

Parish Team: Fr. Ger Ahern PP: 059 6482768. Sr. Eileen Deegan.  
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Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Fiona Kavanagh, Anne Leigh, Martina Kennedy  
Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP): Aisling Higgins 085 8021633



### MASSES

St. Paul's Oratory  
Tues.—Fri. 10am  
Sat. 6pm / Sun. 11am  
Available on Webcam  
& Radio 100.2fm  
No 10am Mass on Thursday & Friday

### NEWSLETTER

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

### PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

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

**CLOSED THIS FRIDAY (HOLY DAY)**

### 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: | 10/24     | 17/31     |
| Jan: | 7/21      | 14/28     |



### WE REMEMBER

#### RECENT DEATH

Nora Timmins, Weaver Square, Baltinglass  
Kathy Collins (nee Moran) Tinoran, Parkmore  
& Coventry, England

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Rosie Nolan Shortall, Pine Grove, Baltinglass  
Jim McKeever, Lathaleere  
John (Seán) Kinsella, Tankardstown  
Seán McLoughlin, Newtown Saunders  
Justin Wall, Bawnogues  
Kitty Patterson, Old County Road  
Mary Hanlon, Broadstown & her daughter  
Mary, Broadstown & San Francisco  
Sheila Fitzmaurice, Tuckmill  
John O'Neill, Mountkelly, Rathvilly  
The Kearney Family, Lathaleere

#### STRATFORD: 9.30AM

James Barrett, 3 Church Street  
Mick Kehoe, Chapel Street, Stratford  
Pat & Sarah Moore, Saundersgrove

*Rest in  
Peace*

### FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

#### Friday 8th December

Masses for Holyday  
St. Joseph's Church

Thursday: Vigil Mass 7.30pm

Friday: Mass 11am

PLEASE NOTE:

No 10am Mass on Thursday.



BALTINGLASS - BIGSTONE - GRANGECON - STRATFORD

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

3RD DECEMBER 2023

*Prayer*

*for*

*Peace*

*by  
Candlelight*

**ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH  
BALTINGLASS  
WEDNESDAY  
6TH & 20TH DEC.**

**ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH  
RATHVILLY  
WEDNESDAY 13TH  
& FRIDAY 22ND DEC.**

**7.30PM**

At Christmas we celebrate the birth of the 'Prince of Peace' while we live in a world that is far from peaceful. This Advent the parish cluster of Rathvilly & Baltinglass will come together to pray for peace especially in the Middle East and Ukraine.

## ADVENT 2023

Come, Lord Jesus  
*Lord of Hope*

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

### STRATFORD/GRANGECON GAA LOTTO



**Winning Numbers**

02, 06, 23, 27



**No Jackpot Winner**

**1 Match 3 Winner - €200**

Rena O'Toole

**Sellers Prize:** Glen Lounge

**This week's Jackpot:** €6,100

### BIGSTONE NATIONAL SCHOOL

Perform their Christmas play "Straw & Order" in Bigstone Community Hall on Thursday 7th December at 7pm. There will be calendars featuring artwork by our talented school pupils for sale and a raffle on the night. We are also expecting a visit from Santa! All are welcome!"



### DAY CARE BOUTIQUE

Call in to Baltinglass Day Care Centre's 'Pop Up Shop' (located at the back of Baltinglass Community Hospital) Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec. from 4-7pm for some great bargains on clothes and shoes. All proceeds going directly to Baltinglass Day Care Centre.

### 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)

### AN ADVENT HOUSEHOLD PRAYER

Loving God, as your light grows in the dark of winter, bring its strength and its hope to the people of the Holy Land and to all people who suffer through war and conflict.

Just as you sent the star of Bethlehem to lead the way to your Son, guide all people to follow your ways of peace and justice.

