



*We wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and we take this opportunity of thanking you all for your co-operation and support during the year. May good health and happiness be with you*

**Sat 22nd Ballon 6.00pm** Gerald & Ellen Nolan, Connaberry  
**Sun 23rd 10.30am Rathoe** Seamus Byrne, Killanora, Months Mind  
 Mary & Patrick Aughney, Castlemore

**Sun 23rd 11.30am Ballon**

**Christmas Masses**



**Vigil Mass Ballon 6.00pm**  
**Vigil Mass Rathoe 8.00pm**

**Christmas Day Masses**

**Rathoe 10.30am**  
**Ballon 11.30am**

Wed 26th Rathoe 10.00am. Mass/Prayers  
 Thurs 27th Ballon 10.00am  
 Fri 28th **Ballon** 7.30pm Michael & Catherine McGrath, Maple Lawn

**Sat 29th Ballon 6.00pm** Michael Canavan, Church St. Ballon

**Sun 30th 10.30am Rathoe** Nancy Lawler, Ballykealy

**Sun 30th 11.30am Ballon**

Mon 31st Dec 7.30pm Ballon  
 Wed 2nd Jan 10.00am Rathoe  
 Thurs 3rd 10.00am Ballon  
 Fri 4th Rathoe 7.30pm

**Collections 16th Dec:** Offertory €565.80  
 Weekly Envelopes : €1094.00 *Thank you for your generosity to the collections*

**Christmas Collection for the Priests of the Parish will be taken up over the next few weeks. Spare envelopes in church porches.**

*We all know that you cant take it with you, so if you put it in the collection plate I will see that it is sent on ahead!!!*

**Rathoe Church Flowers:** collection Rathoe last Sunday raised €292.72 for the church flowers. Thank you for your generosity

**Ballon N.S. K.H.A. Choir** will sing before 6pm Mass in Ballon on Christmas Eve, all proceeds will be divide between our local St. Vincent de Paul, St Clare's Hospitality Centre, Graiguecullen, EIST Centre Carlow & Kenya Mission. Your generous support would be appreciated.

**Society of St Vincent De Paul :** 2k and 5k run jog walk St Stephens Day 26<sup>th</sup> Dec Location Brother Leo Park Tullow 10am to 1pm. Donations gratefully received. All proceeds spent locally.

**Nollaig Shona:** Siopa Glas will open again on 8th January 2019 at 10am. Please do not leave any items outside the shop during the holidays. Thanks for all the support to our community enterprise. Special thanks to our wonderful volunteers.

**Ballon-Rathoe Parish Office**

**The Old School, Ballon. Phone No: 087 421 3030**

Email: ballonrathoe-parish@gmail.com

Open Tues, Wed & Thurs 10am -1pm

Items for the newsletter must be in by 5 pm each Wed, they can be phoned in, emailed or put through the letter box.

**Fr. Jim O'Connell 086 810 2675 / 059-9180641**

Fr. E. Whelan 059-9159329

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**Ballon GFC Lotto.** No Winner. No's 10---22---29---30.

Lucky Dip Winners €25 each.: Fr. O'Connell, Ballon, Seamus Quirke, Fighting Cocks, Jennifer Brazil, The Oaks, Diarmuid Nolan, Connaberry. Christmas Meat Voucher: Mary Byrne, Connaberry. **Next weeks Jackpot €1,200.** Next Draw. Mon 7th Jan 2019 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Tks €2.

**Rathoe Song & Story:** The December session will be held in Rathoe Hall on **Thurs 28th Dec** at 8pm. Admission free. Light refreshments served.

**Burrin Celtic Lotto: No's 05---11---20---23** no winner  
 €100--Aine O'Brien, Kilgrancy, Kilbride: €20-Ned Kelly, c/o Lilly Brenan: €20---Sasha & Amelia O'Leary, c/o P.J O'Leary: €20-Margaret Canavan, Killane, Ballon . €20 Ann Donohoe, Rathoe, Jackpot next week €6,200. We wish everyone a Happy Christmas.  
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**Cuchulainn Rounders:** Winner of this weeks Split the Pot draw was Jamie Thorpe winning €96. Next weeks draw will take place in Joe Doyles Pub on 1st January 2019!! Get your envelope in for a good start to the Year .Envelopes now on sale, €2 in McAsseys Shop, Siopa Glas, Joe Doyle's & Kavanagh's Pub. We would like to thank everyone who supported the club during the year to make this draw so successful. *Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas & Health and Happiness for the New Year.*

**TURKEY TROT - ST STEPHENS DAY** The annual Ballon GFC Turkey Trot when everyone can at least attempt to shed some of the excesses of the big day before, will kick off at 11.30am from the clubhouse on St Stephen's Day. Registration at €10 for adults/€5 for u-14's but family rates as well, from 11 o'clock. Participants can run, jog, walk or crawl, whatever takes your fancy. All welcome and bring the buggy, pram, dog or pet elephant if you wish. Don't forget to wear your Santa outfit, jumper or hat as well. Refreshments for all afterwards.

**Community Magazine Connected** available in all local shops for €5. Ideal Christmas present. Congratulations to Breeda & Fidelma. This is the creation by Breeda McDonald and Fidelma Joyce and is a mirror of community activism reflecting the achievements of clubs, groups and individuals. There are 35 articles covering many aspects of the community bound into a booklet of high quality and readability.

I'm giving my kids some very unusual present this Christmas. Batteries, toys not included

