

Parish Team: Fr. Ger Ahern PP: 059 6482768. Sr. Eileen Deegan.

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): Kathleen Sherry 085 8021633



### MASSES

St. Joseph's Church

Tues. - Fri. 10am

Sat. 6pm / Sun. 11am

Available on Webcam  
& Radio 100.2fm

### NEWSLETTER

Articles for the Newsletter must be received before 12 noon on Thursdays.

### PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Mon & Fri 9.30am - 1.00pm

Tues & Thurs. 9.30am - 1.00pm

1.30pm - 2.30pm

**THE OFFICE IS CLOSED ON FRIDAY**

### VISIT BALTINGLASS PARISH WEBSITE

For Weekly Newsletter, Information, to make a donation etc.

[www.baltinglassparish.ie](http://www.baltinglassparish.ie)

### SUNDAY MASSES

|      | GRANGECON | STRATFORD |
|------|-----------|-----------|
| Dec: | 11        | 4/18      |
| Jan: | 8/22      | 1/15/29   |
| Feb: | 5/19      | 12/26     |

### WE REMEMBER

#### ANNIVERSARIES:

Nora, Mena & Jim Gethings, Parkmore

John Kelly, Carrigeen

Billy Doody, Weaver Square

Nan Kavanagh, Carrigeen

The Kearney Family, Lathaleer

Dermot O'Neill, Newtown

Seánie O'Neill, Newtown

Ellen & David Roche, Wexford

#### Grangecon: Sunday 9.30AM

Paddy Whelan, Carlow & Holdenstown

John & Josephine Tierney, Rathbran

Michael & Mary Wade, Rathbran

John & Mary Kelly, Ballymore Eustace

*Rest in Peace*

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### CONFIRMATION

Saturday 25th March at 11am & 1pm

St. Joseph's Church, Baltinglass

#### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Stratford: Saturday 6th May at 11am

Baltinglass/Bigstone:

Saturday 13th May at 11am & 1pm

Grangecon: Sunday 14th May at 9.30am

BALTINGLASS - BIGSTONE - GRANGECON - STRATFORD

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

27TH NOVEMBER 2022

Let us begin our Advent with a sense of hope.

Our hope is in the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, Our Saviour, Our God, the one who is Love itself. So let us begin this journey by preparing our hearts to meet Jesus in a truer, deeper way; not just for Christmas: Let us prepare ourselves to meet the Lord face-to-face; let us prepare for eternity.

This world is fleeting. In these times especially, we are reminded far too much of sickness and death around us. As Christians we do not need to fear; remember the Lord's promises: "For God so loved the world that he gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life". (John 3:16)

Let us believe in the mercy and goodness of God who forgives when we stray. Let us use this time of Advent to humble ourselves before our loving Father. Let us not be afraid to bring our guilt and wrongdoing from the past to Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, so that we no longer need to carry these burdens on our back, these poisons in our hearts, or get caught up in the shame of old.

With God's forgiveness we may move forward with a sense of freedom, liberation, peace and hope in our hearts. Time is a precious gift, let us use it wisely to prepare ourselves to meet LOVE itself.

## ADVENT 2022

Come, Lord Jesus  
Lord of Hope

Resources to help us through our journey towards Christmas are available on [kandle.ie](http://kandle.ie)



### ADVENT SCRIPTURE SHARING

What are the Advent Sunday Readings saying to me? Why not spend time reflecting on the Sunday Scriptures this Advent alone or with others? Faith Development Services are delighted to provide the Annual Advent Scripture Sharing Booklet for 2022. The booklet can be downloaded free of charge on <https://www.kandle.ie/advent-scripture-sharing-booklet-2022/>

### SUGGESTION FOR THE HOME

Why not create a prayer space in your home for Advent? You might like to make your own Advent wreath or have a special Advent candle to use in the prayer space, including perhaps purple coloured cloth/ribbons and evergreens. You'll find a short video on creating an Advent prayer space on [kandle.ie](http://kandle.ie)

### Family Prayer for the First Week of Advent

Loving God,

on this Advent day we turn to you in prayer.

As we wait for the coming of your Son,  
we ask your blessing on each of us.

Free us from any worry or distress  
that we may have and help us to welcome  
your light into our lives,  
a light that gives us the gift of hope.

May your hope fill our heart,  
our mind and our home.

