19th December.

Play online www.localotto.ie Have a go.

GAA Juvenile 2012 Calendar

Now on sale in local shops or from Paudge Doody 087 225 5564 or Luci Grimes 087 23 22 407. Makes a lovely Christmas present!

Stratford/Grangecon G.A.A.

Lotto Results. Last Week's Winning Numbers: 13, 16, 19, 28.

Jackpot Winner - No winner.

This Week's Jackpot €8,250.

Match three winners: €37.50 each.

Pat Cronin, Francis Kavanagh, Ann Healy & Therese Murphy. **Seller's Prizes:** Maurice Mangan, Jennifer Bollard, Billy Moore, Nora Norton & Pat Bollard.

Next Draw on Monday 19th December in Stratford Arm's, Stratford. Tickets €2.

Come along & Celebrate.

The lotto 1st Anniversary on Monday, 9th December after the draw @ approx. 9.45p.m. This has been a very successful 1st year of lotto activity & is our way of saying 'thanks' for your generous support. Tea & refreshments on the night. Lots of seasonal additional prizes.

Extra sellers prizes.

edt-drivinglessons.ie

Driving lesson gift vouchers. The ideal Christmas gift. Your local R.S.A. approved Driving Instructor (ADI) Noel Moore, Grangecon. **Phone - 087 32 53 000.**
E-Mail - noel@edt-drivinglessons.ie



Baltinglass Parish Bingo

In Fatima Hall, Baltinglass, every Monday night @ 8.30p.m. Jackpot this Monday night is €1,150. Your support would be appreciated.



Community Support Worker Programme

WA15C. This Local Training Initiative (LTI) programme is jointly supported by FÁS and KARE & will run on a full time basis (35 hours per week) over 48 weeks. Work experience placements may involve some evening & weekend participation. The 1st programme starts in early 2012. FÁS Training allowances are paid to those who are currently in receipt of a payment from Social Welfare. Applicants need to be registered with FAS and meet Social Welfare criteria. Details available on www.fas.ie Applicants will be required to complete the Garda Vetting process. This programme offers participants the opportunity to gain a FETAC level 5 Major Award in Community & Health Services (DCHSX). Applicants must register immediately with their local FAS Office. Closing date for applications is 6th Jan 2012. For information please contact Pauline Hayes on (087) 6732156.

Stress Control.

Is stress, worry or feeling low getting in the way of you living your life? Free courses of 6 classes to Control Stress. **Naas** - Ballycane Church, every Tues. from Jan. 17th until Feb. 21st from 10.15a.m. – 11.45a.m. **Baltinglass** - The Lalor Centre, every Thurs. from Feb. 2nd until March 8th from 7p.m. – 8.30 p.m. If interested Text the word 'Stress' followed by 'Naas' or 'Baltinglass' & the number of people who wish to attend to 51444 (e.g. Stress Naas 3), or just turn up on the day. The classes are free of charge by H.S.E. Clinical Psychologists, Dr. Rosario Power & Dr. Tonya Madden.

Dog Found

Female Jack Russell. Mousey brown with brown spots. Friendly & loving. Found in the Baltinglass Area approx. 2 weeks ago. Phone 086 80 72 086.

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.



Baltinglass, Bigstone, Stratford & Grangecon

4th Sunday of Advent.

18th December 2011.

'The Holy Spirit will come upon you'. Today's gospel.

It is so important that we take charge of our lives, that we make decisions that are best for us in mind, body, heart and spirit. We can be so easily led along by others, falling into their way of life, allowing them to take charge of us or persuade us to do what they want.

Today we have the wonderful gospel story of the angelus - the story of Mary's trusting 'yes' to God. Mary is a role model for all of us as we ask God for his guidance in all the decisions that we make - even what seems to be the tiniest ones.

So often we can be running away from ourselves - unable to sit alone quietly and peacefully. Mary pondered over all these things and kept them in her heart. We are invited also to ponder over our lives and how we are living them. Are we in touch with our own nature? Are we in touch with the essence of ourselves? Have we come home to ourselves?

Home and family are so important to people at this time of the year. What's most important is to accept myself the way I am just now and so this leads me to accept others in all their uniqueness. Why not decide to say a trusting 'yes' to God in your heart and listen to the angels reply.

The Holy Spirit will come upon you... **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: 9a.m. & 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 - 24th & 25th December 2011.