As we remember the difficult journey of Mary and Joseph, may the Holy Family be a source of courage for each of us, helping us to reach out in friendship to the oppressed and displaced of this world. Help us to see in the Christ-child we welcome this Christmas, the one who came to bring an end to all divisions.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### FAMILY MASS

We invite families to join with the children preparing for Confirmation and First Holy Communion for the 9.30am Mass on next Sunday (10th) in Grangecon.

Following Sunday (17th)  
9.30am Stratford  
11am Baltinglass



### BALTINGLASS GAA LOTTO



**Winning Numbers**

06, 07, 22, 28



**No Jackpot Winner**

**8 Match 3 Winners - share €300**

John Timmins, Colette Mannix, Terry Butler, Mark Cody Canning, Mary O'Keeffe, Tom Goff, Joe Rattigan, Aoife Sammon

**This week's Jackpot:** €8,300



### JACKPOT €1000

**Mondays at 8pm in Fatima Hall**

*Thanks to everyone for their support.*

### TOTUS TUUS MAGAZINE

A Catholic magazine with articles from Irish priests & laity, which aims to highlight the beauty & joy of our faith. It is going into its 7th year & is funded by donations. If you haven't come across Totus Tuus Magazine and would like a free copy contact Fiona Kiely on 086 876 0058.

### BALTINGLASS & DISTRICT ACTIVE RETIREMENT

We are organising a **Christmas Party** for Senior Citizens in the area, patients from the Local Hospital and Active Retired members in Germaine's on Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm. **Some tickets still available**, at €25 (after subsidisation) from Active Retired Committee, or from Mary on 087 299 9571.  
**Coffee Mornings for December:** Golf Club on Fridays at 11am, with the later start on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> for **Christmas Lunch** at 12md (Golf Club).

### BALTINGLASS SINGS—OPEN REHEARSAL

The Baltinglass Sings group, which has been meeting every Wednesday evening in the Lalor Centre since the 13th Sept., is opening their last rehearsal in 2023 to the public. Over 50 participating singers, the conductor Paula Phelan & the accompanying musician Halyna Fler Obshta, extend a warm invitation to all music lovers in Baltinglass and its surroundings to join them on the 13th Dec. in Germaine's at 7pm for an evening of diverse, seasonal songs, mince pies, cuppa and chats. It is a free event; no registration is required.

### JAZZ TOKEN - AN EVENING WITH LIVE JAZZ AND SEASONAL CRAFTS

**Friday, 8th Dec. at Stratford Lodge Old School Building at 8pm.**

An entertaining & relaxed evening of easy-to-listen jazz classics interpreted by a three-piece band consisting of Christy Stapleton on drums, Rory Adams on piano and vocals and Frank Gallagher on guitar and vocals. There will also be a selection of art and crafts on display, and refreshments will be provided. Participation in this session is free, but registration is required.



### SYNOD NEWS

The first part of the Synod Assembly has concluded in Rome. A Synod Report was agreed on the last day of the month long assembly. In the coming months this report will be considered by Catholics here in Ireland and across the world, ahead of the second part of the Assembly in October 2024. This report and a summary of it, prepared by Vatican News, can be viewed on the dedicated Synod page on [Kandle.ie](http://Kandle.ie).

### CARLOW CHORAL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION CONCERT

Carlow Choral Society presents a Christmas Celebration concert in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow, on Saturday 9th Dec at 8pm. The programme includes Handel's Messiah part one plus the rousing Hallelujah Chorus, Monteverdi's Beatus Vir, as well as many favourite Christmas carols for the audience to sing along with. The concert will feature the Marlborough Baroque Orchestra, soprano Eva Waters, organist Yvonne Collier and conductor Blanaid Murphy. Adm €25 & free for under 16s accompanied by an adult. Tickets from choir members or at [www.eventbrite.ie](http://www.eventbrite.ie)



**"God, who calls us to generous commitment, and to give him our all, offers us the light and strength needed to continue on our way....(God's) love constantly compels us to find new ways forward." (#245)**