*"Where there is despair may we bring hope"*

### STRATFORD/GRANGECON GAA LOTTO

Last Week's Winning Numbers



04, 15, 16, 28



No Jackpot Winner

**6 Match 3 Winners:** €45 each  
Michelle Butler, Catherine Doherty,  
John Eager, Sharon Berningham,  
Margaret Allen, Ursula Deering

**Sellers Prize:** O'Reillys

**This week's Jackpot:** €12,250

### BALTINGLASS GAA LOTTO

Last Week's Winning Numbers



03, 15, 17, 19



No Jackpot Winner

**6 Match 3 Winners** - €50 each  
Catherine Heaslip, Joanne Daly,  
Julie Dunne, Maureen Moore,  
Brian Fleming & B & J Fleming, C. Kelly

**This week's Jackpot:** €10,700



THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR  
**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN**  
IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN IRELAND

The National Board for the Safeguarding of Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland will be commencing their review of safeguarding practice in the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin on Dec 12th. This review is to assess the safeguarding practice in the Diocese against the Catholic Church in Ireland's current standards as detailed in Safeguarding Children - Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2016.

If you would like to know more about safeguarding in your parish, please speak with your parish (Fiona Kavanagh, Ann Leigh and Martina Kennedy) or look at the Safeguarding section on [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie).

If you ever wish to report a child or vulnerable adult safeguarding concern, please contact the Diocesan DLP on 085 8021633 or the statutory authorities of the Gardai, TUSLA, HSE.

### BALTINGLASS & DISTRICT

#### ACTIVE RETIREMENT

At present, members of our Bowling Team are preparing for the National Bowls Competition in Killarney, taking place from 28<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December.

**The Christmas Party**, hosted by the Active Retired Committee for its members and for Senior Citizens, Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> 1.30pm in Inis Fail, Germaines. Tickets €20. Further details from Mary on 087 299-9571

**PLEASE NOTE:** No meeting in December. Annual General Meeting in January.



CAROLS  
BY  
CANDLELIGHT

### IN AID OF STRATFORD COMMUNITY SHOP AND CAFE

#### CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

**West Wicklow Voices featuring MÉAV**  
in St. Mary's Church, Stratford  
Saturday December 10th 8pm sharp.  
Tickets €15 and are available from  
Committee Members, Parish Office or phone  
087 62 12 411. Door Prize on your ticket.



#### Wicklow Libraries Winter Warmer Initiative

Friday 9th Dec. at 11am Baltinglass

Library will screen the movie 'ELF'.

This is a screening for adults and does not require booking. Refreshments provided.

### CLOTHES COLLECTION

Supporting Friends of Calcutta  
(CHY No: 13218)

**Tuesday 29th November**

All items of wearable clothing, footwear and curtains are most welcome.

Items can be left at the Parish Centre any stage that day up to 2pm.

All enquiries to Michael Hopkins  
087-9073074



Friends of Calcutta

# ALONE

### ALONE are Seeking Volunteers

Would you be willing to provide companionship or make calls to Older People once a week? ALONE are seeking volunteers in your area. Full training & support provided. If interested please sign up here: <https://alone.ie/volunteers/>  
For more information, contact Frances on [volunteer@alone.ie](mailto:volunteer@alone.ie) or on 086 1085965.



### HANDEL'S MESSIAH

8pm Carlow Cathedral, 3rd Dec

Carlow Choral Society with Director, Blánaid Murphy, the Irish Choral Sinfonia, & soloists; Aisling Kenny –

Soprano, Laura-Joy Copeland – Mezzo Soprano, Eamonn Mulhall – Tenor and Matthew Mannion – Bass.  
Tickets €20 available on [www.eventbrite.ie](http://www.eventbrite.ie) & [www.carlowchoralsociety.com](http://www.carlowchoralsociety.com) & from choir members.



### Family Time Initiative

Sat 3rd Dec. 11 am Baltinglass Library will hold a Christmas sustainable craft morning in association with Cardboard Collectif. Suitable for children 7 years and over. All children must be accompanied by an adult. To book a place please call 059 6482300 or Email: [baltinglasslib@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:baltinglasslib@wicklowcoco.ie)



## CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2022

The annual Christmas collection will take place in the parish at all Masses next weekend 3rd/4th December.

**Help make the holiday season brighter!**  
As costs rise, more people reach out to SVdP for assistance. We ask that you consider donating to SVdP to help those in need this Christmas season.