

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
St. Joseph's Church
Sat. 6pm / Sun. 11am
Available on webcam & radio 100.2fm
Grangecon\Stratford
Alternate Sundays 9.30am

NEWSLETTER
Articles for the Newsletter
must be received by
12 noon on Thursdays.
PLEASE NOTE - PARISH OFFICE
IS CLOSED
from Monday 12th February
and will re-open
Monday 19th February at 9.30am.

SUNDAY MASSES
GRANGECON **STRATFORD**
Feb: 18 25
March: 3/17/31 10/24

VISIT BALTINGLASS PARISH WEBSITE
For Weekly Newsletter, Information,
to make a donation etc.
www.baltinglassparish.ie



Kildare & Leighlin Diocesan
Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine
Sunday 2nd June 2024

WE REMEMBER

MONTHS MIND

Tony Duffy, Deerpark

ANNIVERSARIES

Peter Nolan, St Joseph's Road, Blessington
Jim Nolan, the Wood
Thomas Duffy, Parkmore
Marita Kavanagh, Graigue & Bawnogues
Maura Whelan, Ridgeway, Knockananna
Rita Kehoe, Clough
Kate Toomey & deceased members of the
Toomey family, Glen of Imaal
Bridie Dwyer, Gibraltar
Pat Sinnott, 1 Parkmore
Anthony Kearney, Tuckmill
Brigid Doyle, Clough
Eileen Lynch "St. Anne's", Bawnogues
Seán Bookle, Irongrange & deceased members
of the Bookle Family
Patrick Walsh, Mill Street
John Groves, Parkmore
Jack Gorman, Clough
Elizabeth (Lil) Kinsella, Rampere
Seán Doyle, Graney

STRATFORD: 9.30AM

MONTHS MIND

Betty Keane, Ballinatone

ANNIVERSARIES

Joe Burke, Stratford
Noel Brady, Manger
Catherine Moore, Main Street, Stratford
John & Christina Staunton, Stratford

*Rest in
Peace*

BALTINGLASS - BIGSTONE - GRANGECON - STRATFORD

PARISH NEWSLETTER

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 11TH FEBRUARY 2024



If we wish to change the outer aspects of our lives we must first change the inner attitudes of our minds. The miracle of inner change is possible. History and literature are full of examples: Paul on the road to Damascus, Charles Dickens' miser Scrooge, Matt Talbot the alcoholic. Something happened inside each of these, and they became new people. Change requires the substituting of new habits for old ones. It calls for self discipline. You have to command yourself and make yourself do what needs to be done.

The change of heart to which Lent calls us can be accomplished most of all through the power of prayer. 'Lord, each spring you renew the face of the earth. May you also renew each of us, so that we may be able to celebrate Easter in newness of mind and heart.



14TH FEBRUARY

Mass at 10am & 7.30pm in
Baltinglass Church

*Ash Wednesday is a day of fast
& abstinence.*

Loving Jesus,
as I receive on my forehead the
sign of your saving cross You say to me,
'repent and believe in the gospel'.
Walking into Lent my heart is set on you.
May my fasting fill me with hunger for you.
May my prayer draw you deeper into your
presence.
May my acts of charity bring your love to my
home and community.
Lord of life, grant that by turning back
to you in these 40 days I will re-awaken
the joy of my Easter faith;
For you raise me up from fear and despair
and call me to hope and trust
in God who is with me always.
With you I will; arise again. Amen.

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"



MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND

The Marriage Enrichment program that has been transforming marriages in Ireland for over 50 years and in 94 countries around the world. The programme involves a Weekend experience that transforms the way spouses communicate to deepen their love for each other. The experience allows you to create a dialogue with each other and with God, to create a higher and broader understanding of what it means to be married. Takes place in Prosperous, Co Kildare 26th-28th April 2024.

