

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Sat 29th Ballon 6.00 pm	
Sun 30th Rathoe 10.00am	
Sun 30th Ballon 11.30am	Jim & Molly Townsend, Maple Lawn Kathleen & James Murphy, Carrigslaney Marlene Davies (nee Kenny) Westport
Tues 1st Rathoe 7.00pm	
Wed 2nd Rathoe 10.00am	
Thurs 3rd Ballon 10.00am	
Fri 4th Rathoe 7.30pm	
Sat 5th Ballon 6.00 pm	
Sun 6th Rathoe 10.00am	Walter & Mary Roche, Rathoe
Sun 6th Ballon 11.30am	

23/03/2025: Offertory €902.45 Envelopes €790.50

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

Chrism Mass, You are invited to join with Bishop Denis and the priests of the diocese for the annual celebration of the Chrism Mass on Monday, 14 April at 7:30 pm. Please come early to ensure a seat. Refreshments afterwards in Carlow College, St Patrick's. Music led by Fr Liam Lawton and the diocesan choir

Graveyard Masses 2025

Rathoe Friday 11th July at 7.30pm

Ballon Friday 18th July at 7.30pm

Ballon GFC Lotto. No Winner. No's 06-07-16-19. Match Three Winner: €100 Patrick O'Neill, Kildavin **Next weeks Jackpot €8,650** 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 Mother's Day Coffee & Canvas Event* - Sat 29th Mar,

10.30am to 12.30pm. **Pottery** - Mon 31st Mar, 1.30pm - 4.30pm. **Easter**

Craft Workshop - 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 Com-*

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

Graiguecullen Bingo Tuesday 1st April St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm.

Jackpot on 50 numbers €2390 . Double number €880 Lotto €650

Burrin Celtic Lotto: No's 02 - 17 - 18 - 29. €100 Peter Nolan, c/o Bingo

€50: Kathleen & Ann, c/o Bingo. Jackpot: €3150. Draw Tues at 7.30pm.

Come and join **the Ballon Rambling House** in the Ballon GAA Centre Sunday March 30th at 7.30pm! Hosted by **Siopa Glas Ballon**, this monthly event is perfect for storytellers, musicians, and listeners alike. Refreshments and a raffle will take place during each monthly event. For more details contact Máire on 0872424934

**Don't keep the faith
spread it around!!**

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.

Items for sale include **Mass Cards and Mass Bouquets**,
Cards for all occasions, Easter, Get Well, Birthday, Thinking of You.
Gifts for First Holy Communion, Confirmation and Marriage,
religious medals, prayer cards, candles & religious art for the home
If we do not have something we are happy to order it in for you.

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

Cuchulainn Rounders: Senior training every Sunday at 11.00am in Ballon GAA Field. Juvenile training for children aged 9-14 commences Wednesday 2nd April in Ballon GAA Field from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. Junior Juvenile Rounders for children aged 5-8 commences Wednesday 2nd April in Ballon GAA Field from 6.30pm to 7.15pm. 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. Any questions please contact Cub Registrar Vanessa Dowling on 087 6973498. Winner of this weeks Split the Pot draw Leah Moloney €47. Envelopes on sale in McAssey Shop, Joe Doyle's Pub & Siopa Glas

Adolescence: Boys need positive male role models

If an energetic risk-taking, competitive young boy is told that of all these traits are somehow suspicious, then don't be entirely surprised if he turns to negative male role models instead, especially if there is no positive male role model at home, which is increasingly common these days.

The answer to toxic masculinity is positive masculinity. No, not all boys are sporty and traditional male (I write this as someone who is more the bookworm type) but boys who are typically male in their behaviour should be pointed in the direction of the best sporting heroes, for example They should be taught that honour, faithfulness, steadfastness, using your strength to protect the weak, not exploit them, are the marks of a man. They should hear that it is ok to be competitive, so long as it is within the rules. (like on the playing field).

None of this should be regarded as somehow suspicious or retrograde by the school system. If it is, then we are asking for trouble. I don't think that Jamie Miller character would have killed anyone because he doesn't fit the profile for that. But boys are definitely being influenced by people like Andrew Tate. We counter that by offering them good male models and by not denying that masculinity can have a good side as well as a bad side. *David Quinn*

*I know God won't give me more than I can handle.
I just wish he didn't trust me so much.*

If there is no God, who pops up the next Kleenex in the box.?

Two accountants are in a bar when armed robbers burst in. The robbers line the customers against a wall and proceed to take their wallets, watches, etc. The first accountant slips something into the second accountants hand and whispers, 'Here's that €50 I owe you'