

R.I.P: Willie Webb, Kilcoole, Rathoe  
R.I.P: Pat Condron, Rathrush, Rathoe

### THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 25th Ballon 6.00 pm	Jimmy Nolan, Mullaunmore M.M Benjamin, Eileen & Margaret George, Ballymogue
Sun 26th Rathoe 10.00am	James and Elizabeth Doyle, Bendenstown Maurice Dowling, Kellistown
Sun 26th Ballon 11.30am	
Tues 28th Ballon 7.30pm	
Wed 29th Rathoe 10.00am	
Thurs 30th Ballon 10.00am	
Fri 31st Rathoe 7.30pm	Exhibition 6.30. Prayer Service 7.30pm
Sat 1st Ballon 6.00 pm	
Sun 2nd Rathoe 10.00am	Lily Mulhall, Castlemore. Margaret, John, Kathleen & Michael Shanaghan, Ballymogue, Rathoe
Sun 2nd Ballon 11.30am	

19/01/2025: Offertory €838.00. Envelopes €1278.95

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

**Graiguecullen Bingo.** In St. Fiacc's Hall, Graiguecullen. Tues 25th Jan @ 8.30pm. Jackpot 44 numbers €1220. Double number €390. Lotto €500

**Ballon GFC Lotto.** No Winner. No's 04– 09 –20 – 25. Lucky Dip  
Winners: €25 each. Keith Hayden, Ballykealy Lane, Aine Ryan, Kilgraney, Nolan Family, Fenagh Rd., Keith Hayden, Ballykealy Land. **Next weeks Jackpot €8,200** Next Draw Mon 27 January 2025 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Tickets €2. Play on line <https://bit.ly/3FuNdhZ>

**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): **Certified Courses: Manual Handling Certificate -**

**Starting 20th Jan.** Every Monday and Thursday 5.30pm to 7pm  
**Basic Computers\*** - Wed 29th Jan x 6 weeks 10am - 12pm X 6 Weeks.  
**Knit Happens\*** - Wed 29th Jan x 6 weeks 1pm - 3pm X 6 Weeks. **Valentine's Paint a Pot & Prosecco\*** - Sat 1st Feb 7pm - 10pm  
**Interior Design Workshop** - Fri 7th Feb 7pm - 9pm. **Valentine's Willow Heart Workshop\*** - Mon 10th Feb, 2pm to 4pm. **Mindfulness** - Tues 11th Feb, 10am to 12pm X 4 Weeks. **Valentine's Crafty Workshop\*** - Thurs 13th Feb, 10am to 12pm. **Valentine's Floral Workshop\*** - Fri 14th Feb, 10.30am to 12.30pm. **Minding Your Wellbeing Workshop** - Sat 15th Feb, 10am to 12pm. **Pottery Course** - Mon 17th Feb, 2pm to 4pm X 4 Weeks  
**Spring Crafts Workshop\*** - Tues 18th Feb, 2pm to 4pm. **Cooking** - Wed 26th Feb, 10.30am to 12.30pm X 6 Weeks. **Beginners Sewing Workshop\*** - Thurs 27th Feb, 7pm to 9pm (sewing machine required). **Mother's Day Coffee & Canvas Event\*** - Sat 29th Mar, 10.30m to 12.30pm **Kids Workshops: Children's Valentines Pottery Workshop\*** - Sat 1st Feb 2pm - 5pm. **Children's Valentine's Cupcake Decorating\*** - Thurs 20th Feb, 10am to 12pm. **Children's Felting Workshop\*** - Fri 21st Feb 2pm - 4.30pm. **Children's St. Patrick's Cupcake Decorating\*** - Sat 15th Mar, 10am to 12pm. \*\*\*Please note alternative parking is now available across the road in the new community car park. Eircode R93FX93.

**Ballon Rambling House in Ballon GAA Centre, Fenagh Rd.,** on Sunday 26th Jan at 7.30pm. Refreshments served at 9pm. Everyone welcome.