Free Online Reflection & Meditation

Join us for 40 minutes to find healing and hope through the Sunday Gospel. We will do this through input, music, guided prayer etc...to help nourish the soul for the week ahead. Sunday Evenings 6.45pm. Online via Zoom (11th, 18th February) Presented By Martina & The Ruah Team <https://www.ruahrest.com/> Further enquiries & bookings to info@ruahrest.com

DANNY'S CORNER

It was with sadness that we said goodbye to one of our longest serving horses "Bobby". He has been with us for many years and gave many of us the opportunity to enjoy horse riding lessons each week. He was the most gentle and loyal horse and we hope his retirement will be happy. Danny!

STRATFORD/GRANGECON GAA LOTTO



Winning Numbers

08, 15, 18, 28

No Jackpot Winner



4 Match 3 Winners - €50 each

Paul Moore, John Bollard,
Julie Dunne, Sharon Heap

Sellers Prize: Paul Moore

This week's Jackpot: €8,900

BALTINGLASS GAA LOTTO



Winning Numbers

14, 23, 29, 30

No Jackpot Winner



No Match 3 Winners

This week's Jackpot: €10,600



JACKPOT €1000

Mondays at 8pm in Fatima Hall

Thanks to everyone for their support.



BALTINGLASS & DISTRICT ACTIVE RETIREMENT

The following Activities are up and running in the Parish Centre.

Yoga Classes: Commencing Mon 12th Feb 2.30 - 4pm.

Bridge: Weds. 10.30am - 12 noon

Art Classes: Commencing Tues 20th Feb 10.30am - 12 noon.

Bowling: Will resume in a few weeks time in Fatima Hall.

Coffee 11am Fridays of February

Mornings: in Bia Blasta

AGM: Next meeting at end of Feb

Summer Holiday Killarney 27th May for 4 nights at Castlerosse Hotel.

World Day of Prayer

for Survivors & Victims of Sexual Abuse

16 February, the first Friday of Lent

The Day of Prayer is an initiative of Pope Francis and was first marked in Irish dioceses in 2017. Blessed candles will be lit in parishes across the country as a reminder to the faithful of the need for atonement and to symbolise repentance; light in the darkness and hope. The lighting of the 'Candle of Atonement', and the following prayer, are based on the very moving Penitential Rite composed and prayed by Pope Francis at the final Mass of the 9th World Meeting of Families on 26 August 2018 at Phoenix Park, Dublin, when the Holy Father implored the Lord's mercy for the crimes of abuse and asked for forgiveness.

Lord, forgive us our many sins.

We grieve and repent with all our hearts for having offended you, for our great failings and neglect of the young and vulnerable.

We place all of those who have been hurt by the Church in any way into your loving hands and under the protection of Our Blessed Mother.

Lord, bring peace to their broken lives and show us all the way out of darkness and into the light of your Word.

May we as the people of God be more fully human, more fully Christ-like and more fully your people, that we may see the errors of the past and go forward with renewed hope and faith in Christ and in our Church. Amen.



Celebrate God's love this St. Valentine's Day

WWHS Lecture 'The Elmes Letters: Protestant Networks in 1798 Wexford'

West Wicklow Historical Society will host a lecture on Thursday, February 15 at 8 p.m. in the Lalor Centre. The speaker, Ida Milne will deliver a talk on 'The Elmes Letters: Protestant Networks in 1798 Wexford'. It will be based on the family letters recovered from Robinstown House in Co. Wexford dating back to the period of the 1798 rebellion. The letters reflect the life at the time including events such as the Battle of Ross and the infamous Scullabogue burning. The impact of the rebellion on Protestant families in Wexford would no doubt have been similar for families in West Wicklow. Dr. Milne is a native of Ferns. She is a history lecturer at Carlow College.

Admission: members €5; non-members €8

FILL A BAG WEEKEND

In aid of West Wicklow Day Care Centre on Friday 16th/23rd & Saturday 17th/25th Feb.

Drop off your bags at the old ambulance depot at Baltinglass Hospital.

Fri. 9-11am, 3-5.30pm. Sat 10am-2pm

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.

(€3,155 donated in 2023)



Digging Deeper



LENTEN SCRIPTURE SHARING

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