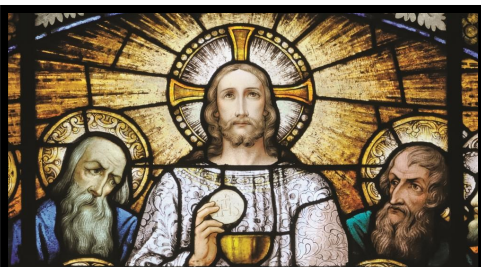


Parish Team: Fr. Ger Ahern PP: 059 6482768. Sr. Eileen Deegan.
Parish Office: 059 64 81 254. Email: admin@baltinglassparish.ie
Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Fiona Kavanagh, Anne Leigh, Martina Kennedy
Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP): Kathleen Sherry 085 8021633



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

PLEASE NOTE

**During Lent there will be Mass on
Monday mornings at 10am.**

NEWSLETTER

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

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

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

SUNDAY MASSES

GRANGECON STRATFORD

Mar: 5/19 12/26
Apr: 2/16/30 9/23

WE REMEMBER

RECENT DEATHS

Richard O'Beirne, Cuckoo Lane, Baltinglass

MONTHS MIND

Deirdre (Dee), Caplice, Stratford

ANNIVERSARIES

Patsy Doody, Clough & his son Paul
Kathleen Nolan, Castledermot Road, Baltinglass
Tom Kavanagh, Carrigeen & all deceased
members of the Kavanagh Family

Patrick Foster, Parkmore
Richard & Elizabeth Barrett, Ballinatone
Catherine Heffernan, Eadestown
Matt O'Brien, Carrigeen
Mary Anne Clynch, killalesh
Maureen Byrne, Hacketstown & Tinoran
Brigid Plant, Parkmore
Mary & John Shaughnessy, Ballytore

Stratford: Sunday 9.30am

Peter Fluskey, Stratford
Bernard & Julia Tivenan, Stratford
Lilly Tivenan, Crumlin
Billy Loughlin, Stratford & Ballymore
Richard & Elizabeth Barrett, Ballinatone
Peter & Margaret Kehoe, Chapel St., Stratford
& deceased members of the Kehoe Family
Sarah Humphries Cunningham, Whitestown

*Rest in
Peace*

BALTINGLASS - BIGSTONE - GRANGECON - STRATFORD

PARISH NEWSLETTER

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

26TH FEBRUARY 2023



BISHOP'S MESSAGE FOR LENT 2023

Lent offers us a scaffold, a template, a tool that supports our journey of personal renewal. I often hold up the example of Venerable Matt Talbot as someone we could emulate during this penitential season. Born in 1856, dying on June 7th 1925 on Granby Lane. I feel a close association with Matt, maybe it's because he died on my birthday.

Matt grew up in a loving but tough family where poverty was never far from the front door and like many in his time had to work from an early age. His work in a Wine Merchants store gave him easy access to drink, too easy. A turning point was his rejection by his friends, at the age of 28 he stood outside a pub but was penniless. One by one his friends, his associates, who he felt would now give him a dig out passed him by. He went home later and told his mother he would take the pledge, to which she replied, if you take it, keep it.

He took a temporary pledge in Clonliffe College. He even went into a bar during that time, tempted by the smell of beer, the barman paid little attention to him & he left it humiliated for a second time. He found his way to Gardiner Street Church. He realised taking the pledge was the easy bit, keeping it needed a discipline of prayer. Dropping into a church to rest became a frequent part of his walk. He turned to God for help. This was another huge turning point. He decided to attend daily Mass and take the pledge for life. He lived an austere life, modelling his life on the early monks.

Matt got a heart attack on his way to Mass on Trinity Sunday – June 7th, 1925. Nobody was able to identify him, his body was taken to Jervis Street Hospital, where the extent of his austere life was revealed as the body was prepared for embalmment. In 1975 he was conferred the title 'Venerable', it's high time he was recognised for the journey so many take from drunkenness to sobriety. I pray I will see this day. We all need an influencer to get us through Lent, Matt's mine, maybe he should also be yours this Lent!

And as always, a simple acronym on the word **LENT**:

- L** – to do with less
- E** – to examine our life and make amends
- N** – to say 'No' not in a negative way, but in the knowledge that denying ourselves sometimes is good for us
- T** – to give God a little more time this year. It might be making Mass more often; it could be saying a prayer as we walk, drive or go out for a run.

Blessings on your journey of forty days and may Venerable Matt Talbot be one of your constant companions on that journey.

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"



ST. PATRICK'S MISSIONARY SOC. KILTEGAN

have the following vacancies & invite interested applicants to email their applications to hrmanager@spms.ie.

Staff Nurse vacancies consisting of

1. Fixed Term Contract 2. Relief position.

For information contact the Director of Care at directorofcare@spms.ie. Closing date for receipt of applications is the 3rd March, 2023.

TRÓCAIRE BOXES

available in all 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.

