

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sat 30th Ballon 6.00pm	Frances, Loretto & John Kennedy, Cappagh Billy Smyth, Ballon Hill
Sun 1st Rathoe 10.00am	Kitty & Bill Eustace, Castlemore Paddy & Mary Curry & their son John, Castlemore
Sun 1st Ballon 11.30am	Joe Ellis, Bunclody
Tues 3rd Ballon 7.30pm Wed 4th Rathoe 10.00am Thurs 5th Ballon 10.00am Fri 6th Rathoe 7.30pm	Joseph Brophy, Rathoe John Gahan, Kellistown
Sat 7th Ballon 6.00pm Sun 8th Rathoe 10.00am	Seamus Connolly, Kellistown. M.M John & Doreen Aughney & May Aughney, Roscatt.
Sun 8th Ballon 11.30am	Tim Maher, Killane & deceased members of the Maher Family.

24/11/2024 Offertory €1137.70. Envelopes €550.45

To donate online: Account Ballon Rathoe Parish: IBAN: IE24 BOFI 906689 79838964. BIC: BOFIE2D.

Ballon Rathoe Parish Centre now stock a large selection of cards for all occasions, Sympathy, birthday, Christmas Mass Bouquet. To mention but a few. Also in stock are some lovely religious goods, and candles. With Christmas fast approaching a selection of these items will be on sale in Rathoe Hall after 10am Mass this Sunday 1st Dec.

Ballon GFC Dinner Dance: Ballon GFC are hosting their dinner dance on Saturday 7th December at 7pm sharp in Ballykealey House Hotel. Music by 'The Favours' followed by DJ till late. Guaranteed to be a fantastic night. Tickets are €50 each. Contact Eva 087-7955058 to secure your tickets

Ballon GFC Lotto. No Winner. No's 11- 12 -16 - 19. Match Three Winner: €100. Bridie Maher, Killane. **Next weeks Jackpot €7,900.** Next Draw Mon 2nd Dec 2024 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Tickets €2. Play on line <https://bit.ly/3FuNdhZ>

Graiguecullen MONSTER Bingo. on Tues 3rd Dec. St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 50 numbers €4600. Double number €3190. Lotto €1300. **Over €10,000 in prizemoney.** Save The Date: Christmas Monster Bingo Sunday 15th December @ 3pm.

Burrin Celtic Lotto: No's 05---10---19---26. **Lucky Dip: €100:** Seamus Kelly, c/o Bingo: €50: Teresa Dowling, Rathoe. Next wk's Jackpot: €2,400. Draw Tues night at 8.30pm.

Tullow Conference St Vincent de Paul Annual Appeal to the public again this year to help us to help others in need this Christmas. This year more and more people are affected by the rising cost of living, especially heating, electricity and food. By supporting our Annual Appeal you can help a family through this winter. You can donate by using the special SVP blue envelopes at the back of the Church. These envelopes can be posted or dropped into the Parish Centre. Any envelope may be used. Donations may also be made on-line at <https://www.svp.ie/fundraiser/st-lazerian-tullow-appeal>. All funds raised will be spent in this community-Tullow, Grange, Ardattin, Rathoe, Ballon, Ballyconnell and Coolkenno. Thank you Annual collection will be nationwide Dec 7th & 8th

The Children of Rathoe National School present Matilda the Musical in the Visual, Carlow, on Tuesday 3rd December at 1pm. Tickets for this event can be purchased online at www.visualcarlow.ie or by phoning the Box Office (059)9172400. Be sure not to miss this fantastic show put on by our school community!

Ballon-Rathoe Parish Office

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

Tullow RFC Christmas Family Novelty Bingo at the Blackgates. Sun 8th Dec, 2024 at 4.00 p.m. Great Prize Money and lots of Xmas Prizes

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

www.ballonbts.com: Certified Courses. Manual Handling Certificate.
Wed 8th Jan 5.30pm to 7pm Manual and Computerised Book-keeping
Mon 20/01/25 x 10 weeks 7pm - 10pm **Manual & Computerised Payroll**
Thurs 23rd Jan x 10 weeks 7pm - 10pm. **Craft/Hobby Courses .Sean-Nos Dancing** Wed 8th Jan x 6 weeks 7pm to 8pm. **Manage your Tax online** Workshop Wed 8th Jan 7pm to 8pm. **Machine Sewing** Mon 13th Jan x 4 weeks 9.30am - 12.30pm. **Cooking** Wed 15th Jan x 6 weeks 10.30am - 12.30pm **Watercolour Art** Thurs 16th Jan x 6 weeks 2pm - 4pm
Flower Arranging Fri 24th Jan x 6 weeks 10.30am - 12.30pm
Basic Computers Wed 29th Jan x 6 weeks 10am - 12pm
Knit Happens Wed 29th Jan x 6 weeks 1pm - 3pm
Interior Design Workshop Fri 31st Jan 7pm - 9pm

Tullow Day Care Centre offers services to the elderly of Tullow, Grange, Ardattin, Kilbride, Kildavin, Myshall, Ballon, Rathoe, Rathvilly and everywhere in between. Services include: Meals on Wheels, Meals in the Centre, Client pick-up and bring home as well as so much more. If you know of someone who could avail of any of our services, contact the Centre on 059 9151833

Cuchulain Rounders: Winner of Split the Pot 20th November 2024 George Prendergast, Our 10 week block will begin again on the 4th of Dec, please see below link <https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/QPP5TMIK>

Wisdom & Perseverance.

Peter Habermoll (t 1944), a teenaged German soldier, was arrested and put to death after denouncing the atrocities of the Nazi regime. These words are from the letters he wrote in prison.

My life has not been so easy and carefree that I could be completely shattered by misfortune now...Fate has taught me to seek my God in good time. I fear death as I fear God. I love life as only a nineteen-year-old can—but I know that death cannot be a punishment for me. It is hard not to be able to defend one's life or fight for it anymore. That is what you must do now, so far as it is at all possible. No, I am no longer as full of hope as I was, but I am far from despair, and calm. And as long as the sun goes on shining and I still see the sky above me, I want to believe in my life.

You dear ones— my dear little mama! The hour has struck and I am calm as never before in my life, and full of confidence. I have known it for days and weeks, even if I could not admit it to you or to myself. The Lord is close to me and has stretched out his hand to me— and he has given me strength. He will not withhold it from my poor little Mama. You mustn't lose courage, you must live on, now as never before. My execution by a firing squad today must not be kept secret from anyone. Be comforted, as I am. I hug and kiss my little Mama.

I've spent a fortune. Some of my money went on women, some on drink. The rest I spent foolishly.

The great thing about living in a democracy is you can say what you think without thinking

One fifth of the people are against everything all the time