

Priests: Fr. John Heinhold, Fr. Lawrence Kurgat and Fr. Vincent Agunbiade: 059 645 0258

Priest on duty: 085 831 4793

Parish Office: 059 64 81 254. Email: [admin@baltinglassparish.ie](mailto:admin@baltinglassparish.ie)

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

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP): Aisling Higgins 085 8021633

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

Diocesan website: [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)

Reg. Chy No. 20015848



### MASSES

St. Paul's Oratory

Tues. - 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 Thursday.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

Next Week's Newsletter is a  
**DOUBLE ISSUE.**

### PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Mon. Wed. Fri. 9.30am - 1.00pm

Tues. & Thurs. 9.30am - 1.00pm

& 1.30pm - 2.30pm

#### PLEASE NOTE - THE PARISH OFFICE

Will be **CLOSED** Monday 25th August  
and will re-open Monday 1st September.

### WE REMEMBER

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Nan (Annie) Maguire (nee Donohoe), Finglas

Dan Kearney, Barronstown

Denis Patterson, Belan Street

Mary Foley, Carrigeen

William Reynolds, Kilmurry Lodge, Baltinglass

William & Mary Fitzgerald, Knockroe

Helen Corcoran, Parkmore

Clement O'Toole, Main Street, Baltinglass

Michael O'Keeffe, 1 Parkmore

Joe Whelan, Holdenstown

**GRANGECON: (Sun) 9.30A.M.**

Ellen (Nelly) Germaine, Bessina

Tony Harte, Barronstown & Dublin



#### WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS

##### 10AM IN ST PAUL'S ORATORY

Tuesday 19th: Donors Intentions

Wednesday 20th: Colette Moles R.I.P.

Thursday 21st: Donors Intentions

Friday 22nd: Donors Intentions

### SUNDAY MASSES

#### GRANGECON STRATFORD

AUGUST: 17/31 24

SEPTEMBER: 14/28 07/21

OCTOBER: 12/26 05/19



BALTINGLASS - BIGSTONE - GRANGECON - STRATFORD

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

17TH AUGUST 2025

## Reflection for 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

The words spoken by Jesus in the gospel reading of today should cause anyone to shudder. Jesus says that "I have come to bring fire on earth and how I wish it was already kindled already". Yet, Jesus does not mince words when he says that he has come to bring fire on earth because that is exactly what happens when anyone answers the call to discipleship. or accepts to be the the call of Lord as evidenced in the story of Jeremiah in the first reading.

The Israelite king and rulers agreed to enter into an alliance with their neighbors to form a formidable army against impending invasion of the powerful Babylonia. This alliance with their pagan neighbours was against the will of God for the Israelite nation. As God's mouthpiece, Jeremiah warned the Israelite rulers that such alliance is not the will of God for them. Their hope for survival lies, not in any military powers but in faithful reliance on the power of God to save his people.

This prophecy of Jeremiah did not sit well with the Israelite leadership and because of this, they tried to silence him. He was denounced as unpatriotic. He was thrown into an empty underground water cistern so that he might eventually die of starvation. Jesus prepares our minds for situations like this in the gospel reading of today. Being a follower of Jesus comes with a very price especially in our world of today. Ours is a world which has chosen to become deaf to the gospel message. The gospel message is seen by many today is redundant and unimportant. Many today would question why anyone of us need to continue believing in a God when we can just continue to rely on our own schemings as human beings. Because of this, to be on the side of the truth or being the mouthpiece of God can make us become very unpopular. When we choose to stand on the side of God, even our friends and loved ones can turn their backs on us. Do we then need to abandon our prophetic calling so as to fit and feel accepted by those who would otherwise have opposed us. Jesus reminds us that *whoever would be his follower would need to deny him/herself, take up his/her cross and follow him.*

Are you still ready to be a follower of Christ after this?



### MASS READERS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

We would like to add to our current list of readers and Eucharistic Ministers in the Parish.

Please take time to give this invitation some thought. If you decide to volunteer please contact the Parish Office or any of the Priests.

### 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.

### SICK CALLS

If you have anyone that's sick or housebound and you would like a priest to visit please contact the Parish Office.

### BALTINGLASS CEMETERY MASS COLLECTION

Thanks to everyone who contributed so generously to the Cemetery Mass Gate Collection. A total of €2,770. was raised. This money goes towards the Sound System on the day, the parish contribution towards sponsorship to the CE Scheme, the cost of fuel and maintenance of equipment.

