

Parish Team: Fr. Ger Ahern PP: 059 6482768. Sr. Eileen Deegan.
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Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP): Mick Daly 085 8021633

Newsletter available on www.baltinglassparish.ie
Diocesan website: www.kandle.ie



MASS

St. Joseph's Church
Tues. - Fri. 10am
Sat. 6pm / Sun. 11am
Available on Webcam
& Radio 100.2fm

NEWSLETTER

Articles for NEXT WEEK'S Newsletter
must be received before
12 noon on Wednesday 22nd Dec.

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Mon. Wed. & Fri. 9.30am - 1.00pm
Tues. & Thurs. 9.30am - 1.00pm
1.30pm - 2.30pm

CLOSES: THURS 23RD DEC 2.30PM
REOPENS: TUES 4TH JAN 9.30AM

SUNDAY MASSES

	<u>GRANGECON</u>	<u>STRATFORD</u>
January:	9/23	2/16/30
February:	6/20	13/27
March:	6/20	13/27

WE REMEMBER

RECENT DEATH

Mary Connell Daly, London, Donard & Baltinglass

ANNIVERSARIES

Deceased members of the Byrne & Foley Family

Everett Lord, "Fawn Lodge", Bawnogues

Paddy (Patrick) Geraghty, Ballina

John O'Kane, Edward Street

Patrick J & Mary Jo McDonagh and

their son Ignatius, Edward Street

Kevin Kennedy & his son Kieran, Chapel Hill

Annie & Pierce O'Neill, 49 Parkmore

Patrick & Mary O'Neill, 47 Parkmore

Patrick Burke, Woodfield

Kitty & Tom Burke, Weaver Square

John Byrne, Shroughaun & London

Stratford: 9.30am (Sun)

John Paul Brogan, Gibraltar

Rest in
Peace

VISIT BALTINGLASS PARISH WEBSITE

For Weekly Newsletter, Information,
Advent Reflection etc.

www.baltinglassparish.ie

BALTINGLASS - BIGSTONE - GRANGECON - STRATFORD

PARISH NEWSLETTER

4th Sunday of Advent

19th December 2021

Words on love from a newly wed.....

I got married in August 2020. It was a challenging time with the restrictions. My fiancé was amazing, always keeping a positive outlook and focusing on what was really important about the day – marrying each other!

We wanted to get married because first and foremost, we were in love. Focusing on that helped us to deal with the disappointments and hazards that we came across on our journey towards marriage. The best definition of love I have heard is "wanting good for someone, and not expecting anything in return."

Romantic love is just one part of what is love. The past 20 months have been very difficult ones with the pandemic. I have a choice in my outlook on living today. If I choose to wear a face mask, clean my hands, queue patiently, smile (with my eyes if necessary!) and be kind to those I meet out of love – I have a better time dealing with life right now. I find it makes me feel good when I do whatever is in my power to help others feel that little bit safer or happier. Of course, I am human and full of flaws. So, I need some help with being a loving person - both romantically and socially. I get that help from God.

Scripture tells us that God is love. God helps me find his love within me and share it with the world. Living my Christian vocation that simply has helped me through life so far. I think it is always a good question to ask myself – where do I find the ability to love others? And my answer - from the love God shares with me.

(Philip Lawlor, Pastoral Worker, Cathedral Parish)



RADIO MARIA IRELAND

Saorview - Channel 210
Stream on www.radiomaria.ie
By phone (01) 437 3277 (no extra charges apply)
FREE APP - "RADIO MARIA IRELAND"



WEEKLY ENVELOPES

Thanks to our 'Link People' who have distributed this years boxes of envelopes. If you did not receive one and wish to have a box to make your contribution please contact the Parish Office.
Thanks also to all who have contributed to the financial support of the parish by using their envelopes or by other means.

Synod – what is it all about?

A 6 minute video, 'All you need to know – synod on synodality' can be viewed on www.kandle.ie/synod at the bottom of the page in the dropdown box 'synod resources'. Please take this Advent – Christmas time to pray for the synodal journey we are setting out on in the months ahead.