(€2,760 donated in 2022)



LENTEN SUGGESTIONS

DAILY MASS

10am Mon.- Fri. St. Joseph's Church

FAMILY PRAYER

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

SACRED SPACE

Create a space in your home with some Lenten symbols eg. stones, cross, ashes, bible, candle, Trócaire box, and use it for prayer time. Add a new symbol each week.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Pray the Way of the Cross in the church.

You can also find the stations on the diocesan website.

www.kandle.ie/resources/liturgy-pastoral/

STRATFORD/GRANGECON GAA LOTTO



Winning Numbers

09, 17, 25, 27

No Jackpot Winner

1 Match 3 Winner €250.

J & C Murray

Sellers Prize: Kellie Curran

This week's Jackpot: €15,000



BALTINGLASS GAA LOTTO



Winning Numbers

02, 06, 24, 26

No Jackpot Winner

1 Match 3 winner - €300.

Anne Timmins

This week's Jackpot: €5,400



Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Sexual Abuse

BISHOP NULTY WILL LEAD A HOLY HOUR
ON FRIDAY, 3 MARCH AT 7.30PM IN THE
CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION,
CARLOW



Digging Deeper



LENTEN SCRIPTURE SHARING

Weekly reflections on the
Sunday Mass readings are
available on kandle.ie.

www.PrayasyouGo.org

is a great free resource (donations welcome) that can be accessed on your laptop or downloaded onto your phone as an app. Among its many offers is an audio guided reflection on the daily readings (typically about 10-12 mins) as well as a weekly Lenten retreat audio (typically about 20 mins). Why not find a quiet spot or put on your headphones and head out to nature with God's word to accompany you!



PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

Wednesday 30th Aug to 6th Sept. 2023

Dublin to Medjugorje return. Half Board. Cost: €795

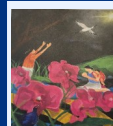
For information contact: Parish Office 059 64 81 254,
Fr. Ger 087 629 8881, Andy Murphy 087 09 00 819



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

St. Paul's Oratory

Friday 3rd March at 7.30pm



It is written this year by the WDP
Committee of Taiwan.

We hope you will be able to come and bring a
friend along. Refreshments afterwards.

It's a great opportunity to have a catch up.

Carlow/Kilkenny FAMILY & LIFE

Information Meeting

'Protecting the Vulnerable from
the Threat of Legalised Euthanasia'.

Wednesday 1st March 7.30pm

Cathedral Parish Centre, College St, Carlow.

BALTINGLASS & DISTRICT ACTIVE RETIREMENT

The following Officers were elected at our A.G.M.

Chairperson: Mary Hayes, **Vice Chairperson:**

Mary Vernon, **Secretary:** Judy Heffernan

Assistant Secretary: Maura O'Halloran,

Treasurers: M. Doran and L. Byrne, **PRO:** Mary

Hickson. **Committee:** Michael Cogan, Peadar

Cullen, Rose Lalor, Una Phelan, Patricia Norton,

Una McKeever.

Activities: Coffee Mornings for March: Bia Blasta
on Fridays at 11am.

Yoga Classes: Thursdays 2.30pm – 4pm in the
Parish Centre, for six weeks. New members of
Active Retired are welcome.

Knitting and Stitching: Tuesdays at 2.30pm in
Bia Blasta

Bowling: Tuesdays 3pm – 4.30pm in Fatima Hall

Bridge: Wednesdays 10.30am – 12 noon in The
Parish Centre

The venue for this year's Summer Holiday is The
Slieve Russell Hotel, Cavan, from Monday 29th
May to Friday 2nd June. Cost €495 per person
sharing. Single supplement €35 per night.
Further details from Mary on 087-299-9571.

BE KIND 2 YOUR MIND

The Be Kind 2 Your Mind programme starts in
Carlow on Thursday 2nd March. Running for 5
weeks in the Talbot Hotel, Carlow the Be Kind 2
Your Mind Programme is for teens and their par-
ents and focuses on managing anxiety, emotional
regulation and building confidence. For more
information or to book your place call or text
Aisling on 087 791 0560 or email
info@bekind2yourmind.ie.

More information including dates for half-day
workshops can be found at
www.bekind2yourmind.ie

BULLDOG'S BASKETBALL CLUB



We are holding a cake sale
in Scoil Chonglais this Sunday,
February 26th from 12 - 5pm.

It is for our junior boys and
girls who are heading to Kerry over the
Easter break to take part in a tournament.
We will be selling cakes, buns, biscuits,
tea's and coffee's. Everyone is welcome.
All support is hugely appreciated.



Friends of Calcutta

**Thanks to all who contributed to
the recent clothes collection.**

BALTINGLASS TIDY TOWNS

Spring Clean is happening on
Saturday March 11th from 10am-2pm.

All bags of rubbish to be left either at
McAllister or at the entrances to the
estates, BEFORE 2pm on the day.

All estates are being asked to apply for their
own litter pick. (Bags and High viz jackets)