### THE IRISH CATHOLIC

Ireland's biggest and best-selling religious newspaper!  
**ON SALE**

in St. Joseph's Church each weekend.  
**€3**  
**IF YOU TAKE ONE PLEASE PUT MONEY IN THE BOX!**

### WEEKEND COLLECTIONS

**Offertory:** €545.00

**Development:** €1,750.00

**Many thanks to all who contributed.**

### STRATFORD/GRANGECON GAA LOTTO



**Winning Numbers**

01, 08, 24, 27

**No Jackpot Winner**

**3 Match 3 Winners - €70 each**

Pauline Barrett, Slaney Kearney,  
Martina Moore

**Seller's Prize:** Maurice Mangan

**This week's Jackpot:** €19,100.

### BALTINGLASS GAA LOTTO



**Winning Numbers**

01, 07, 22, 23

**No Jackpot Winner**

**5 Match 3 Winners - Share €300**

Michael Campion, Seamie Leigh,  
Paul Allen, Mark Cody Canning,  
Lynn McAuley & Michael Cullen

**This week's Jackpot:** €13,800.

### BALTINGLASS WOMEN'S GROUP

#### THE GREAT RE-WIRING OF CHILDHOOD

Why mobile phones and social media are destroying children's lives. A talk by Brenda Murray aka Emerald Nanny & Graham Murray. All are welcome to attend. Saturday August 23rd at 7pm in the Rural Revival Hub, Baltinglass, W91 H5RR. Fee €15. Prebook your spot with Wendy on 087 654 8689.

### BALTINGLASS FURTHER EDUCATION CENTRE FREE PART-TIME COURSES THIS AUTUMN

- ◆ Computer Skills for Beginners
- ◆ Improve Your Reading & Writing
- ◆ 1-1 Support in Literacy & IT Literacy
- ◆ Digital Literacy
- ◆ ESOL (English as a Second Language)

**Email:** abebaltinglass@kwetb.ie

**Phone:** 059 6482642 **Text:** 086 846 2771.

### WEST WICKLOW DAY CARE COMMITTEE

#### CAR BOOT SALE

**DATE:** Sunday 24th August

**VENUE:** Baltinglass Mart Car Park.

**SELLERS:** From 8am.

**BUYERS:** From 9am - 3pm.

**Cars / Vans €10. Adm. €3. Children Free.**

**Bring Your Own Tables / Gazebos.**

**Raffle on the day.**



### MESSAGE RE DAY OF PRAYER FOR GAZA

#### SUNDAY 24TH AUGUST

At the opening of the Jubilee of Youth in St Peter's Square, Pope Leo XIV said: "We must cry out for peace in the world", he invited all the young people to join him in saying: "We want peace in the world!" In the words of Cardinal Pizzaballa, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem: "Christ is not absent from Gaza. He is there, crucified in the wounded, buried under rubble and yet present in every act of mercy, every candle in the darkness, every hand extended to the suffering". The images we are watching on nightly news bulletins and on social media feeds are appalling. Many ask what can we do? We can become numb in our sense of helplessness before scenes that speak of "man's inhumanity to man". We feel bewildered when we see and hear about people crushed by hunger or crushed in the stampede for air-dropped food. Most upsetting of all is the horrible violence and death that children are experiencing and witnessing. Archbishop Eamon Martin has called on parishes to set aside **Sunday, 24 August** as a day of prayer and reflection for Gaza. I echo his call and ask all our parishes in Kildare & Leighlin to observe this day of prayer. We can light a candle in our family home or local parish church; attend Mass, spend time before the Blessed Sacrament; pray the Rosary; make some small personal penance or sacrifice, and on that day "let the light of hope radiate out from the island of Ireland for peace, for Gaza and for the future of its people." **XDennis**

### YOUTH PILGRIMAGE TO

#### CROAGH PATRICK, 23<sup>rd</sup> AUGUST 2025

For young adults (16-35) in the Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin. Join us for a day of faith, challenge and community as we undertake the ancient pilgrimage to the summit of Croagh Patrick on **23rd August**. Buses will depart from: Naas, Carlow and Portlaoise. This spiritual journey offers an opportunity for prayer, reflection and connection with fellow young Catholics. Whether you're seeking personal renewal, physical challenge or simply to experience this sacred tradition, all are welcome. Spaces are limited. Registration is essential and a short meeting for all 16-18 year old pilgrims and a parent/guardian will take place on Thursday 14th August at 7.30pm in Portlaoise, Naas and Carlow. For full details and to register, visit: [kandle.ie](http://kandle.ie).

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION - THE KILDARE & LEIGHLIN DIOCESAN ADORATION COMMITTEE

invites you to join them with Most Reverend Bishop Denis Nulty, Fr Ruairi O Domhnaill and Guests for a day of Prayer and Adoration. The day will feature a special Carlo Acutis Exhibition and Eucharistic Miracles exhibition - concluding with concelebrated Holy Mass at 3pm. Confessions available. Location: St Anne's Portarlinton, R32 WN59 Saturday August 30<sup>th</sup> from 9.30am - 4pm, Refreshments and Lunch - €20. **Booking is essential** - Please text or call Barbara on 086 163 7311 stating name and number of companions. All are welcome.



### BALTINGLASS MEN'S SHED

A 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.

### VISIT BALTINGLASS PARISH WEBSITE

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