

R.I.P: Breda Lawlor, Cork wife of James Lawlor, The Lodge, Ballykealy

Sat 11th 6.00pm Ballon	
Sun 12th 10.30am Rathoe	Thomas & Kathleen O'Halloran, Grangeford
Sun 12th 11.30am Ballon	
Mon 13th Ballon 7.30pm	
Wed 15th 10.00am Rathoe	
Thurs 16th 10.00am Ballon	
Fri 17th 7.30pm Rathoe	Ted Cole & P.J. Cole, Rathrush
Sat 18th 11.am Rathoe	First Holy Communion
Sat 18th 6.00pm Ballon	George Crawford, Forge Meadow
Sun 19th 10.30am Rathoe	David Kennedy, Snr. Gilbertstown Pat Bermingham Jr, Ballynunnery Patrick & Mary Kate Bermingham, Bendenstown
Sun 19th 11.30am Ballon	John Gaffney, Ballykeenan, M.M.
Mass has been offered privately for Lar, Kathleen & Patrick O'Toole.	

Thanks to all who contributed to the Easter Collection. Envelopes still available in the back of the church if you wish to contribute.

Collections : Offertory €789.65. Weekly Envelopes €904.80
Thank you for your continued support **Trocaire to date €3873.40**

Come and See A come and see weekend will take place on the 18th/19th May in Maynooth College for those who are considering answering a call to the priesthood. For further information please email info@vocations.ie

It's 1st Communion time again, and a great time to have that special family photograph taken. Pat Bermingham will be taking family photographs in Rathoe Hall on May 18th for First Communion in Rathoe. There are special photo packages for these occasions, so please book in advance. Mobile 087/2455992.

Ballon GFC Lotto. No Winner. No's 04- 13 -15 - 17. Match 3 Winners. Liam Buggy, Richard Fitzgerald, Luran Byrne, P.J. Lawler. Next week's Jackpot €2,100. Next Draw. Mon 13th May 2019 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Tickets €2.

Ballon Business & Training Service, The Old School. **New Courses**
Beginners Digital Photography 5th & 6th June 7-9.30pm €60.
Beyond Beginners Digital Photography Workshop 12th & 13th June 7pm - 9.30pm €60. To book your place Phone: 059-915944

Fundraiser in aid of Carlow Kilkenny Homecare Team. Two Day Rummage Sale Of interest to all ages Thursday May 16th & Friday May 17th, 2019 from 10am-5pm Men's and Ladies - Clothes Handbags/ Jewellery/Shoes/ Bric-a-Brac, Books, Toys, Etc. at Unit beside Paul White's Pharmacy, Tullow Street, Carlow Donations can be left into premises on Wed May 15th from 2-5pm. Info: Kathleen at 0857210235

'2019 National Ploughing Championships, 17th - 19th Sept. You are invited to attend a Public Meeting on Thursday 16th May at 8.30pm in the former Leinster Hills Golf Club to discuss matters relating to the 2019 event.'

Carlow Choral Society - Summer Concert - Haydn & Mozart
Carlow Choral Society presents its Summer Concert in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow, on Saturday May 18th at 8.00pm. Tickets are €20.00 and the concert is free for accompanied children. Tickets are available www.carlowchoralsociety.net and from choir members. For further information contact: Miriam Kelly, Secretary at 087-9422608 or carlowchoralsociety@gmail.com.

Ballon-Rathoe Parish Office

The Old School, Ballon

Phone No: 087 421 3030

Email: ballonrathoeparish@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

ANNUAL PARISH DRAW

Instead of Silver Circle this year we are holding an once off Draw. Tickets €20. **Total Prize Fund €3000.** Prizes: 1st €1000, 2nd & 3rd.€500. 4th, 5th & 6th €200. 7th €150, 8th €100, 9th & 10th €50, 11th & 12th €25. Tickets on sale from Parish Council members, McAssey's & Siopa Glas, Connors Shop, Rathoe & Parish Office. Draw will be held on Tues 28th May in Rathoe Hall 8.30pm.

Rathoe Annual Tea Party on Sunday 19th May 2019 in Rathoe Hall at 5pm. Tickets €10 each. Proceeds in aid of Car Park.

RATHOE COMMUNITY CHILDCARE: FULL DAY SUMMER CAMP, 9am - 4.30pm. Dates: 1st to 5th July and 8th to 12th July. €30 per day. Reduced rates for siblings and for those in receipt of social welfare and/or medical card. Arts & crafts, pizza making, water fights, table quiz, movies, soccer, basketball, baking etc. Places limited, call 059-9148879 or email: info@rathoecommunitychildcare.com

CHILDMINDER available to care for child/children in the Kilbride area. Reference available. Ph: 087-6549054.

R.I.P: Jean Vanier.

L'Arche Community north-east of Paris where, 55 years ago, Mr Vanier bought a run-down cottage and began living with two adult male inmates who he had rescued from an overcrowded psychiatric hospital in the French capital. One, Raphael Simi only knew 20 words and didn't speak very much," he recalled later. "Whereas (the other), Philippe Seux, spoke too much. The great thing about people with intellectual disabilities is that they're not people who discuss philosophy ... What they want is fun and laughter, to do things..."

The fourth son of Georges, a Canadian diplomat, and Pauline a mother-of-five and Red Cross volunteer, he was born in Geneva where his father was posted. Both parents were deeply committed Catholics.

Reflecting later on his early highly successful wartime naval service, he said his "adolescent years were taken up in the world of efficiency, controlling and commanding others. I was a technician of destruction."

"I am struck by how sharing our weakness and difficulties is more nourishing to others than sharing our qualities and successes."

The young priest was teaching the 23rd Psalm to school children. He told them that they were sheep who needed guidance. Then the priest asked, "If you are the sheep, then who is the shepherd?"-- obviously indicating himself. A silence of a few seconds followed. Then a young boy said, "Jesus. Jesus is the Shepherd." The young priest, obviously caught by surprise, said to the boy, "Well then, who am I?" The boy frowned thoughtfully and then said, "I guess you must be a sheep dog."

Let us become good shepherds: Everyone who is entrusted with the care of others is a shepherd. Hence pastors, parents, teachers, doctors, nurses, government officials, etc. are all shepherds. We become good shepherds by loving those entrusted to us, praying for them, spending our time and talents for their welfare, and guarding them from physical and spiritual dangers.