

R.I.P: Rita Barry, Maple Lawn

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 11th Ballon 6.00pm	Maura O'Byrne, Ballykealy. M.M
Sun 12th Rathoe 10.00am	Christine & Maurice May Michael Griffin.
Sun 12th Ballon 11.30am	Mary Kenny, Mullaunmore John & Mary Lawler, Shraugh

Tues 14th Ballon 7.00pm	John Tracey, Ballintrane
Wed 15th Rathoe 10.00am	
Thurs 16th Ballon 10.00am	
Fri 17th Rathoe 7.00pm	

Sat 18th Ballon 6.00pm	James Maher, Killane
Sun 19th Rathoe 10.00am	
Sun 19th Ballon 11.30am	

05/07/2026 Offertory €647.35. Envelopes €801.00

Rathoe Graveyard Mass; €1454.95

Reminder collection for Peter's Pence next weekend, envelope in your box or spare envelopes in the churches

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

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

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

Epoxy Resin crafts 12+ 14/07/26 10am -12pm.

Crafting Retreat Starts 13 July €150 a full week dedicated to unleashing your creativity! Enjoy a new craft each day with all materials provided, perfect for beginners and seasoned crafters alike. Experience a supportive environment that fosters skill development and artistic expression while connecting with fellow crafters. :13 Jul 2026 10.30am – 1.30pm. 3 hrs
Join Twinkle Charmz at Ballon BTS for a fun-filled weekend of creative play at our Sensory Camp! Experience engaging activities designed to stimulate creativity and enhance sensory exploration, ideal for ages 4-7. Discover a welcoming environment where learning meets imagination, making it an ideal retreat for individuals and families alike. Saturday, 11 July 11-1pm Cost €50

2-Day Pottery Workshop at Ballon BTS, where creativity comes to life! On Day 1, children will sculpt their unique masterpieces, and on Day 2, they'll bring their creations to vibrant life with paint. This hands-on experience is perfect for sparking imagination and developing skills in a fun, supportive environment! Saturday 1st August & Sat 8th August

Want to learn Office Administration skills & work towards a QQI level 5 certificate? Starting September 2026 in Ballon Business & Training Centre, Co. Carlow. BTEI Carlow are offering modules in: Payroll, Information & Administration, Word Processing, Text Production, Spreadsheets, "Only cost to you is your time and Commitment" Eligibility criteria apply. For more information or how to apply, contact: BTEI Carlow 1b Meadow Court Burrin Street Carlow. R93W227. Tel No: 059 9139532. Email: bteicarlow@kilkennycarlowetb.ie Web: www.fetchcourses.ie

Furniture Upcycling workshop starts 15th Aug, cost €50, bring along a small item of furniture, (no upholstery) and learn to transform it

"Youth 2000 Summer Festival | 13th–16th August Calling all young people aged 16–35! Join us at the Youth 2000 Summer Festival in Newbridge College, Co. Kildare. This is a donation-only event, with free buses available across the country and all meals included. Expect inspiring talks and workshops, Youth Mass, music, prayer, and plenty of opportunities to chill out and meet other young Catholics. Whether you are new to the faith or looking to be refreshed, all are welcome. To register or find out more, visit youth2000.ie or follow @Youth2000Ireland."

'Go ahead and play the blues if it makes you happy'

Parish Office & Shop, 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. Fenagh Road, Ballon R93FX93

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

Large selection of Cards for all occasions. prayer books, rosary beads, gift sets and gift wallets in stock. Call in and see our wide range of religious items.

Catholic Grandparents Association – National Pilgrimage to Knock

Takes place on the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly on Sunday 26th July. Commencing at 2.30pm with the Anointing of the Sick, chief celebrant is Archbishop Eamon Martin. Celebrate the 25th National Grandparents Pilgrimage and the Golden Jubilee of the Knock Basilica with a memorable, faith filled day of prayer, thanksgiving and blessing for grandparents, the elderly and all families.

ACCORD Carlow: We offer counselling in Carlow at St Catherine's on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and we have two upcoming Marriage Preparation courses in September and November in Carlow. Please contact carlow@accord.ie or phone 086 4149034 for more details
Burrin Celtic Lotto: No's 05 - 13 - 25 - 30. No Winner: Lucky Dip Winners: €100: J & A O'Callaghan, Kilnock. **€50.** Mary Flynn, c/o McAsseys. Next weeks Lotto €1,750. Draw Tues 7.30pm.

Graigecullen Bingo; Tuesday 14th July 2026. St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 48 numbers €6,550. Double number €2,210
Lotto €2650. Bonus Ball €1,950.

Ballon GFC Lotto. . No's **05– 24 –27 – 30. Lucky Dip Winners €25 each:** Pat Clarke, c/o Centre. Frances Doyle, Ballon Hill, Caroline Kelly, Mullaunmore, Stacy Eakin, Bangor. Next Draw Mon 13th July 2026 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Jackpot €2,000 Tickets €2. Play on line <https://bit.ly/3FuNdhZ>

Altamont's successful Traditional Sessions are back in the walled garden on two dates this summer, Wednesday 15th July & Wednesday 12th August. Join Altamont Gardens between 2pm to 4pm for a wonderful afternoon's entertainment. **Altamont, Tullow, Carlow, R93 N882. 15 July 2026. 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Bring a seat.**

Taking up the cross in a world of faithfulness

When we sit in the warmth of the sun, when we look on a cloudless blue sky, when we examine the intricacy of a tree in bloom, of a single flower, when we look on the face of a baby, we see the work of God and indeed it is good. We are much blessed that we know that the world is of God, that in fact science has never been able to disprove the existence of God, or to explain the beginning of the world. The Pope asked, "Brothers and sisters, how can the weight of the cross be 'easy' and 'light'? For one reason alone: because the Lord himself carries it with us, never leaving us alone in what burdens us. So why now, when Ireland is materially in a much better place than ever before, have the majority of our people turned away from God? How can each of us explain the joy and wonder of faith and of God's goodness, to those who see nothing of God in the world: for whom He is apparently irrelevant.

How do we assert again the very real sanctity of human life in a country which there is one abortion for every four births, when there is talk of doing the 'compassionate' thing and introducing euthanasia or assisted suicide? How do we encourage those whom we encounter to turn away from the cult of self, and to embrace the love of service of others?

Definition of an opera: where a man gets stabbed and starts singing instead of bleeding.

A man in a restaurant where a pianist is playing in a corner. "Do you play things on request? 'Oh yes sir, says the pianist. 'Great' says the man. 'Play dominoes'.

Rathoe Church: [youtube@stpatricks rathoe.](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpatricks_rathoe)

Ballon Web Cam: YouTube · St Peter & Pauls Church Ballon