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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

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.

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

### SUNDAY MASSES

GRANGECON STRATFORD

AUGUST: 4/18 11/25  
SEPTEMBER: 1/15/29 8/22

### MONTHS MIND MASS

Cora Brennan, Mill Street  
Hilda Browne, Bawnogues

### ANNIVERSARIES

John & Anna Cashin, Crehelp & Baltinglass  
& their daughters Sarah & Geraldine  
Michael Furlong, Parkmore  
Jack Murphy, Carrigeen  
Thomas Murphy, Carrigeen  
William Kerley, Graney  
Mary T. Quinn, Main Street  
Matthew Dowling, Tuckmill  
Margaret (Maggie) Kenny, Clough  
James Moore, Manger  
Gerard Murphy, Green Lane & Hollywood  
Mary Fogarty, Lathaleer  
George, Teresa and Paddy Prendergast, Kyle  
The Moran Family, Kyle  
Sheila and Jack O'Neill, Tuckmill  
Ann (Nan) Barry, 5 Parkmore

*Rest in  
Peace*

### Stratford 9.30am

William (Bill) Byrne, Stratford  
James Moore, Manger

### MASSES THIS WEEK

10am Monday, Tuesday and Friday

No 10am Mass on Wednesday and Thursday

### PLEASE NOTE SUNDAY 4TH AUGUST

NO 11AM MASS NEXT SUNDAY  
MASS IN GRANGECON AT 9.30AM  
& IN BALTINGLASS CEMETERY AT 3PM

BALTINGLASS - BIGSTONE - GRANGECON - STRATFORD

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 28TH JULY 2024

Extracts from the Message of Pope Francis for the Fourth World Day of Grandparents & the Elderly

*"Do not cast me off in my old age" (Ps 71:9)*



Dear brothers and sisters, God never abandons his children, never. Even when our age advances and our powers decline, when our hair grows white and our role in society lessens, when our lives become less productive and can risk appearing useless. God does not regard appearances (cf. 1 Sam 16:7); he does not disdain to choose those who, to many people, may seem irrelevant. God discards no stone; indeed, the "oldest" are the firm foundation on which "new" stones can rest, in order to join in erecting a spiritual edifice (cf. 1 Peter 2:5).....

.....Then too nowadays many women and men seek personal fulfilment in a life as independent as possible and detached from other people. Group memberships are in crisis and individualism is celebrated: the passage from "us" to "me" is one of the most evident signs of our times. The family, which is the first and most radical argument against the notion that we can save ourselves by ourselves, has been one of the victims of this individualistic culture. Yet once we grow old and our powers begin to decline, the illusion of individualism, that we need no one and can live without social bonds, is revealed for what it is. Indeed, we find ourselves needing everything, but at a point in life when we are alone, no longer with others to help, with no one whom we can count on. It is a grim

.....Solitude and abandonment have become recurrent elements in today's social landscape. They have multiple roots. In some cases, they are the result of calculated exclusion, a sort of deplorable "social conspiracy"; in others, tragically, a matter of an individual's personal decision. In still other cases, the elderly submit to this reality, pretending that it is their free choice. Increasingly, we have lost "the taste of fraternity" (Fratelli Tutti, 33); we find it difficult even to think of an alternative.....

*On this Fourth World Day devoted to them, let us show our tender love for grandparents and the elderly members of our families. Let us spend time with those who are disheartened and no longer hope in the possibility of a different future. In place of the self-centered attitude that leads to loneliness and abandonment, let us instead show the open heart and the joyful face of men and women who have the courage to say "I will not abandon you", and to set out on a different path.*

To all of you, dear grandparents and elderly persons, and to all those who are close to you I send my blessing, accompanied by my prayers. And I ask you, please, not to forget to pray for me.

### **RADIO MARIA IRELAND**

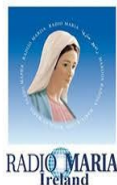
Saorview - Channel 210

Stream on [www.radiomaria.ie](http://www.radiomaria.ie)

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### **MASS READERS**

We would like to add to our current list of readers for all weekend Masses especially Saturdays 6pm. As a Minister of the Word you are called on to proclaim God's Word to His people. Please take time to give this invitation some thought. If you decide to volunteer please contact the Parish Office or Fr. Ger.



### **CEMETERY MASSES 2024**

**Baltinglass Cemetery**

Sunday 4th August 3pm

**Grotto/Nuns' Cemetery**

Thursday 15th August 11am

### **UPKEEP OF CEMETERY**

People are encouraged to tend to their graves in preparation for these Masses. We appreciate the work of CE participants. It is important that everyone makes an effort at having the cemetery looking good and respectful of our deceased.

