

### Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Catholic Schools Week

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 Maurice Dowling, Kellistown
Sun 22nd Ballon 11.30am	Tess, Wish & Breda Blanche, Ballinadrum.
Tues 24th Ballon 7.30pm	
<b>Wed 25th Rathoe 11.30am</b>	<b>Grandparents Mass with school</b>
<b>Thurs 26th Ballon 10.00am</b>	<b>Grandparents Mass with school</b>
Fri 27th Rathoe 7.30pm	Emily (Babs) Cummins, Kilnock Eddie & Dilly O'Byrne, Rathoe
Sat 28th Ballon 6.00pm	John & Loretto Kennedy, Cappagh
Sun 29th Rathoe 10.00am	James & Elizabeth Doyle, Bendenstown
Sun 29th Ballon 11.30am	

**15/1/2023: Offertory € 747.70. Envelopes €824.10. (incl online donations).** Thanks to everyone for your continued generosity.

**Pilgrimage to Medjugorje:** Fully escorted trip from 4th –11th April 2023. Cost €755 per person sharing. only €100 deposit to secure place. For more information contact Josie Duffy 087-254 3235.

**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 25<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.marian.ie)

**Burrin Celtic Lotto:** No's 04---05---15---29. No Winner. Lucky Dip: €100.: The Four Lads, Ballintranee: €20 Henry Nolan, c/o Spikey. €20 Patricia Smithers, c/o Lilly Brennan: €20: Sharon Kirwan, Rathoe. Next wk's Jackpot: €3,850. Draw every Tues night at 8.30pm.

**Ballon GFC Lotto.** No Winner. No's **04- 10 -26 - 29.** Match Three Winner €100: Tom Murphy, Snr., Ferns.. **Next weeks Jackpot €3,100.** Next Draw. Mon 23rd Jan 2023 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Tickets €2. Play on line <https://bit.ly/3FuNdhZ>

**Seasons Homecare Healthcare information evening 'Live Well At Home'**. We will have an expert of the healthcare professionals to discussion. **Health at home: Recovering after illness: Medication Management.** Join us for the first in our series of relaxed information evening at Woodford Dolmen Hotel Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February from 7pm-9pm . Evening hosted by Seasons Homecare **YOUR CARE, YOUR WAY**

**Garden Maintenance Available** Grass cutting; Preparation of raise beds; Weed Control; Hedge Cutting; Planting Phone: **John 0851636965**

**Mortgage Arrears / Abhaile Scheme** Is your mortgage in arrears? Are you worried about losing your home? If so, there is help. You may be entitled to free financial advice under the Abhaile Scheme, which is a State funded service. For more information, feel free to contact Tatiana McGreal, Financial Solutions Ireland on 085 867 4883 ([www.fsireland.ie](http://www.fsireland.ie))

*He says he is the man to get the country moving. He's right! If he gets in I'm moving*

*I bear no ill-will to my opponent. He did any despicable little rat would do in the circumstances.*

## Ballon-Rathoe Parish Office

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

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

### Ballon Business & Training Service, The Old School, Ballon

Tel: 059-915-9447 Mob: 085-876-4743. [ballonbts@gmail.com](mailto:ballonbts@gmail.com)

[www.ballonbts.com](http://www.ballonbts.com). **CRAFT/HOBBY COURSE. History** Wed 18th Jan,

10am - 12.30pm x 5 weeks **Creative Writing** Fri 17th Feb, 2pm - 4pm x 6

weeks **Smartphone class** New Term: Dates to be confirmed x 6 weeks

**Photography - Any device** Fri 13th Jan, 2pm - 4pm x 6 weeks

**Mindfulness & Self Care Workshops** Tues 14th Feb, 7pm - 8pm x 5 wks

**Valentine's/Spring Floral Workshop** Tues 14th & 21st Feb, 1pm - 4pm

**Internet Skills** Tues 28th Feb, 10am - 12.30pm x 5 weeks

**Silversmith Jewellery Beginners Workshop.** Tues 7th Mar, 10am to

12.30pm x 4 weeks **Cooking** Wed 8th Mar, 9.30am to 12pm x 5 weeks

**Easter/Mother's Day Floral Workshop** Tues 22nd & 29th Mar, 1pm - 4pm

**Sewing Workshop** New Term: Feb/Mar dates to be confirmed. 9.30am -

12.30pm x 4 weeks **Art** New Term: Feb/Mar dates to be confirmed. 2pm -

4pm x 6 weeks **Pilates** New Term: Feb/Mar dates later. 6.15pm - 7.15pm

x 6 wks **CERTIFIED COURSES**

**QQI Level 5 Book-keeping** Mon 20th Feb, 7pm - 10pm x 10 weeks

**QQI Level 5 Payroll** Thurs 23rd Feb, 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

**St Brigid's Camino Walk, Monasterevin:** To Commemorate Brigid, Monasterevin Parish have organised a Camino Walk in her honour. Starting at St. Brigid's Shrine at Mountrice on the Monasterevin – Rathangan Road (R414) @ 11 am on Monday 6th February (walk is approx. 6km). Car parking provided at Mountrice Cross. The Walk will be led by Bishop Denis Nulty and will journey via Umeras then along the New Canal Blue Way, finishing in St. Peter & Pauls Church Monasterevin with a service of light at 12.30 pm. Contact Monasterevin Parish for more details, 045-525346. All are very welcome

**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

**Light and darkness:** Terry Anderson, a journalist for the Associated Press, was seized and held hostage in Lebanon for seven years; blindfolded almost all of that time, Anderson described his experience in this way, "Deepest darkness, fumbling, uncertainties are frightening. More frightening is the darkness of the mind, when outside light makes no impression and inner lights go dim. . ." In November of 1965, a power failure plunged seven northeastern U.S. states and Ontario, Canada, into a darkness which lasted for more than thirteen hours. About thirty million people living in eighty thousand square miles of territory were affected. In 1977, another, less severe, power failure darkened New York City for fifty-two minutes. Losses due to accidents and looting were in excess of one billion dollars. -- In the Holy Scriptures, light and darkness serve as symbols for good and evil. In today's first reading and in the Gospel, Jesus is presented as the One sent to remove the darkness of sin from the world. Through Isaiah, God promises that His people will see an end to the darkness of oppression and separation. Today's Gospel shows us how the prophecy of Isaiah was fulfilled in Jesus.

**Director of Safeguarding in Diocese** is Kathleen Sherry, P:085 8021633.

Email: [safeguarding@kandle.ie](mailto: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