**St Brigid's Cross Workshop** in the Old School, Ballon on Tues 28th Jan at 2pm. Sr. Nora, Brigidine Convent will attend. All welcome. If anybody has rushes, bring them along, they will be welcome.

**Burrin Celtic Lotto:** No's 07 - 09 - 11 - 27. €100 Anita Dowling, Ballon Hill, John Webster, c/o Bingo. Next wk's Jackpot: €2700. Draw Tues at .30pm.

**Parish Office, Fenagh Road, Ballon. R93 FX93**

**Phone No: 059-9159959.**

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**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Exciting News from The Forge Restaurant!** We are thrilled to announce that The Forge Restaurant has been sold. To celebrate this transition, we'll be hosting an Open House Sale of remaining stock, items, and bric-a-brac. It's the perfect opportunity to find unique pieces and hidden treasures! Join us this weekend: January 25th & 26th | Saturday & Sunday | 11 am - 4 pm We look forward to seeing you there!

**St. Brigid's Camino Walk – Monasterevin Parish** Starting at St. Brigid's Shrine at Mountrice (W34 X529) at 11am on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025 (walk is approximately 6km/car parking provided at Mountrice Cross). The walk will be led by the Bishop. For more info, please contact – 045 525346.

**Dana's Cross & Cloak Concert – Abbeyleix Co Laois**

Dana's Cross & Cloak Concert in aid of the All-Ireland Sacred Heart Crusade, takes place on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2025 in The Manor Hotel, Abbeyleix, Co Laois R32 VE24 (featuring local artists).

Ticket €25.00 (Book on Eventbrite.ie).

For more information, contact Antoinette- 086 0803047.

**Pause for Peace:** The people of Kildare, Ireland, call on people worldwide to Pause for Peace for 1 minute's silence/reflection at 12 noon, local time, on St. Brigid's day, February 1<sup>st</sup> each year. By pausing for Peace we send out a message that we actively oppose warfare and the proliferation of arms in our world.

**Jiving & Social Dance Classes:** Adult Beginner Jiving & Social Dance 4-week course commencing Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 8-9pm at 'The Academy of Dance Carlow', Carlow Youth Centre, Green Lane R93 V327. No partner required. Contact Fiona on 0872727315 for more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Pope and Cardinals

The Pope has taken conservative bishops and cardinals to task for the way they dress, suggesting their adherence to ostentatious styles reveals a "rigidity" of mind that in some cases may even reach a level of "mental instability" and "emotional deviation".

In his autobiography, Francis stresses how he avoided the trimmings and finery of papal tradition once he was elected in 2013.

"They offered me a beautiful golden cross and I said: 'I have this nickel silver one from my episcopal ordination, I've been carrying it for 20 years,'" he writes.

He also notably turned down the papal red shoes favoured by his predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI. "The red shoes? No, I have orthopaedic shoes. I'm rather flat footed," he said at the time, he recalls in his book.

"Likewise, I didn't want the velvet mozzetta, nor the linen rochet... They were not for me. Two days later they told me I would have to change my trousers, wear white ones. They made me laugh. 'I don't want to be an ice-cream seller,' I said. And I kept my own," he writes.

**Two loves in my heart:** At the recent funeral of the late president Jimmy Carter of the USA, one senator during his eulogy reminded his audience of a story Jimmy was told back in 2018. Mr Carter was telling of a time when as a young man he had a Missionary in Massachusetts under the auspices of the Southern Baptist Union. One preacher particularly impressed Jimmy with his ability to win souls for Christ.

Jimmy asked him the secret of his success. The man somewhat embarrassed said; "I try to have two loves in my heart, one is for God and the other love I have in my heart is for the person who happens to be in front of me at that particular moment"

\*\*\*\*\*

*A man goes into a pub and admires the stuffed lion's head mounted above the bar. 'What a great trophy', says the man to the barman. 'I wouldn't call it great,' replies the barman. 'That dam lion killed my wife.' 'My God,' says the man, 'were you on safari.?' 'No,' replies the barman. 'It fell on her head'*