### **BALTINGLASS COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP**

It is with regret that we announce the winding up of the group which will result in the closure of the Community Shop on Main Street at the end of August. Both the Tea Rooms and the Shop have provided a valuable service to the community over the years.

We thank all who have supported both services, those who gave of their time as volunteers, all Tús and CE workers.

### **STRATFORD/GRANGECON GAA LOTTO**



**Winning Numbers**

09, 12, 15, 27

**No Jackpot Winner**



**2 Match 3 Winners**

Tracy Norton, Rory Cassells

**Seller's Prize:** Maurice Mangan

**This week's Jackpot:** €4,900

### **BALTINGLASS GAA LOTTO**



**Winning Numbers**

04, 11, 23, 27

**No Jackpot Winner**



**2 Match 3 Winners - €150 each**

Ella Parke, Mick Kehoe

**This week's Jackpot:** €15,400

### **WEST WICKLOW CAR CLASSIC RUN**



The annual classic car and motorcycle run takes place on **Sunday August 11th** in Baltinglass. Proceeds from the event will go to support West Wicklow Daycare Service and Réalta unit for children on the ASD spectrum in Scoil Naomh Íosaf. Registration will be open from 11am in Germaine's Inis Fáil. Entry costs just €20 and includes a meal for the driver, entry in free drivers draw, goodie bag and souvenir gift. Additional meals for passengers & children may be purchased at registration. All types of classic cars, motorcycles and light commercials as well as sports or interesting vehicles are welcome as are modern classics. The event begins with a static display of vehicles on the streets of Baltinglass from 11am followed by a road run on a loop of local roads which gets under way at 2pm before returning to Germaine's for meal, prize giving, raffle etc.

### **Prayer for the Fourth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**

Lord, faithful God, You who created us in Your image, You who never leave us alone and who accompanies us through every season of life, do not abandon us, take care of us, and grant us, once again, the ability to discover ourselves and recognise that we are Your children. Renew our hearts with your Word and do not allow anyone to be cast aside. May your Spirit of love fill us with Your tenderness and teach us to say: "I will not abandon you!" to those we meet on our journey.



With the help of your beloved Son, may we not lose the taste for fraternity and may we not conform to the sadness of loneliness.

Help us to look to the future with renewed hope, and make the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly a day without loneliness, and a day abundant with the first-fruits of Your peace. Amen.

### **Athy Further Education and Training Courses**

Full-time and Part-time places available. Social Studies, Young People and Society, Healthcare, Business Studies, Bookkeeping, Marketing Practice & Early Learning & Care. All courses are free to eligible students. Training allowance available for full-time students who are in receipt of Jobseekers Payments. For information contact programme co-ordinator: Una Burke, Phone: 059 8632044 Ext 2 or 087 9787727.

### **ASKEA PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES**

Lourdes takes place 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> August

Spiritual Director Fr Tom Little PP.

Bishop Denis Nulty will be travelling also with this pilgrimage.

€965 p/p sharing a twin/double room.

Contact Tully's Travel, Carlow 059 913 6100.

### **SUMMER COLLECTION**

For support of priests and supply priests in our parish. Contributions may be made at this time.

**ENVELOPES IN YOUR BOX FOR THIS**

### **THIS WEEK IN THE LIBRARY**

**Tues 30th July:** Crafting with Olha (9-12 yr olds) 3.30-4.30pm (*Booking Essential. Parent/Carer must remain in the Library*)

**Fri 2nd August:** Crafting with Olha (Adults) Embroidery 3-5pm (*Booking Essential*)

These are free events. Please book at the Library 059 648 2300 or [baltinglasslib@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:baltinglasslib@wicklowcoco.ie)

### **DANNY'S CORNER**

Just a reminder about the "Tracks" event which is taking place on Sunday 4th from 1.30 - 5pm in the Lalor Centre. This is a once off unique activity which is not to be missed.

### **BALTINGLASS WELCOMES**

Just to let you know that the family we brought from the Lebanon in April 2022 are now settled happily in Baltinglass in good accommodation and are enjoying being part of this welcoming community. The youngest boy who is now 14 is doing very well in school. He has just completed his first year in Scoil Chonglais, is an enthusiastic member of the local GAA club & likes playing soccer for the school team. Of the two older boys Mohammad who is 20 is enrolled in the Education and Training Centre in Blessington and is doing well there. Hussein who is 24 has already found some work and is continuing to improve his English. Both parents are learning English in the adult education centre. All of this success is due to the exceptional generosity of this very special community and myself and the team wish to express our deep gratitude for the great support we received in engaging with this project. We have now completed our two year commitment and are delighted to see how the family are now flourishing independently in our town.