

R.I.P: Tom Jordan, Killane

PENTACOST SUNDAY

Sat 23rd Ballon 6.00pm	Pat Curran, Conaberry
Sun 24th Rathoe 10.00am	
Sun 24th Ballon 11.30am	Seamus Quirke, Ballintrane
Tues 26th Ballon 7.00pm	
Wed 27th Rathoe 10.00am	
Thurs 28th Ballon 10.00am	
Fri 29th Rathoe 7.00pm,	
Sat 30th Ballon 6.00pm	
Sun 31st Rathoe 10.00am	
Sun 31st Ballon 11.30am	

17/05/2026 Offertory €1243.75. Envelopes €1361.05

Retired Priests Collection; This collection takes place at all Masses on the weekend of 24th May. The generosity of parishes and parishioners in supporting this collection is deeply appreciated

To donate online: Ballon Rathoe Parish: IBAN: IE24 BOFI 906689 79838964. BIC: BOFIE2D. **Ballon Rathoe Priests Fund:** IBAN: IE-07BOFI90668984337742. BIC: BOFIE2D

Graveyard Masses 2026.

Ballon Friday 26th June at 7.30pm

Templepeter Graveyard Sunday 28th June at 3pm

Rathoe Friday 3rd July at 7.30pm.

Ballon Business & Training Service, The Old School, Ballon.

Tel: 059-915-9447. Mob: 085-876-4743. ballonbts@gmail.com

Nutty Scientist 06/07/26 10am - 1pm. **Nutty Scientist** 07/07/26 10am - 1pm **Nutty Scientist** 08/07/26 10am - 1pm. **Nutty Scientist** 09/07/26 10am - 1pm. **Nutty Scientist** 10/07/26 10am - 1pm. **Epoxy Resin crafts 12+** 14/07/26 10am -12pm. **Sewing** 28/05/2026 1pm-4pm 4 weeks. **Cupcake decorating master class** 26/05/2026 10am- 3pm 1 day

Ballon GFC Lotto. . No's 06– 12 –16 – 30. **No Winner.** Lucky Dip Winners €25 each: Peter Jordan, Milltown, Anna Maher, Killane, Cian Ryan Jordan, Boggan, Ciaran Lewis, Laraghbeg. Next Draw Monday 25th May 2026 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Jackpot €1,650 Tickets €2. Play on line <https://bit.ly/3FuNdhZ>

Graiguencullen Bingo; Tuesday 26th May 2026. St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 48 numbers €5,640. Double number €1,720. Lotto €2,300. Bonus Ball €1,600

Rathoe Development Group are holding their annual walkathon on Sat 13th June starting at 9am finishing at 1. BBQ and fun activities throughout the morning. anyone interested in taking part contact Gina on 0876972742 or Tom on 0858542297. All proceeds going towards the development of our new Community Field

Ballon Rambling House—GAA Centre, Fenagh Rd., Ballon R93F792. Sunday 31st May 2026 at 7.30pm. Refreshments served. All Welcome. Jim & Mire George & Friends.

Ballon Village Tidy Towns Work night. Meet outside Siopa Glas next Tues 26th at 7pm. Rubbish bags etc provided.

St Catherine's Community Services Centre is accepting applications for the **Senior Alert Scheme**, which provides **socially monitored personal alarms and pendants** for older people. The scheme is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and administered by Pobal. Applicants must be **aged 65 or over**. For further details or application forms, contact: **Claire Murphy, Older Persons Services Coordinator** Phone: 059-9138700 Email: opmanager@catherines.ie

Parish Office & Shop, Fenagh Road, Ballon. R93 FX93

Phone No: 059-9159959.

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**

Ballon Rathoe Parish Shop. Fenagh Road, Ballon R93FX93

Open Tues, Wed, & Thurs 10am-1pm.

Large selection of First Holy Communion & Confirmation, Good Luck in exams cards, prayer books, rosary beads, gift sets and gift wallets in stock.

GK PARISH NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP. Our Novena continues on Mon 25th of May. The rosary will be recited at 7.10pm and Mass begins at 7.30pm. **OUR SEVENTH GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE: EDWARD HAYDEN: TV CHEF AND BROADCASTER**

Cake Sale & Raffle in Aid of Vocations Society of St. Joseph. (Young Priests Society). In Parish Centre, Tullow on Friday 29th May 2026 starting at 10am. Tea & Coffee Served.

The Mill Wheel Reflexology Clinic in Tullow offers personalised reflexology treatments designed to support your individual needs and wellbeing. ITEC qualified practitioner with professional registration and insurance. Open Monday to Saturday by appointment. Contact Sharon Maxwell: 089 4006600 millwheelclinic@gmail.com

Burrin Celtic Lotto: No's 07 - 12 - 19 - 26. No Winner: Lucky Dip Winners: €100: Tommy Kirwan, Ballon. **€50.** Michael Hickey, Ballon Next weeks Lotto €1,400. Draw Tues 7.30pm.

The Joy of Faith

I have always had the keenest desire to know the ultimate truths, not being able to base my life on uncertainties, not being willing to base it on feeling uncontrolled by reason.....

God has a special argument available for every soul he seeks. Man must go to meet him by searching for truth. "We are incapable of not desiring truth and happiness" (Pascal)....

Avid of true knowledge, I did not know where to find it. At twelve, I thought it lay in medicine; at eighteen, in the natural sciences; at twenty-two, in theology. I know now that it does indeed lie there, and that holiness, when added to it, infinitely increases it, and that the wisdom proper to it can do without everything.

Know your religion, Catholics, know your greatness! No science, no experiment can prove it wrong, it has the words of Eternal Life and also those of temporal life. "All that is true if of the Holy Spirit" (Saint Justin) Everything that is true, everything that is good, everything that is beautiful is ours!. *Raissa Maritain—a covert to Catholicism wife of philosopher Jacques Maritain*

Thought for the Day

Our Lord knows the perfect antidote to fear: peace. He bestowed peace on his apostles, who were locked in the upper room. And He always brings peace to us when we let him into our moments of prayer or activity. Peace is his 'trademark', a sure sign of his presence in our life. Even when life circumstances challenges us, Jesus brings peace if we invite him in. Why do we hesitate? Come Holy Spirit! Reign in my heart and cast out all fear.

Dad brings a business associate home for dinner. The family assemble at the table and Mum starts serving a roast. 'This is just ordinary roast lamb!' complains the young son. 'Yes,' says his mother. But you said you liked lamb.' 'I do,' says the boy, 'but Dad said he was brining an idiot home for dinner.'

I wouldn't say my mother was ashamed of me, but she used to go to parents' evenings under an assumed name.

Children brighten a home— they never turn the lights off.