POWER SWEEPS & STOVE INSTALLATION

Power sweeping from your fireplace, stove or cooker. Professional chimney sweeps with the latest equipment. No mess, no fuss clean and efficient repairs of stoves. Also, stoves fitted by a trained Hetas Fitter. To book your sweep or to get a quote, phone Dave on 083 392 7695 or 083 125 5548.



Ireland's biggest and best-selling religious newspaper!

NOW ON SALE

The Irish Catholic newspaper is available in St. Joseph's Church each weekend.

€2.50

Sales have been affected by Covid. Publishers would appreciate your support.
Highly recommended reading for all!

BALTINGLASS GAA LOTTO

Last Week's Winning Numbers
01, 05, 12, 18
No Jackpot Winner
This week's Jackpot: €8,400

11 Match 3 Winners - Share €300
Billy Kenny x 3, Caroline Kelly, Steph Hickey, Avril Brady, Breda Coffey, Michael Howard, Amy Peggs, Pat, Tom & Aoife Burke, Mary O'Keefe.
VOUCHER WINNERS
Tom O'Neill, Josie Duffy, Amanda Ellis, Theresa Mullen, Bernie Kilcoyne, Mikey English.

STRATFORD/GRANGECON GAA LOTTO

Last Week's Winning Numbers
02, 16, 19, 24
No Jackpot Winner
This week's Jackpot: €4,500
No Match 3 Winners
Sellers Prize: Colette Bollard

Three Extra Cash Prizes of €50
Marie Gadsdon, Eimear Fanning, Tommy Duffy.

Affordable Live-in Homecare

provides live-in carers for the elderly in your area. If you are looking for a live-in carer for your relative, please call Eileen or Tom on 087 991 6791 or 087 744 0729.
Our website is www.alhomecare.ie

PAINTING OF STRATFORD CHURCH

Thanks to the C E scheme workers, under the supervision of Thomas Whittle, who have repainted the inside of Stratford church over the past few weeks. They have done an outstanding job for which we are very grateful.

ADVENT 2021



Resources to help us through our journey towards Christmas are available on kandle.ie

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE



St. Joseph's Church
Mon. 20th Dec. 7.30pm
Celebrate God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confessions: Baltinglass
After 6pm Mass Saturday 18th
Christmas Eve: 10—11am



Inter-Diocesan Carol Service

An inter-diocesan carol service with music from both the dioceses of Kildare & Leighlin and Ossory will take place on KCLR at 6.15pm this Sunday.

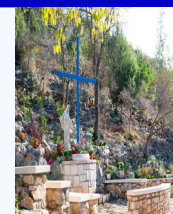
MALE ADVICE LINE

The National Male Advice Line offers confidential advice and support to Male victims of domestic violence and abuse over the phone. This Service is also available to family and friends who may have concerns for a loved one and are seeking some guidance on how to help them. Tel: 1800-816 588.



PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

Wednesday 31st Aug to 7th Sept. 2022
Dublin to Medjugorje return. Half Board. Cost: €765
€50 discount if €100 deposit paid by 1st February
For information contact: Parish Office 059 64 81 254,
Fr. Ger 087 629 8881, Andy Murphy 087 09 00 819



CHRISTMAS 2021

MASSES TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE

5pm Grangecon
7pm Baltinglass
9pm Stratford

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30 & 11am Baltinglass

PLEASE NOTE

With the current Covid situation we will not be able to have maximum capacity in any church. Social distancing & face coverings will apply.



MASSES FOR SUNDAY 26TH DEC

No vigil Mass on Saturday 25th
Sunday: Feast of the Holy Family
9.30am Grangecon
11am Baltinglass

A Suggestion for the Home for Christmas



When the time comes to place the figure of Jesus into the crib, have the youngest member of the household carry the baby Jesus to the nativity scene. The family might like to say a prayer and sing a favourite Christmas carol together as they do this. See www.kandle.ie for a prayer that can be used. A family might do this when they come home from Mass or, if the family is joining a livestream of Christmas Mass, before Mass begins light a candle and place the infant figure beside it. At the end of Mass the youngest can place the infant in the crib.