

Parish Team: Fr. Ger Ahern: 059 - 64 82 768. Sr. Eileen Deegan.

Parish Office: 059 - 64 81 254. - **Email:** admin@baltinglassparish.ie

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Fiona Kavanagh & Anne Leigh.

D.L.P. Michelle Hughes - K & L, c/o Bishop's House, Old Dublin Road, Carlow.

Newsletter now available on www.baltinglassparish.ie

Diocesan web site: www.kandle.ie

Next Weekends Mass Times and Ministers - Saturday 29th Feb. & Sunday 1st March

Ministers of the Word:

Baltinglass: 6pm (Sat) Francis Balfe / Yvonne Balfe
11am (Sun) Michael Cogan / Catherine Burke

Stratford: 9.30am(Sun) Margaret Cronin



Ministers of the Eucharist:

Baltinglass: 6pm (Sat) Patricia Carwood / Rena O'Toole / Matt O'Brien
11am (Sun) Soley Augustine / Seán Connolly / John Connolly

Stratford: 9.30am (Sun) Breda Kelly



This weekend - Baltinglass

Anniversaries:

Mary Duffy, Parkmore

Richard & Elizabeth Barrett, Ballinatone

Tom Kavanagh, Carrigeen

Nora Murray, Rathtoole & Broadstown

Kathleen Nolan, Castledermot Road

John & Rose Hennessey, Graney

Kathleen Fitzgerald, 47 Parkmore

Peter Burke, Carrigeen

Alice & James O'Neill, Downings, Kiltegan

Patrick Foster, Parkmore

Terence Kelly, Boleylug

Catherine Hefernan, Eadestown

Grangecon: Sun. 9.30am

Willie Bourke, Grangecon

Patrick & Dora O'Toole, Grangecon

Mary Murphy, Lowtown



Weekend Mass Times

Baltinglass: Sat. 6pm &
Sun. 11am.

Weekly Confessions

after 6pm Mass on Saturdays

Stratford & Grangecon

Stratford next Sunday 9.30am

Weekday Mass Times

Daily 10am in St. Paul's Oratory,

The Parish Centre on Tuesday,

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

Liturgy of the Word & Holy

Communion

Monday 10am St. Paul's Oratory.

BALTINGLASS WELCOMES!

We the group, who are preparing to welcome a Syrian Family presently living in a refugee camp to our community, are planning to launch our fundraising appeal with a Church Gate collection next weekend 29th Feb, 1st March. We know that we can rely on your renowned generosity for this very special collection.

Women's World Day of Prayer

In St. Paul's Oratory on Friday, 6th March at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

Baltinglass Fairtrade Group

are delighted to be supporting the application of Stratford National School this Fairtrade fortnight to become the second Fairtrade School in the parish following on from Grange Con National School last year. To this end students and teachers have been learning about Fairtrade, they have taken part in a Fairtrade Chocolate Poster competition, which will be judged by local artist Maura O'Halloran. Winners will be announced on 26th February in the School. Principal Mary O Keffe and staff team will only serve Fairtrade tea and coffee in their staff room. Grange Con National School this Fortnight are busy keeping their Fairtrade habit and Fairtrade school status by baking with chocolate and watching the video 'The story of Chocolate Unwrapping the bar'. Ms Emer Liston and the transition Year students at Scoil Chonglais have come on board to support Fairtrade. Students will be serving Fairtrade Hot Chocolate to the whole school community on the 5th March, raising awareness for Fairtrade. Their efforts are greatly appreciated. Baltinglass Further Education and Training centre are taking the steps to become a Fairtrade workplace which will be a first for Baltinglass. They will be raising awareness & serving only Fairtrade tea & coffee in the workplace, when hosting events and meetings thereby becoming an ethical workplace & making consuming Fairtrade products easy.

Danny's Corner

Pancake Tuesday is next week. Also can you put the 19th March in your diary to support our annual Daffodil Day fundraiser. Details to follow.

West Wicklow Cancer Support

Monthly Drop in Meeting, Has your life been touched by Cancer. An evening of meditation, stillness and mindfulness into everyday living so as to achieve greater peace of mind, freedom and Compassion to yourself. Hosted by artist and therapist Margot Ussher. Thursday 27th February 7.30pm, Coimin Centre Main Street, Blessington. No charge, all are welcome and do feel free to bring a friend. Contact 087 4346004 / westwicklow15@gmail.com

Scoil Naomh Iosaf

OPEN EVENING

Thursday February 27th from 7pm to 8.30pm in the school. Families and friends of our current pupils and those hoping to enrol are welcome to visit our school, hear the school choir and band, view our displays of work and talk to staff and pupils. Enrolment forms will be available on the night. Refreshments will be provided. We look forward to meeting you.

Scoil Naomh Iosaf Baltinglass, is now open for enrolment for September.

Enrolment forms are available from the school office. Call in and visit us, or contact Rachel at secretary@snilbaltinglass.ie or phone 059 64 81083 or You are also welcome to meet the school principal Mairead Hennessy to discuss any questions you may have. Enrolment forms should be returned to the school by Friday March 20th if possible.

Baltinglass Credit Union (BCU)

Did you know you can join the Credit Union & apply for a loan all on the same day? Before you might have heard that you need to be saving 12 weeks before applying or you can only borrow 3 times the amount in your savings. Not the case, your loan is assessed on your ability to repay! Come join Baltinglass CU and see the benefits of becoming a part of our community. Check our website on baltinglasscu.ie or ph. 059 64 81071. T&C's & Normal lending criteria apply. (To join BCU you need to work or live within our Common Bond area).

Rathvilly & Castledermot

Garden & Flower Club

meet Thursday, 27th Feb. in Teach Diarmada, Castledermot at 7.30 pm. All welcome.

