

R.I.P: **Manus Ward**, Knockdoorish, Kilbride
R.I.P: **Michael (Mick) Nolan**, Bennekerry

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 14th Ballon 6.00pm	Paddy Grant, Ballymogue M.M. Ellen & Gerard Nolan, Connaberry
Sun 15th Rathoe 10.00am	Sabina Reddy, Kyleballyhue. M.M. Mary Carroll, & Family, Rathoe Mary Farrell, Dick Murphy & Jack Hutton
Sun 15th Ballon 11.30am	Kathleen Donoghue, Ballinadrum
Tues 17th Ballon 7.30pm	
Wed 18th Rathoe 10.00am	
Thurs 19th Ballon 10.00am	
Fri 20th Rathoe 7.30pm	
Sat 21st Ballon 6.00pm	Mary Maher, Killane & deceased the members of Maher Family. Willie Peters, Ballykealy & Catherine & Thomas Townsend, Castlegrace.
Sun 22nd Rathoe 10.00am	Clare Kelly, Rathrush
Sun 22nd Ballon 11.30am	Tess, Wish & Breda Blanche, Ballinadrum.

8/1/2023: Offertory € 705. 15. Envelopes €724.00 (incl online donations). Thanks to everyone for your continued generosity.

Burrin Celtic Lotto: No's 11---13---15---28. No Winner. Lucky Dip: €100.: Cillian Byrne, c/o Timmy Byrne: €20 Grace Nolan, c/o Josie Nolan. €20 bridget O'Reilly, Rathrush: €20: Mairead Nolan, c/o Michael McAssey Next wk's Jackpot: €3,800. Draw every Tues night at 8.30pm.

Graiguacullen Bingo on Tuesday 17th January. St.Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm. **OVER €10,000 IN PRIZEMONEY** Jackpot on 50 numbers €5380 Double number €1510 Lotto €750. Great prizes, bring a friend.

In Memory

Buried immediately behind the school grounds, in what was known as the "Old Churchyard", are the remains of many children of this parish, the 'unbaptised'. Children were buried there into the 1930's, a shameful chapter in our history when they and others could not be buried with their families.



May their souls find peace.

Their parents chose the protection of a place that had been a holy site for thousands of years. Alongside the enclosure was the 'Druid Altar' a rare neolithic cromlech or passage grave possibly pre-dating dolmens. Could this 'bullán' indented stone be the origin of Ballon's name? See www.BallonRemembrance.ie for more information.

The stone will be blessed on Ash Wednesday 22nd February at 7.30pm.

2022 Community Magazine "CONNECTED" is now available in Michael McAssey's, Centra, Nolan's, and all shops in Ballon, Joe O'Toole's, & Conor Wards, Tullow, outside Rathoe Church on Sunday, Anne Connors, Rathoe, and from Breda McDonald, Graiguenaspodogue. for €5. Ideal Christmas present.

Ballon GFC Lotto. No Winner. No's 16- 27 -28 - 30. Lucky Dip Winners €25 each: Darren Maher, Killane, Pauline Doyle, Rathoe, Sharon B, L- ragh Beg, Jennifer Brazil, The Oaks. **Next weeks Jackpot €3,050.** Next Draw. Mon 16th Jan 2023 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Tickets €2. Play on line <https://bit.ly/3FuNdhZ>

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/ 059-910 7096

Ballon Business & Training Service, The Old School, Ballon
Tel: 059-915-9447 Mob: 085-876-4743. ballonbts@gmail.com
www.ballonbts.com

CRAFT/HOBBY COURSES:

Sewing Workshop. Mon 16th Jan, 9.30am - 12.30pm x 4 weeks

Art. Mon 16th Jan, 2pm - 4pm x 6 weeks

Pilates. Mon 16th Jan, 6.15pm - 7.15pm x 6 weeks

History. Wed 18th Jan, 10am - 12.30pm x 5 weeks

Creative Writing. Fri 20th Jan, 2pm - 4pm x 6 weeks

CERTIFIED COURSES

QQI Level 5 Book-keeping. Mon 16th Jan, 7pm - 10pm x 10 weeks

QQI Level 5 Payroll. Thurs 19th Jan, 7pm - 10pm x 10 weeks

Manual Handling Training. Wed 1st Feb, 2pm & 6pm x 2.5hours

KIDS WORKSHOPS. Mindfulness and Yoga for Kids. Jan 28th, Feb 4th, 11th & 25th 10.30am - 12pm Call/text to book 087 9647251

Bricks4Kidz .Feb 11th, 18th, 25th, Mar 4th & 11th, 2pm - 4pm
Call/text to book 085 1442783

Pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome Visiting the Tombs of St Francis, St Clare and Blessed Carlo Acutis; a guided tour of the St Peters Basilica and attendance a General Papal Audience. Travelling dates 25th - 31st May 2023, cost €1235 pps, single supplement €270. Spiritual directors Fr Liam Merrigan & Fr John McEvoy. For further details contact Monasterevin Parish 045-525346, Rathvilly Parish 059-9161114 or visit www.marian.ie

'Aging with Grace' day on Saturday 18th February 2023 10am - 4.40pm
A retreat day for people of any age committed to living their lives one day at a time, accepting themselves as they are and cultivating a light heart, a joyful spirit and a peaceful mind. Facilitated by Ms Maria Garvey. Cost: €60 (includes Lunch and Tea/Coffee break) For further information/ bookings, please contact: The Secretary on 057-8626153 or email secretary@mountstannes.com

CHESS: Community Games Chess will be held in Rathoe Hall starting on Saturday 21st January from 7pm-8pm.

The Chess competition is for girls and boys U/11, U/13 & U/16 years

Christmas is over.

The days after St. Stephen's Day (December 27) I wished a lady "a happy Christmas" as she left Mass. She stopped and stared at me with a puzzled look and then said "Don't you know Christmas is over". I felt like singing Bing Crosby's song, "What a blessed place the world would be if it had that Christmas feeling all year". But of course, I didn't. But surely the Christmas feeling is more than just a feeling; it is the Christian truth that God is with us always. No matter what the new year throws at us we have one great strength knowing that in all circumstances. "Emmanuel, God is-with-us" So, no! Christmas isn't over. Fr. John Harris OP.

If I took out life insurance on my husband and he dies tomorrow. What will I get?

At least ten years.

You're looking nicer than usual, but that's so easy for you!!!!

Director of Safeguarding in Diocese is Kathleen Sherry, P:085 8021633. Email: safeguarding@kandle.ie. By mail: Bishops House, Old Dublin Road, Carlow. If you have any queries regarding safeguarding of children or of vulnerable adults please do not hesitate to contact