

R.I.P: Aisling Nolan McDonald, Graiguealug & Graigcullen.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

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
Tues 21st Ballon 7.30pm	
Wed 22nd Rathoe 10.00am	
Thurs 23rd Ballon 10.00am	
Fri 24th Rathoe 7.30pm	William O'Reilly and his parents James and Mary, Blind Road.
Sat 25th Ballon 6.00pm	
Sun 26th Rathoe 10.00am	Kitty Reddy, Johnny Reddy & Tracey Campbell Fitzpatrick,
Sun 26th Ballon 11.30am	Ted & Margaret Kearney, Killane Thomas & Bridget Kelly, Ballon. Ann & Patrick Murphy, Ballinadrum

12/03/2023: Offertory € 608.60. Envelopes €750.10 (incl online donations). Thanks to everyone for your continued generosity.

Burrin Celtic Lotto: No's 08---09---12---18. No Winner. Lucky Dip: €100.:Cathal Cummins, Ballon. €20 Molly Maher, c/o Mary Maher. €20 Alice Armstrong, Naas. €20: Lucy O'Neill, Ballon .Next wk's Jackpot: €4,200. Draw every Tues night at 8.30pm.

Ballon Community & Surrounding Area needs a First Response Team. The team will be trained in the use of A.E.D. in the event of an emergency. If you are interested in getting involved please give your name to Marion: 087-6373890 or Gerry 087-6732329.

Dog Fouling is a Problem: A number of complaints have been received about dog fouling on the footpaths and around the walkways in the church grounds and graveyards in Rathoe. It is the law that dog owners have to pick up their dogs poo on paths used by the public. Dog poo can contain nasty bacteria and parasites that could be harmful especially to children.

Ballon GFC Lotto. No Winner. No's 01- 10 -20 - 27. Match 3 Winner €100 : Pat Brennan, Ballon Hill. . **Next weeks Jackpot €3,450.** Next Draw. Monday 20th March 2023 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Tickets €2. Play on line <https://bit.ly/3FuNdhZ>

Graiguecullen Bingo on Tuesday 21st March St.Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 50 numbers €6550 Double number €2140 Lotto €1200. **SAVE THE DATE--MONSTER EASTER BINGO SUNDAY 26TH MARCH @ 3pm**

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.

Daffodil Day at the home of the late Rita Nolan in Ballon Village. Friday 24th March from 9.00am till late.

All monies raised going towards Irish Cancer Society, Carlow Kilkenny Homecare and ÉIST. Donations of Cakes and daffodils welcome. Lollipop Day raised €480.00 so far. Contact Valerie: 087-9180310

County Carlow Environmental Network (CCEN) free event.

On Sunday 2nd of April, CCEN) is showing the film **The Letter: A message for our Earth** in An Gairdín Beo, Carlow town. A visually stunning film which is a call to action led by Pope Francis to all communities to care for our common home, the Earth. Starting with pizza at 5.30pm and film showing at 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome but booking is required. www.eventbrite.com/e/the-letter-a-message-for-our-earth-tickets-587430138357 Email: info@ccen.ie if any questions.

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 COURSE.**

Restorative Yoga - Tuesday 21st Mar, 7pm to 9pm x 4 weeks

Spring Floral Workshop -Tues 22nd & 29th March, 1pm - 4pm

Pottery & Prosecco evening - Sat 25th March, 7pm to 10pm

Paint & Sip evening - Fri 31st March, 7pm to 9pm

Smart Device - Tues 4th April, 10am to 12.30pm x 5 weeks

Sewing Courses - Mon 17th April, 9.30am to 12.30pm x 4 weeks

Pilates - Mon 17th April, 6.15pm to 7.15pm X 5 weeks

Creative Writing. Poetry & Proses, Wed 19th April, 10am to 12.30pm x 5

Manual Handling Training - Wed 5th April, 2pm & 6pm Or 6pm to 8pm x

2.5hours. **Perimenopause/Menopause Workshop** - Sat 22nd April, 2pm

to 5pm. **Mindfulness & Peace of Mind** - Tues 2nd May, 7pm to 8pm x 5

weeks. **Cooking Time** - Wed 3rd May, 10am to 12pm x 6 weeks

Art Classes - Mon 8th May, 2pm to 4pm x 6 weeks

Digital Skills - Tues 16th May, 10am to 12.30pm x 5 weeks

Art Classes - Wed 17th May, 2pm to 4pm, x 6 weeks

CERTIFIED COURSES: QQI Level 5 Book-keeping 17th April 7pm -

10pm x 10 weeks. **QQI Level 5** Payroll Thurs 4th may, 7pm - 10pm x 10

weeks. **PHECC First Aid Responder & 1st Aid Training** - 3 Day course

24th, 30th & 31st March. *TSG finding available for these certified courses

on some department of social protection payments.

Children's Workshops & Courses. Children's Pottery Workshop

Saturday 25th March, 3 to 5pm. **Polly's Mini Moments & Kids Yoga**

Mon 3rd & Tues 4th April, 10.30am to 12pm, suitable for 4 to 10 yrs

Steam Og Kids Easter Workshop. 12th & 13th April

Personalised Labels—15 personalised round labels per sheet.

Ideal for communion, confirmation, baptism, weddings, birthdays & more.

Children's Activity Packs -Personalised 13 page activity booklet with colouring pencils. Add an extra special touch to any gathering! Ideal for communions, confirmations, baptisms, weddings, birthdays & more.

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

Sometimes we may think that perfection is acquired by becoming aware of our faults and working to root these out. However, when we become more familiar with Jesus' attitude to the limited and sinful side of ourselves we learn to accept our limited and sinful self just as Jesus did with Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10). If we don't accept this side of ourselves, we tend to become fixated with it and fail to appreciate the fullness of life Jesus has already given us. Be with Jesus and let him teach you to let the weeds grow with the wheat lest seeking to root them or you might fail to appreciate all that is good and even beautiful about your life.

An appropriate hymn

A story of a priest who was full of himself! He announced at a Sunday Mass that Jesus was his friend and that his friend had asked him to become a priest and that over the years he had given tirelessly of himself in a variety of listed appointments. He shone in them all and went wherever Jesus, his friend asked him to go. "Now dear friends", he continued: My friend Jesus has asked me to move to a new parish to continue my wonderful work there and this is my final Sunday in your midst" The choir sang:

What a friend we have in Jesus!"

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