

R.I.P.: Pray for Austin Donohue, Kilcoole, Rathoe who died during the week.

Sat 9th 6.00pm Ballon	Sean McCourt, Ballon, Months Mind Patrick & Josephine Kealy, Carrigslaney Pat O'Toole, Kilbride
Sun 10th 10.30am Rathoe	Breda Esmonde, Ballintranee
Sun 10th 11.30am Ballon	Patrick & Mary Lalor & their daughter Marie, Ballykealy.

Mon 11th 7.30pm Ballon

Tues 12th 7.00pm **First Confessions Rathoe**

Wed 13th 10.00am Rathoe

Wed 13th 7.30 pm **First Confessions Ballon**

Thurs 14th 10.00am Ballon

Fri. 15th 7.30pm Rathoe Willie O'Reilly, Rathoe

St. Patrick's Day

Vigil 16th 6.00pm Ballon

Sun 17th 10.30am Rathoe

Sun 17th 11.30am Ballon

Collections 3rd March: Offertory €639.50. Weekly Envelopes: €498.00. *Thank you for your generosity to the collections.*

I will hold Maya in my heart.

A brave 10 year old who is living in one of Lebanon's refugee camps, after her devastated family fled their home to escape the Syrian War. This Lent please help Maya, and **let your love conquer fear.**

Your kind donation to Trócaire this Lent helps all the children and families we work with work while. Thank you so much for holding them in your heart.

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**Lent is a time that we often associate with giving up something.**

**Day 5:** Gather up some unused clothes and drop them to a clothes bank

**Day 6:** Thank your teacher for a topic you enjoy

**Day 7:** Walk your dog/family member's dog

**Day 8:** Visit/phone a Grandparent/Uncle or Aunt

**Day 9:** Read a book to a younger sibling/cousin

**Day 10:** Make a family member a cup of tea/coffee without asking them.

**Day 11:** Make breakfast in bed for a family member.

**Cuchulainn Rounders** . U13 Boys & Girls Rounders training every Tuesday 7.00-8.00pm in Ballon Hall. Please bring €2 to cover hall costs. All kids must be registered in order to train. Anyone who wishes to register for 2019 season can contact Vanessa Dowling on 087 6973498. Winner of this weeks Split The Pot was Jimmy/Molly Maher winning €85 - envelope sold by Joe Doyle. Draw next Tuesday 12th March and also extra prize of Voucher for Family if 4 to Lullymore Heritage & Discovery Park. Envelopes on sale in McAsseys Shop, Siopa Glas, Joe Doyles Pub & Kavanaghs Bar.

**Rathoe Training Hub.** : Manual Handling: 28th March 6pm - 9pm. €40 (discount for groups of two or more) Perfect Hair at Home: 3rd April for 6 weeks €60 (Learn how to do your own upstyle, Curls and blow dry with Salon results) Interior Design classes starting 19th of March, 7pm to 9pm for six weeks. €50 for the six week course Phone 0599148879 or email: info@rathoecommunitychildcare.com or like us on facebook

**Burrin Celtic Lotto:** No's 04---08---12---18. no winner. Lucky Dip: €100: Jim & Lily Brennan. €20 -John Dowling, Ballon Hill : €20- Lucky Two, C/o Anne Connors: €20: Seamus & Elaine Lalor, C/o Padraic Next Wk's Jackpot: €6,650. Draw every Tues @ 8.30pm.

## 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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**Shrines of France Pilgrimage 6th-13th August 2019.** Cost €949 per person. Includes flights, travel insurance airline taxes. Visiting Lourdes 3 nights, 1night in each of the following: Rocamadour, Nevers, Paris, & Lisieux. Full religious programme organised by Joe Walsh Tours and led by Spiritual Director. A non refundable deposit of €200 is required when booking. A detailed itinerary is available from the Parish Office or Joe Walsh Tours.

**St Patrick's Day Muckfest** Prepare to get wet and dirty and love it at the St Patrick's Day Lepracaun Muckfest in Morris Park. All are welcome, male and female, young and old. Kicking off at 11am with registration from 10.30. Adults €10, U-14's €5. Showers will be available in the clubhouse afterwards. Great chance to let your hair down and become a child again for an hour or two. Don't miss the crack.

**THE CHOIR OF LIFE** We're establishing a choir to sing for charitable causes. Would you like to join? Open to all men and women who are interested in singing as part of a group. You don't have to be able to sing perfectly or read music. And there are no auditions! And it's good fun. Just turn up at one of our regular rehearsals or one of our OPEN Evenings. We hope to sing a broad selection of songs from the Beatles, Billy Joel, Simon & Garfunkel, and many more. We'd love you to come along and 'Find your Voice' - and join the fun! - and contribute to the charitable causes we hope to help. OPEN REHEARSAL EVENINGS are on Tuesdays March 5, 12, 19 from 8 to 9pm in Ballon Church.

**Seachtain na Gaeilge - Caint, Comhrá agus Scannáin.** Every Wed at 10.30am Glór Cheatharlach host an Irish conversation gathering for adults. For Seachtain na Gaeilge they will be showing a special bi-lingual screening of short Irish/English language films @10.30 in Carlow County Museum. All levels of Irish are welcome.

**Ballon GFC Lotto.** No Winner. No's: 06- 20 -26 - 30. Lucky Dip Winners: Seamus Lawler, c/o Teresa Maher, Brendan Barry, Maple Lawn, Stephen O'Gorman, Dublin, Karl Nolan, Conaberry. Next week's Jackpot €1,650. Next Draw Mon 11th March 2019 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Tks €2

**All Saints Aghade,** A Lenten Service of the Word in preparation for Holy Week and Easter Lent 3. Sun 24th March 2019 at 7.00pm.

Featuring Graigueanagh Brass Band, The Four Hims, The Adelaides, The Parish Choir of St. Peter & Paul's, Church Choir, Ballon

### Digging Deeper

As we gather across the diocese to celebrate the First Sunday of Lent, some of us have the very fresh memory of coming to church last Wednesday and being marked with ashes on our forehead. As we left the church and continued about our daily business, this very visible sign was saying something to those we met - about ourselves - about the community of faith of which we are a part and - about the journey we, together, are setting out on. The journey of Lent to Easter is about our renewal, refreshment and healing through God's love and mercy. This is our annual retreat, our annual turning back to God; it is a powerful reminder to us that change can happen, fresh starts can be made, our friendship with God and, in turn, our family and the world, can be deepened and enriched.

**Smarter than Einstein:** At the conclusion of the Church service, the worshipers filed out of the sanctuary to greet the Priest As one of them left, he shook the Priest's hand, thanked him for the sermon and said, "Thanks for the message, Father. You know, you must be smarter than Einstein." Beaming with pride, the Priest said, "Thank you, brother, but why do you think so? The man replied, "Well, Father, they say that Einstein was so smart that only ten people in the entire world could understand him. But Father, no one can understand you!"