

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Sat 22nd Ballon 6.00 pm	
Sun 23rd Rathoe 10.00am	Mary Cummins, Fighting Cocks John & Kitty Reddy, Templepeter Tracey Campbell Fitzpatrick,
Sun 23rd Ballon 11.30am	
Tues 25th Rathoe 7.00pm	First Confessions Rathoe
Wed 26th Rathoe 10.00am	
<i>Study of the readings for the following Sunday and preparing prayers of the faithful in Parish House at 8.00pm every Wednesday during Lent. All welcome, especially the readers.</i>	
Thurs 27th Ballon 10.00am	
Fri 28th Rathoe 7.30pm	
Sat 29th Ballon 6.00 pm	
Sun 30th Rathoe 10.00am	Joan Carroll, Rathoe & deceased members of the Carroll Family.
Sun 30th Ballon 11.30am	Jim & Molly Townsend, Maple Lawn

16 & 17/03/2025: Offertory €1642.40. Envelopes €1315.00

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

Trócaire Boxes available in both churches, please take one.

Graveyard Masses 2025

Rathoe Friday 11th July at 7.30pm

Ballon Friday 18th July at 7.30pm

Ballon GFC Lotto. No Winner. No's 09– 24 –26 – 30. Lucky Dip Winners: €25 each: Rian Fanning, Laragh, Richard Fitzgerald, Cranpursheen, Fiona O'Donoghue, Connaberry, Bill Buggy, Westport. **Next weeks Jackpot €8,600** Next Draw Mon 24th March 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

www.ballonbts.com **If you are a remote worker we have hot desks**

available from €12. a day Certified Courses: Manual Handling Cert

Every Mon & Thurs 5.30pm to 7pm. **Manual & Computerised**

Book-keeping QQI Level 5 Thursday 24th April, 7pm - 10pm

Refresher course in Book-keeping. Tuesday 22nd April 7pm - 9pm

Manual & Computerised Payroll QQI Level 5. Mon 28th April, 7pm –10pm

Refresher course in Payroll. Tuesday 15th April 7pm - 9pm

Craft/Hobby Drum Meditation Workshop - Mon 24th Mar, 7pm to 8pm

Mother's Day Coffee & Canvas Event* - Sat 29th Mar, 10.30am to

12.30pm. **Pottery** - Mon 31st Mar, 1.30pm - 4.30pm. **Easter Craft Work-**

shop - Tues 8th Apr, 10am - 12pm. **Easter Cake Decorating** - Thurs 10th

Apr, 7pm-9pm. **Manage Your Self-Employed Tax** Thurs 10th Apr, 7pm-

9pm. **Manage Your Tax** - Mon 14th Apr, 7pm-9pm. **Pottery & Prosecco** -

25th Apr, 7pm - 10pm. **Minding Me Wellbeing** - Tues 29th Apr, 2pm - 4pm

Cooking - 30th Apr, 10.30am - 12.30pm. **Art** - 30th Apr, 2pm - 4pm

Film Making - 30th Apr, 6.30pm - 8.30pm. **Kids Workshops Easter**

Cupcake Decorating* - Mon 14th Apr 2pm - 4pm. **Easter Pottery Class*** -

Fri 25th Apr, 2pm - 5pm ***materials supplied. The new Community**

Car park is now fully open and can hold 47 cars, please park there.

Daffodil Day: Coffee Day at the home of the late Rita Nolan in Ballon Village on Friday 28th March 2025. From 9.00am till late.

All monies collected donated to Irish Cancer Society, Carlow Kilkenny Homecare and Éist. Donations of cakes and daffodils welcome.

If you have one hour to spare, volunteers are needed to collect at the shops. Contact Valerie 087-918 0310.

Graiguecullen Bingo Tuesday 25th March St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm.

Jackpot on 50 numbers €2260 . Double number €810 Lotto €600

Burrin Celtic Lotto: No's 03 - 12 - 21 - 28. €100 Yvonne Cantwell €50:

Fergus Hutton, c/o Bingo. Jackpot: €3100. Draw Tues at 7.30pm.

Parish Office, Fenagh Road, Ballon. R93 FX93

Phone No: 059-9159959.

Email: ballonrathoeeparish@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

Ballon Rathoe Parish Shop

in Parish Office, Fenagh Rd .R93FX93.

Call in to see our range of cards and products for all Occasions.

If we do not have something we are happy to order it in for you.

A wide selection of Communion & Confirmation gifts.

OPENING HOURS Tues, Wed & Thurs 10am -1pm

Medjugorje Pilgrimage: 12th to 19th April 2025, 7 night group pilgrimage with Josie Duffy. Cost €835, for full details contact Josie 087-2543235

Cuchulainn Rounders: Senior training every Sunday commencing March 23rd at 11.00am in Ballon GAA Field. Juvenile training for children aged 9 -13 commences Wednesday 2nd April in Ballon GAA Field from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. Nursery Rounders for children aged 6-8 commences Wednesday 2nd April in Ballon GAA Field from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. For registration go to <https://www.foireann.ie/home>. Log in or register for an account, search for our club Cuchulainn Rounders and select the appropriate membership. New members are always welcome. Winner of this week's Split the Pot draw Sinead Abbey €66. Envelopes on sale in McAssey Shop, Joe Doyle's Pub & Siopa Glas.

ACN Ireland

Our aim has always focused on training Seminarians

Our educational assistance mainly flows into countries where the suitable and continuous training of future priests is endangered or not adequately ensured due to poverty, war, or persecution. 10,991 Seminarians supported.

One in every ten candidates training for the priesthood was supported by ACN in 2023. Most of these were in Africa (5,793) were priestly vocations are the most numerous, followed by 2,103 in Latin America, 1996 in Asia and 1,099 in Europe, including over 600 seminarians in Ukraine.

A big portion of the parish Mass card money goes to ACN Ireland to support these seminarians.

Jubilee of Hope 2025

The tradition of the jubilee year originates in the Old Testament, where it was established as a time of rest, forgiveness, and restoration every 50 years. It later evolved in the Church into a special period of grace and renewal. Holy doors in major basilicas are ceremonially opened, symbolising a path to salvation and reconciliation with God.

Pope Francis said "Hope is not the naïve expectation that things will get better without effort," the Pope said during a recent address. "It is the courage to work, to endure, to dream, and to believe that a better future is possible through God's grace and our shared commitment".

Musician, carrying a guitar: How do I get to the Point Theatre?
Dublin wit; Practice, man, practice.

What is the best thing you can find in a newspaper?
Fish and chips.

A mouse went into a music shop and asked the assistant if he could buy a mouse organ 'Do you know' said the assistant, that you are the second mouse we have had in here to-day wanting to buy a mouse organ.'

'That must have been our Monica', said the mouse.