

## Ballon Mass

will be available on our webcam: [mcnmedia.ballon](http://mcnmedia.ballon).

Also available on radio 107.6FM

Both churches will remain open for private prayer

### Second Sunday of Christmas

Sat 2nd Ballon 6.00pm	Michael Canavan, Church St., Ballon. Tommy O'Brien, Main St., Ballon also Tom Doyle, Ballon formally, Camolin, Wexford.
Sun 3rd Ballon 11.30am	John McDonald, Graiguealug, his parents Jack & Elizabeth McDonald and his sister May. Lance Dowling, Castlemore

Mon 4th Ballon 7.00pm

Tues 5th Ballon 10.00am

Wed 6th Ballon 7.00pm

### The Epiphany of the Lord

Thurs 7th Ballon 10.00am

Fri 8th Ballon 7.00pm

### The Baptism of Our Lord

Sat 9th Ballon 6.00pm

Sun 10th Ballon 11.30am

**Collections 24th & 25th Dec** Offertory:€1346.00. Envelopes €1446.00.

**Thanks** to all the people who gave so generously to the Christmas collections and St. Vincent de Paul, to our two sacristans, the people who helped sanitise the churches, choirs and musicians, readers, Eucharistic Ministers, money counters and you our parishioners

#### COVID-19 Diocesan Update:

With the Government announcement of 22 December 2020 that Ireland is moving to Level 5 restrictions, the following points apply to religious services:

#### Religious Services

- Christmas religious services may take place up to and including the 25th December 2020
  - With effect from the 26th December 2020 Religious services will move online
  - Places of worship are to remain open for private prayer
- Funerals
- With effect from the 24th December 2020 up to 10 mourners can attend

#### Weddings

- Up to and including 2nd January 2021, up to 25 guests can attend a wedding ceremony and reception, whether indoors or outdoors
- With effect from 3 January 2021, up to 6 guests are permitted to attend a wedding ceremony and reception, whether indoors or outdoors

We are told these measures will be reviewed on the 12th January 2021.

Christmas is very different this year and the onus of personal responsibility is upon us all. I thank you hugely for the mammoth effort across all our parishes to make Christmas Masses special in our Diocese.

I ask you to remember each other in prayer at this time.

Renewed blessing & thanks, +Denis

**HAPPY NEW YEAR:** "May the faith in God be with you this year, may the peace of God surround you, and may you be blessed each day!"

## Ballon-Rathoe Parish Office

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

Email: [ballonrathoeparish@gmail.com](mailto: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/ 059-910 7096

**Cuchulainn Rounders:** Congratulations to Leah Moloney winning €57 & Fintan Kelly winning the New Years Eve Hamper in this weeks Split the Pot Draw. Due to new Covid-19 restrictions we will be postponing the draw until restrictions are lifted. Thank you to everyone for their support to date & keep an eye on our page for further updates.

**2020 Community Magazine "CONNECTED"** is now available in Michael McAssey's, Centra, Nolan's, Shop & Deli, Joe O'Toole's, Tullow, Anne Connors, Rathoe and from Breeda McDonald, Graiguealug for €5. Ideal Christmas present. Congratulations to Breeda McDonald & Fidelma Joyce on another wonderful magazine. It has articles covering many aspects of the community bound into a booklet of high standard.

**Ballon Business & Training Service: 059-9159447**

**Payroll** - starting 14th January 2021 7-10pm for 10 weeks

cost is €300. **Book-keeping** - starting 15th January 2021 for 10 weeks cost is €300 [ballonbts@gmail.com](mailto:ballonbts@gmail.com)

## An End... and a Beginning

Dear Jesus, I have done so little for you in the past year. I do not know what you have in store for me for this year, yet I accept it with its joys, sacrifices, sorrow, pain, and even death, - joyfully- for it is your choice. Bless me and my family, those with whom I come into contact—especially those who dislike me. They have good reasons. Bless and help the dying, the poor, the sick I deal with. Give the gift of holiness to all the priests I know and also the religious. Bless all those who love me and help me. Give strength, health and wisdom to the pope and bishops. Bless this house and all who are in it. Let me always remember that all that I am, all that I have are yours. *Servant of God Catherine de Hueck Doherty. Born in Russia and was the foundress of Madonna House in Combermere, Canada.*



*On the way to Mass a mother asked her children why is it necessary to be quiet in church, little Mary said because people are sleeping.*