Ministers of the Word:

Baltinglass: 6pm (Sat) Mary Hayes
11am (Sun) Chris Murray
Grangecon: 6p.m. (Sat.) Mary Ross
Stratford: 7p.m. (Sat) Hilary McDermott



Eucharistic Ministers:

Baltinglass: 6pm (Sat) Julia O'Neill/Pat & Marion O'Reilly
11am (Sun) Mary Vernon/Karen Bermingham
Grangecon: 6p.m. (Sat.) Mary Cronin
Stratford: 7p.m. (Sat.) Carmel Doyle



This Weekend:
Baltinglass: 6p.m.
Months Mind Mass of
Ann Lee, Bawnogues

Anniversaries:

George Hyland, Rathmoon & London
John O'Kane, Edward Street
Kevin Kennedy, Chapel Hill
Patrick Geraghty, Carrigeen
Joe McGuirk, Rathvilly
Catherine Campion, Castlecomer, Kilkenny
Pierce & Annie O'Neill, 49, Parkmore
Patrick & Mary O'Neill, 49, Parkmore
James Byrne, Chapel Hill
Thomas & Catherine Scott
Patrick & Ellen Butler & their sons Kevin,
Gerald, Patrick & Aidan, Dublin
All deceased members of the Cooke family of
Main St.
Collette Johnstone
Jimmy & Ina Doyle, Parkmore
Thomas McCormack, Allendale & all deceased
members of the McCormack Family, Athlone.
Grangecon: 9.30a.m.
Peter & Elizabeth Cullen, Bessina
Michael & Margaret Germaine, Bessina



Weekend Mass Times.

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

Mass in Grangecon & Stratford next weekend. See front of newsletter for Mass times.

Weekday Mass Times

Daily 10am in St. Paul's Oratory, the Parish Centre, Baltinglass.

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.

The family of the late
Anne Lee, Baltinglass & late of Grangecon
sincerely thank all their neighbours & many
friends who showed them such kindness
during this sad time in their lives. To
Fr Tommy Dillon, Fr Pádraig Shelley,
Fr Des Byrne, Sr. Brigid, Sr. Carmel,
Nancy Hughes, the Choir the Undertakers
Jimmy & Paula Burke. The Lee family
deeply appreciate all the wonderful kindness
that people showed them. Anne was a very
special woman who will be missed by all who
loved her.

May she rest in peace.



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

**Newsletter now available on www.baltinglassparish.ie
Diocesan web site: 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.



**Christmas Collection for the
Priest/Supply Priests of the Parish.**

Please note that this envelope is in your box of
envelopes now & can be dropped into the collec-
tion bags when you wish. Spare envelopes are
available at the back of the 3 Churches

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.

St. Joseph's Church Piety Shop.

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

CHRISTMAS HELP.

Through the Christmas Appeal Project, **Lions
Clubs** provide assistance at this time of year to
persons/families who are in need of some help to
meet the extra seasonal demands. This is usually
done by means of food parcel vouchers. If you
need help & are not on the Baltinglass Lions Club
list of people receiving support, you are invited to
contact a Lions Club member at 0876995022 or
0879474160. Privacy is guaranteed.

Danny's Corner.

We would like to thank everyone who supported
our 1st Crafts Fair in the Lalor Centre on 4th Dec.
Thanks to "Get Vocal Group Choir for the beauti-
ful singing, Tanya Merrins for supporting the
Choir, Santa & Mrs Clause & all the elves for
their hard work, Joseph Germaine who organised
the helicopter for Santa & also all our Exhibitors
who made this craft fair a huge success.

LINK PEOPLE

Would all the link people please call to the Parish
Office to collect the 2011 annual weekly enve-
lopes for distribution. *Many thanks.*

The 2012 Parish Calendar

Is now available at the back of the 3 Churches &
also in the Parish Office. Would a member of
each family please take one.

**A Pastoral Programme to prepare for the 50th
International Eucharistic Congress (IEC2012).**

The 50th International Eucharistic Congress is not
envisaged as a weeklong event but as a spiritual
journey of preparation. To help pilgrims, the
IEC2012 have mapped the journey in 4 stages &
developed a Pastoral Preparation Programme for
the Congress, providing resources to help reflec-
tion on the Congress theme - "The Eucharistic:
Communion with Christ & with One Another".

Check out the pastoral resources that we have
available on the Congress website. Why not get
together with a group of people & walk that jour-
ney using these resources? [www.iec2012.ie/
pastoral](http://www.iec2012.ie/pastoral) Teresa Menendez, Senior Marketing &
Publications Officer, 50th International Eucharis-
tic Congress 2012, Sandymount Building, RDS,
Simmons Court Road, Dublin 4. T: +353 1 234
9904 (Direct) I T: + 353 1 234 9900 (Main) I F: +
353 1 667 5050 (Fax)

E: marketing@iec2012.ie I W: www.iec2012.ie
Volunteer Now and make a
Difference www.iec2012.ie/volunteer

**Mount St. Anne's Retreat & Conference
Centre, Killenard, Portarlington.**

Phone: 057-8626153. **Our Response to Trauma in our
Lives - 24th & 31st Jan. & 7th Feb. 2012.** Over
3 Tues. evenings, we will focus on our response
to traumas in our lives. Booking essential.
8pm - 10pm. €30 for 3 nights.