

R.I.P: Brian O'Regan, Boggan, Kilbride
R.I.P: Pat O'Neill, Tullow formally Carrigslaney

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 18th Ballon 6.00pm	
Sun 19th Rathoe 10.00am	Kathleen Hosey, Castlemore, M.M
Sun 19th Ballon 11.30am	James Maher, Killane
Tues 21st Ballon 7.00pm	Maurice O'Neill, Kilmurray
Wed 22nd Rathoe 10.00am	
Thurs 23rd Ballon 10.00am	Mary Elizabeth & Peter Breen & deceased members of the Breen Family
Fri 24th Rathoe 7.00pm	
Sat 25th Ballon 6.00pm	
Sun 26th Rathoe 10.00am	Tony Byrne, Rathoe. Jim & Una Byrne, John & Robert Deane & baby Jack. Lilly Esmonde, Graiguenaspidogue
Sun 26th Ballon 11.30am	Peter, Dan & Hannah Jordan, Killane John McHugh, Kilnock

12/07/2026 Offertory €771.40. Envelopes €684.00

Reminder collection for Peter's Pence this 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

Punch needle workshop 23/07/26 11am- 1.30pm

Nutty Scientist camp 27/07/26 - 31/07/26 10am - 1pm

kids pottery 1/08/25 & 8/08/26

Kids crafty camp 10/08/16 - 14/08/26 10.30am - 12.30pm

Deco dream studio workshop 16/08/26 1pm -3.30pm

Glass Art workshop 26/08/26 10am-1pm

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."

Ballon GFC Lotto. No's 08- 13 -14 - 17. **Lucky Dip Winners €25 each**: Eddie Wilson, Maple Lawn, Ciara Carroll, Rathanna, Caroline Kelly, Mullaunmore, John Kelly, Ballon Hill. Next Draw Mon 20th July 2026 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Jackpot €2,050 Tickets €2. Play on line <https://bit.ly/3FuNdhZ>

Graiguecullen Bingo; Tuesday 21st July 2026. St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 48 numbers €6,680. Double number €320 Lotto €2700. Bonus Ball €1,2000.

Catholic Grandparents Association - National Pilgrimage to Knock on Sunday 26th July. Commencing at 2.30pm

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.

Ballon Improvement Group: A meeting will be held on next Wed 22nd July at 8.30pm re Carlow Tourism walk with Éanna Ní Lamhna, volunteers are needed to steward on the night.

Biodiversity Walk and Talk with Éanna Ní Lamhna. Fri 31st July 2026
Venue: Ballon Tree Trail, Ballon, Co. Carlow. Time: 6 p.m. Admission: €10

Burrin Celtic Lotto: No's 03 - 11 - 19 - 27. No Winner: Lucky Dip
Winners: €100: Alan Janey. **€50.** Cian Byrne, Kilnock. Next weeks Lotto €1,800. Draw Tues 7.30pm.

The annual Charity Carriage Drive in aid of the Éist Cancer Support Centre takes place on **Sat, Aug 29, 2026.** The event commences at 2:00 PM from Holy Trinity, Ardoyne (Eircode: R93 D658) and proceeds to Ardattin, continuing to All Saint's, Aghade for a picnic, and finishing in Tullow. All donations are welcome. Contact: **Rev. Dr. Lester Scott at 059 9197028** for any details regarding taking part or contributing. If you cannot make the drive and would still like to contribute to the Éist Cancer Support Centre, donations can be made directly via the [iDonate Éist Cancer Support Centre Profile](#)

Great Conversion

Anne Channing Porter is a highly regarded 20th century American catholic poet. If you enjoy Catholic inspired literature and are not familiar with her 1994 volume *An Altogether Different Language* (or her 2006 collection *Living Things*) you have a delightful surprise waiting for you. Her poems are uncomplicated and accessible free verse, expressing exquisite descriptions of natural and human life illuminated by the power and grace of God and the redeeming love of Jesus Christ.

Anne was born into an upper-class New England family. Several childhood experiences laid the foundations for her conversion to the Catholic faith. She loved the beauty of the natural world that surrounded her. When she encountered the figure of Saint Francis of Assisi in a children's book, she was drawn by the way he saw all creatures as "brothers and sisters" As she grew, she read more about Saint Francis and came to a quiet belief in the existence and presence of God to his creation, and she began to cultivate the habit of daily prayer. He heart was also moved by the many servants in the Channing household, mostly Irish Catholic immigrants. It troubled her that their value as persons seemed underappreciated. She was moved by their poverty.

Anne married Fairfield Porter in 1932 and moved to Greenwich Village in New York. Fairfield was an atheist and a Communist sympathizer. Soon, he was restless with "conventional marriage", he wanted to try "free love". But this painful experiment ultimately strengthened Anne's commitment to love her husband and their children. She then encountered Dorothy Day, the Catholic social activist whose "houses of hospitality" for the poor radiated humility and ardor in the way that had first attracted her to Saint Francis. Dorothy Day recommended to her and old Paulist priest, Fr. Joseph McSorley. He led Anne to embrace the Catholic Church. He husband had settled down in his commitment to his wife and family and although he never converted he respected her decision. Anne eventually became a Third Order Franciscan. She never stopped being a poet and for that we can only be grateful. *John Janaro, associate professor emeritus of theology at Christendom College and author of Never Give Up: My Life and God's Mercy.*

A woman drops he false teeth in the park and is unable to find them in the long grass, a passerby spots her predicament and offers her a spare set. Unfortunately the teeth are too loose so the passerby offers her a second pair, these are too tight so the passerby gives her a third set which fits perfectly. Thank you says the woman I have been looking for a good dentist for ages, I'm not a dentist says the passerby, I'm an undertaker.