

Parish Team:- Fr. Tommy Dillon 059 6482768 / Fr. Seán Maher  
059 6481123 / Srs. Brigid & Carmel 059 6481561 / Parish Office  
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### Anniversary Masses:

This weekend:

Baltinglass: 7.30pm:

Months mind mass of

Mary Wade Rathbran, Grangecon

Anniversaries:

John, Margaret & James Somers,

Ballyraggan

Jim McKeever, Latheer

Michael Curry, "West Wind"

Gerald & Elizabeth Curry,

Bawnogues

Tim & Dina Wheelan, Castledermot

Elizabeth Coogan, Irongrange

Matt Farrell, Tankardstown & his

parents, brothers & sisters

John O'Neill, Mount Kelly, Rathvilly

Mary Hanlon, Broadstown.

Monica Meleady, Dublin

Mary Curran, Rathdangan

Anniversaries -

Holy Day - 8th December Baltinglass:

Noel Byrne, Mullingar

Mary Bermingham, Dublin

Ethel Powell, Rathbran.

### 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.

Mass Times for the Feast of the  
Immaculate Conception of Our Lady

St Joseph's Church:

Vigil Mass - Mon. 7th Dec. @ 7.30pm.

Tuesday: 8th December @ 11am.

Stratford: Monday 7th Dec. @ 6pm.

Grange Con: Tuesday 8th Dec. @ 9.30am.

Fr Liam Lawton's Concert

On the 20th December in Graiguecullen  
Hall & all proceeds to St. Fiacc's House,

Graigcullen. Tickets •25 & can be

bought in St. Fiacc's House or

Graiguecullen Parish Centre. 0599141833.

Grange Con Reader for Tuesday  
8th December is Mairead Fenlon.

Eucharistic Minister for Tuesday  
8th December is May Markham.

Sunday 13th December 2009

Readers:

Hilary McDermott

Fiona Carpenter

11am (Sun) Catherine Burke

Grangecon 9.30am (Sun) Mairead Fenlon

Eucharistic Ministers

Jim Fanning

Pat & Marion O'Reilly

Sean Connolly & Margaret Brennan

Mick Kehoe

Newsletter now available on [www.baltinglassparish.ie](http://www.baltinglassparish.ie)

Newsletter also available on [www.mylocalnews.ie](http://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](http://www.kandle.ie)



### 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



Mid-Winter Solstice

On Sat. 12th Dec. - 10am to 4.30pm. Coming close to  
the shortest day, we honour the value of quiet time to  
listen to our sense of self. •50 to include light lunch.

Advent Reflection Afternoon on Sun. 13th

Dec. 3-6pm. •10 Euro. **Come Away and Rest A  
while** on Fri. 18th - Sat. 19th Dec. Take time out to  
reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. •80 Residential.  
Non-residential also available. Carol Service on  
Sat. 19th Dec. @ 6pm & Sunday 20th Dec. @ 5pm.  
Tea/Coffee served. We also offer a Christmas Lunch  
Menu from 1st December - 23rd December. Large and  
small groups catered for. Contact: The Secretary,  
Mount St. Anne's at 057-8626153

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. Your gift could provide a school lunch to  
children in Zimbabwe, build schools, improve  
teacher training and buy educational supplies for  
people in Burma, a well cared for vegetable patch  
which brings a harvest year on year for the poorest  
in India, a fishing boat and nets to fishermen in  
Burma, prices start at •10 upwards. The Gifts will  
be on sale after Mass on Saturday evening & Sunday  
Morning in the Parish Centre or contact Theresa  
Doyle on 087 8595718.

Community Dinner Dance.

Our Annual Dinner Dance was most successful &  
enjoyable. Thanks to all who attended the Dinner  
Dance, those who donated prizes & to Germaines for a  
lovely meal. Compliments to the Community Support  
& Youth Group of the Pastoral Council & the Social  
Committee of St. Mary's Parish for organising the event.

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.

Annual Parish Review Magazine '09

On sale in the Parish office and the  
local shops. Cost •5.

The St Vincent de Paul Collection  
will be taken up at all the Parish Masses  
next weekend the 12th & 13th December.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting.  
The next meeting will take place in the  
Parish Centre on Monday 7th December  
2009 @ 8.30pm.