The Cozy Corner Crafters

would like to thank everyone who helped in anyway in our recent fundraiser for the Fr. Mc Verry Trust for the homeless. The sum of €1,850.00 was raised. Your generosity was very much appreciated.

We pray for

Jimmy Simpson, Killalash, Kiltegan
& **Thomas (Tom) Martin**, Pine Grove,

Baltinglass & Dunlavin
May they rest in peace.



Annual Prayer for Christian Unity

We cordially invite you to join us for a Prayer Service for Christian Unity in St. Patrick's, Kiltegan 8pm Tues. March 3rd, with the Very Rev Tom Gordon, Dean of The Leighlin Union of Parishes as our guest speaker. The Prayer Service will be in St. Patrick's Chapel in the College building. We will have a cup of tea afterwards for all who attend.

Baltinglass GAA Club

Lotto Results

Last Week's Winning Numbers **07, 11, 12, 24.**

CONGRATS to Jackpot Winners

Martin & Bernie Doogue.

This week's jackpot is €6,000.

Match 3 winners - €40 each.

Catherine Lord, Clara Timmins, Dee Coffee, Eoin Dooley, Valerie Whyte, Charlotte Quirke, Michael McGrath, Sheila O'Toole.

Next draw is in Germaine's Bar & Restaurant, Monday February 24th at 10pm Tickets €2.

Play online at www.localoto.ie

Stratford/Grangecon GAA Club

Lotto Results

Last Week's Winning Numbers 07, 19, 21, 30.

No Jackpot Winner.

This week's jackpot is €9,250.

Match 3 Winners €40 each.

Jennifer Bollard, Kathleen O'Rourke, David Byrne, Kieran Byrne, Karol Doherty, Michael Cahill, Michael Guing.

Seller's Prize: Kieran Faulkner.

Next draw is in the Clubhouse on Monday, 24th February at 8.45pm. Tickets €2.

Play online: www.stratfordgrangeconga.ie

Darkness into Light Baltinglass

will have its 1st meeting for this year on Friday Feb. 28th in the Parish Centre 7.30-8.30pm. All interested in assisting with the event on May 9th please come along for a few mins. We need new committee members, volunteers and stewards.

Baltinglass Rathvilly Macra

Are hosting a Table Quiz in Horan's, Main Street on Friday 13th March at 9pm. €10 per person.



PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

Wednesday 26th Aug. - 2nd Sept. Cost €745

Dublin to Medjugorje return. Half Board.

PLACES LIMITED

Flight to Mostar Airport only 30 minutes transfer to Medjugorje.

Spiritual Director: Fr. Gerard Ahern P.P.

Contact the Parish Office on 059 64 81 254,

Fr. Ger on 087 629 8881 or Andy Murphy on 087 09 00 819 for details.

Split the Pot Results

1st Prize: €100 - Pat Byrne

2nd Prize: €50 - Mary Byrne

3rd Prize: €25 - Mary Doyle

4th Prize: €25 - Pat Farrell

Baltinglass Tidy Towns

CLEAN UP DAY

Come along and have some fun at our Clean up Day Saturday 7th March from 10am - 4pm.

Clean up equipment will be provided on the day.

Volunteer Meeting

Thursday 27th February in Baltinglass Inn (Timmins Bar) at 7.30pm to organise the clean up day. Please support!

Kiltegan Drama

Present "Ghosts in the Summertime"

by local man Jack Phelan, Tynock in St. Tegan's Hall, Kiltegan,

on 21st, 22nd, 28th & 29th February.

Also the 6th & 7th March at 8pm sharp.

Baltinglass & District Active Retirement

Next meeting is on Wed. 26th Feb. at 3pm in Germaines. Membership fees are now due.

NEWSLETTER

Articles for the newsletter must be received before 12 noon Thurs. and can be emailed or left into the Parish Office. Your name and contact details must be included.

Parish Office Opening Hours

Mon. & Fri. 9.30am to 1pm.

Tues. & Thurs. 9.30 to 1pm & 1.30 to 2.30pm.

PLEASE NOTE

The Parish Office is closed **on Wednesday.**

PARISH NEWSLETTER

BALTINGLASS - BIGSTONE - GRANGECON - STRATFORD

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

23rd February 2020

ASH WEDNESDAY

26th February - Baltinglass Church Mass at 10a.m. & 7.30p.m.

Ash Wednesday is a day of fast & abstinence.

TROCAIRE BOXES will be available at the three Churches and at the Parish Centre. We encourage each family to give it a central place in their home during Lent, as we ensure others have a decent quality of life.

If we wish to change the outer aspects of our lives we must first change the inner attitudes of our minds. The miracle of inner change is possible. History and literature are full of examples: Paul on the road to Damascus, Charles Dickens' miser Scrooge, Matt Talbot the alcoholic. Something happened inside each of these, and they became new people. Change requires the substituting of new habits for old ones. It calls for self discipline. You have to command yourself and make yourself do what needs to be done.

The change of heart to which Lent calls us can be accomplished most of all through the power of prayer. 'Lord, each spring you renew the face of the earth. May you also renew each of us, so that we may be able to celebrate Easter in newness of mind and heart.

LENTEN SUGGESTIONS

Daily Mass

St. Paul's Oratory
Tuesday-Friday 10am
Prayer Service on Mondays

Family Prayer

Take some time to pray as a family, perhaps around the table after the evening meal.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Spend some time in the presence of the Lord.
St. Paul's - Friday 10.30 - 11.30am
Grangecon - Sunday 3 - 4pm



Trócaire Box

Have a box in your home and support this year's Lenten Campaign. (€3,204 in 2019)

Stations of the Cross

St. Joseph's Church
Friday's 7.30pm

Fast and Abstinence

Give up something you enjoy on one day each week.