

Parish Team: Fr. Ger Ahern PP: 059 6482768. Sr. Eileen Deegan.
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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 Fri. 9.30am—1.00pm
Tues. & Thurs. 9.30am - 1.00pm
& 1.30pm - 2.30pm

VISIT BALTINGLASS PARISH WEBSITE

For Weekly Newsletter, Information,
to make a donation etc.
www.baltinglassparish.ie

SUNDAY MASSES

	GRANGECON	STRATFORD
Dec:	24	31
Jan:	7/21	14/28



MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas Eve (24th): 6pm Baltinglass & 8pm Grangecon
Christmas Day (25th): 9.30am Stratford & 11am Baltinglass

WE REMEMBER

MONTHS MIND

Jimmy Whelan, Santry & Grangecon

ANNIVERSARIES

Tommy Andrews, Moneymore & Rathfarnham
Pierce & Annie O'Neill, 49 Parkmore
Patrick & Mary O'Neill, 47 Parkmore
Billy Coogan, Knockfield
Marie Ryan, Crumlin
Mary Whitty, Hughestown
Michael & Margaret Germaine, Bessina
Bill Nolan, Parkmore
Jack, Marcella & Maggie Kenny Clough
Kevin, Kieran & Aileen Kennedy, Chapel Hill
John O'Kane, Edward Street
Edward O'Keeffe, 1 Parkmore
Kitty & Tom Burke, Weaver Square &
deceased members of the Burke Family
John & Catherine Byrne, Shroughaun & London

STRATFORD: 9.30AM

Michael Moore, Stratford & deceased
members of the Moore Family
Alice Gannon & deceased members of the
Gannon Family

*Rest in
Peace*

BALTINGLASS - BIGSTONE - GRANGECON - STRATFORD

PARISH NEWSLETTER

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

17TH DECEMBER 2023

ADVENT - A JOYFUL TIME!

"JOY IS THE FLAG YOU FLY WHEN CHRIST, THE PRINCE OF
PEACE, IS IN RESIDENCE WITHIN YOUR HEART"



A lot of people confuse joy with pleasure;

but there is a world of difference between them.

Unless you know the difference you have not yet begun to live.

People who have tasted real joy are suspicious of pleasure,
because pleasure sometimes can be the death of joy.

Joy consists in having a love affair with life.

It is having a heart full of concern for your companions on the road of life.

It is looking for the happiness that comes in small ways,

realising that in the ordinariness of our lives we find the extraordinary.

It is making the most of the present, enjoying what is at hand right now.

Joy is love bubbling over into life; & surprisingly, it can coexist with pain.

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice!"

Prayer for Peace by Candlelight

*At Christmas we celebrate the birth of the 'Prince of Peace'
while we live in a world that is far from peaceful.*

Join us this week for our Advent Penitential Service
with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.
7.30pm on Wednesday (20th) in Baltinglass & on Friday 22nd in Rathvilly.
Priests available for Confession up to 9pm.

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"



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.

STRATFORD/GRANGECON GAA LOTTO



Winning Numbers

02, 11, 12, 24

No Jackpot Winner



6 Match 3 Winners - €35 each
Margaret O'Neill, Ann Whelan,
Nigel O'Neill, Niamh Bolger,
Elaine McGrath, Phil Quinlan
Sellers Prize: Maurice Mangan
This week's Jackpot: €6,700

Additional Prizes - €50 each

Three extra prizes of €50 weekly up to Christmas.
Tom Whelan, John Timmins, Declan Bollard

BALTINGLASS GAA LOTTO



Winning Numbers

05, 11, 12, 13

No Jackpot Winner



5 Match 3 Winners - €60 each
Deirdre Norton, Joan Sheerin,
Emma Doyle, Kevin Kennedy,
Cecelia Carton.

This week's Jackpot: €8,700.

6 VOUCHER WINNERS

Kevin Hennessy, Miriam Manley,
William Heffernan, Martina Clarke,
Barbara Darcy, Bernadette Kavanagh

The Irish Catholic

Ireland's biggest and best-selling religious newspaper!

ON SALE

in St. Joseph's Church each weekend.

€3

Highly recommended reading for all!

IF YOU TAKE ONE PLEASE PUT MONEY IN BOX!



JACKPOT €1000

Mondays at 8pm in Fatima Hall

Thanks to everyone for their support.

LINK PEOPLE



Please call to the Parish Office to collect the annual parish envelopes which are ready for distribution.

BIGSTONE NS CALENDARS AVAILABLE

€10 per calendar

Please call or text 085 2120952

Email - office@bigstonens.ie

Thank you for your support.



An Advent Tradition The Nativity Scene

In Advent 2019 Pope Francis once more encouraged families to have a nativity scene or crib in the home. He said that it '... helps us to relive the history of what took place in Bethlehem. When, at Christmas, we place the statue of the Infant Jesus in the manger, the nativity scene suddenly comes alive. God appears as a child, for us to take into our arms. Beneath weakness and frailty, he conceals his power that creates and transforms all things.'

DAY CARE BOUTIQUE

Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances, the pop-up shop at Baltinglass Day Care Centre, due to open the 7th December, is now postponed.

As soon as we have a new date we will let everyone know.

DANNY'S CORNER

We are all getting very excited about Christmas now. We would like to give a huge thank you to Garda Adrian Nevin for painting the wonderful display on our entrance doors. It is such a joy to see each time we enter the building. Well done!

PRIEST'S CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

Envelopes are available in your box to enable you to contribute to this collection during Christmas time. You may also do so by using your own envelope or making a payment on-line by using the facility on Baltinglass Parish website.

A Blessing Prayer by the Family Crib

God of all people,
from the very beginning of creation
you have shown us your love:
when our need for a Saviour was great you
sent your Son to be born of the Virgin
Mary. To our lives He brings joy and peace,
justice, mercy, and love.

Lord, bless our family and all who will look
upon this crib in the coming days;
may it remind us of the humble birth of
Jesus, and lift our thoughts to Him,
who is God-with-us, our Emmanuel
and the Saviour of all. Amen.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

CONFIRMATION

Saturday 20th April

St. Joseph's Church, Baltinglass

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Grangecon: Saturday 27th April

Stratford: Saturday 11th May

Baltinglass/Bigstone: Saturday 18th May

RAMPERE RECYCLING CENTRE

CLOSED: 24th to 28th Dec. inclusive

OPEN: Sat 23rd, Fri 29th & Sat 30th Dec
8.30am to 1pm.

Normal hours resume Tuesday 2nd January



"Good education plants seeds when we are young, and these continue to bear fruit throughout life" (#212)