

### Third Sunday of Lent

Sat 11th Ballon 6.00pm  
Bridget & Peter Bolger, Bendenstown  
David, Thomas & deceased members of  
Kealy Family, Castlegrace &  
John Sheehy, Limerick.

Sun 12th Rathoe 10.00am  
Maurice May & souls who have no one  
to pray for them

Sun 12th Ballon 11.30am

Tues 14th Ballon 7.30pm

Wed 15th Rathoe 10.00am

### St. Patrick's Day

Thurs 16th Ballon 6.00pm  
Vigil

Fri 17th Rathoe 10.00am

Fri 17th Ballon 11.30am

Sat 18th Ballon 6.00pm  
Pat O'Toole, Milltown  
Jeremiah & Elizabeth O'Toole, Boggan

Sun 19th Rathoe 10.00am  
Mary Cummins, Ballytarsna  
Joan Carroll, Rathoe

Sun 19th Ballon 11.30am  
Jim & Molly Townsend, Maple Lawn

**5/03/2023: Offertory € 834.85. Envelopes €792.00 (incl online donations). Thanks to everyone for your continued generosity.**

**Burrin Celtic Lotto:** No's 01---06---19---23. No Winner. Lucky Dip: €100.:Peggy Handrick, c/o NGS Supplies: €20 Seamus Dowling, Ballon Hill. €20 Margaret Roberts, c/o Kavanagh's.:€20: Elizabeth Brennan, c/o Lilly Brennan.Next wk's Jackpot: €4,200. Draw every Tues night at 8.30pm.

**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.

**You are invited to join Carlow PPN for our FREE Community Workshops** Event, 'Strengthening Your Community' in Teach Bhríde, Tullow, March 23rd from 1pm - 6pm. Join us for networking & nibbles! All are welcome – text Trish 087 195 1444 or Fiona 087 276 0139 to book. An Introduction to Social Enterprise. Committee Roles and Responsibilities Governance. Stewarding & Managing Events and Festivals in Your Community. Renewable Energy in The Community

**Ballon GFC Lotto.** No Winner. No's 01– 17 –19 – 29. Match 3 Winner €100 : Donnacha Murphy, Connaberry. . **Next weeks Jackpot €3,450.** Next Draw. Monday 13th March 2023 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Tickets €2. Play on line <https://bit.ly/3FuNdhZ>

**Graigucullen Bingo:** Tues 14th March in St.Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm. **Over €12,700 in prizemoney!!** Jackpot on 50 numbers €6420. Double number €2070. Lotto €1150. Great prizes, bring a friend.

**Family Carers Ireland's March 2023 support group meetings for carers will take place as follows:** Carlow Carers Support Group meeting on Tuesday, 21st March from 11am to 1pm in the Cathedral Parish Centre. Please contact the Family Carers Ireland Kilkenny/Carlow office on 056 7721424 with any queries. Looking forward to meeting new and old friends.

**Silver Screenings** The IMC cinema, Fairgreen, Carlow are running a weekly over 60's club on Thursdays @1.30pm. Latest releases, reduced volume, raised lighting and special rate of €7.

**Ballon St. Patrick's Day** parade will start at 3.30pm

**Collection for Ronald McDonald House, Crumlin.** Please support our collection on St. Patrick's Day, we will be participating in the Ballon Parade with our horse and wagon while collecting for Ronald McDonald House, Crumlin for seriously ill children. The collection is in memory of Hannah Snoddy. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated for those families that have been affected.

## 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

**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. Spring Floral Workshop** Tues 22nd & 29th March, 1pm - 4pm **Pottery & Prosecco evening,** 25th March, 7pm to 10pm **ZERO WASTE COOKING NEW** Starting 28th Mar, 2pm to 4.30pm x 5 weeks **First Aid Responder & 1st Aid Training** - 3 Day course 24th, 30th & 31st March **Paint & Sip** evening 31st March, 7pm to 9pm **Smart Device** - Tues 4th April, 10am to 12.30pm x 5 weeks **Digital Skills** - Tues 16th May, 10am to 12.30pm x 5 weeks **Manual Handling** Wed 5th April, 2pm & 6pm Or 6pm to 8pm 2.5hours **Perimenopause/Menopause Workshop** - Sat 22nd April, 2pm to 5pm **CERTIFIED COURSES QQI Level 5**

**Book-keeping** 17th April 7pm - 10pm x 10 weeks

**Payroll** Thurs 4th May, 7pm - 10pm x 10 weeks

**Children's Workshops & Courses.** *Children's DIY Art & Craft*

*Course* 5yrs +, Thurs 16th April, 5.30pm to 7pm x 4 weeks

**Polly's Mini Moments & Kids Yoga** 11th March, 3rd & 4th April,

10.30am to 12pm, suitable for 4 to 10 yrs. **Children's Pottery Workshop**

Sat 25th March, 3 to 5pm. **Steam Og Kids Easter Workshop**

12th & 13th April. **Personalised Labels**—15 personalised round labels

per sheet. Ideal for communion, confirmation, baptism, weddings, birth-

days etc. **Children's Activity Packs**— Personalised 13 page activity

booklet with colouring pencils. Ideal for communions, confirmations,

baptisms, weddings, birthdays

**Winner of this weeks Split the Pot** draw was Peadar Waters winning

€45. Next draw Wedn 8th March. envelopes on sale in McAssey Shop, Joe

Doyle's Pub & Nolan's Hardware. Registration is now open on Foireann.ie

for our 2023 season. Training resumes for u13 boys & girls on Sunday

mornings 10am-11am & Senior Men & Women 11am to 12pm until eve-

nings get brighter. New members welcome - if interested please contact

AnnMarie 0851554016/Vanessa 0876973498 or any committee member

### St Patrick's Day

As St. Patrick's Day approaches, the story of our national saint will be told again in schools, parishes and homes around the country.

What strikes us about the story of Patrick's life are the human categories that connect our lives with his-categories such as suffering, meaning, vocation, forgiveness, mission, exile, human trafficking, slavery, immigration and redemption to name just a few. That is why Patrick is no plaster saint but a fellow sinner whose life was transformed by God's choice and mercy. Because of the response of one man to God's call, countless lives were changed by the Gospel he shared. As it was for Patrick, God calls us not just for ourselves but for others.

**International Women's Day:** Overheard in Ballon last Wednesday  
*Anyone know what time International Women's Day finishes?*  
*I'm starving!!*

I play in a small quartet,

A small quartet?

Yes there are only three of us.

**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