We Welcome into our Christian  
Community through the Sacrament of  
Baptism during the Month of  
November 2009:

Nichola Holly Martin Brophy

Eibhlín Síne Ely

Max Reilly Moran

Cara Jane Fleming

Ben Sean Curran.



## Baltinglass GAA Club

Last Weeks Winning  
Numbers: 01, 18, 24, 26.

**Jackpot winner:** No Winner

This week's Jackpot **•9,500**

**Match three winners:** •300 each.

Michael O'Neill, Bawnogues & Ann  
Moore, Grange Con.

Christmas Vouchers, Next week.

**Tickets •2 each.**

**Next draw in Timmins' Pub on**

**Monday 7th December 2009.**

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



**Baltinglass GAA Club Christmas  
Party** in the Judge's Inn on Friday 11th  
December @ 9.30pm.

Baltinglass 2010 Calenders.  
Featuring local scenes and is now  
available in the local shops for •5.

Senior Citizens' Christmas Party.  
Hosted by the Baltinglass & District Active  
Retirement Association on Tuesday 8th  
December in Inis Fail @ 5.30pm. This includes  
a three Course Dinner, Mulled Wine, Door  
Prizes, Raffle Prizes & lots of spot prizes.  
Music & Dancing. Tickets available from the  
two Mary's on 6481078 or 64 81130 or any  
committee member. Cost of Tickets •10.

### Readoiri Competition.

Congrats to Pippa Lee, Laura Burke, Kellie  
Nolan & Nathalie Lennon who won in  
Goresbridge last week. Best of luck in the final  
in Ballylinan on 11th Dec.

### Winter Fuels

Polish Coal, Briquettes, Coal, Nuggets,  
Turf & Hardwood Timber. Contact:  
Paddy Clare on 087 2892047.

Silver Blue Rose Necklace found in  
Germaine's at the Recent Community  
Parish Dinner Dance. Please contact the  
Parish Office.

Dancing for pleasure  
O'Toole Memorial Hall, Rathdangan, on  
12th Dec 2009 from 9:30pm to 12:00.

Music by Solitaire.

.Ramblers Galore

Third Friday every month. Music, song,  
recitations, story telling & much more.

Colaiste Eoin - Nightclasses.

Limited Places available on the following  
nightclasses at Colaiste Eoin, Hacketstown  
beginning 11th Jan. 2010 @ 7.30pm. Level  
5 Fetac Healthcare, "Safety & Health in the  
Workplace" & Care of the person with  
mental illness" & Level 5 Fetac Childcare  
"Art & Craft for Childcare & Communica-  
tions". Contact 059 6471198.

Day Care Centre.

Next Meeting takes place in the Day Care  
Centre on Wed. 9th Dec. @ 8.30pm. New  
members needed & extremely welcome.

Free Public Lecture in Carlow College

Professor Patricia Casey, distinguished  
psychiatrist (UCD/Mater Hospital), will  
give a public lecture on the topic: 'Psycho-  
social benefits of Religion - the scientific  
evidence', in Cobden Hall, Carlow College,  
on Thurs. 10 Dec. @ at 7. 30 p.m.

Christmas Trees for Sale - all sizes available.  
Phone Henry 087 9376878

Lalor Centre Service Users

Christmas Party takes place in Inis Fail  
on 11th Dec. @ 5.30pm.

### 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](mailto: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

2nd Sunday in Advent

6th December 2009

'Prepare a way for the Lord'

I have a friend and she has often mentioned to me that she has the  
mind of a detective. When I visited her the other day I gave her a  
challenge asking her if she noticed anything about my appearance.

Today as we 'prepare a way for the Lord' the 1st Reading and the  
Gospel speak of the flattening of the mountains, the filling of the  
valleys, straightening the paths and making the rough roads smooth.  
Many people find each day a challenge or a struggle as they journey  
on - and it's the journey that's most important not the destination.

This advent I am called to 'prepare a way' to allow love to fill my  
heart. I ask God to change the attitude with which I do things, it's  
do everything out of love rather than out of duty or having to - to  
give up the grumbling or complaining --- to notice the joyful times  
and what it is that brings me that joy. I have so much to be  
thankful for.

Could you believe that I was wearing two different shoes that day  
and hadn't noticed til the afternoon. Many didn't notice either. So  
much for my being present to what i was doing that morning!

'Prepare a way for the 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.**

NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY.

A Mission will take place in the Parish **starting on April 17th  
2010** and will be given by Ceilí Community.