

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 22nd Ballon 6.00pm	John F. Kennedy, Cappagh Kathleen & Ivan Percy, Ballykealy Tommy Quirke, Ballymogue
Sun 23rd Rathoe 10.00am	Eilish Hogan, Rathrush Dermot Kealy, Rathoe & Munnelly Family, Ballina, Mayo.
Sun 23rd Ballon 11.30am	
Tues 25th Ballon 7.00	
Wed 26th Rathoe 10.00am	
Thurs 27th Ballon 10.00am	
Fri 28th Rathoe 7.00pm	
Sat 29th Ballon 6.00pm	
Sun 30th Rathoe 10.00am	Donal English-Hayden, Rathrush Ned Byrne, Kilcoole
Sun 30th Ballon 11.30am	

16/08/2026 Offertory €903.35. Envelopes €688.00

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

Glass Art workshop 26/08/26 10am-1pm. **Safe Pass** 2/9/26 from 7.30am - 4.30 pm. **Watercolour Art** starts 16th Sept €60. **Glass Art Workshop** Wed 26th Aug 3 hours €65. **Intermediate Sewing** starts 17th Sept 4 by 3 hours €60. **Jewellery Making** 16th Sept 3 hrs by 4 weeks €80. **3D Needle Felting** 7th Sept 6 sessions €60

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

Templepeter Graveyard Mass. €180.60. was collected for the upkeep of the graveyard. Thanks to everyone who helped out and made it such a success.

Burrin Celtic Lotto: No's 07 - 14 - 22 - 29. No Winner: Lucky Dip Winners: €100: Willie Byrne, Casylegrace. **€50.** Keith Hanley. Next weeks Lotto €2,050. Draw Tues 7.30pm.

"Kilbride Road Improvement Group are holding a meeting in Kilbride Hall on Friday 28th August next at 8pm, to discuss the 'non progress' of the proposed upgrades to the N80 at Boggan, Kilbride and The Whitemills."

Ballon Rambling House in GAA Centre, Fenagh Rd., R93 F793 on Sun 30th August at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be served. Contact Mire George 087-2424934

Marriage Encounter Ireland invites married couples to a residential weekend from Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th October 2026 at the Foculare Centre, Curryhills, Propserous, Co Kildare. Step away from daily distractions and deepen your communication, renew your love, and rediscover the joy of your marriage. www.marriageencounter.ie

The Garreenleen Community Benefit Fund is now open for applications. Approximately €200,000 in funding is available to community groups in the Rathoe area. Apply here: <https://perigusenergy.submit.com/show/4> For more information, visit: Community Benefit Fund - Perigus Energy
Graiguecullen Bingo; Tuesday 25th August 2026. St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 43 numbers €1090. Double number €670 Lotto €2,950. Bonus Ball €2,250.

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. Beautiful new selection of stock.

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** contribute to the Éist Cancer Support Centre, donations can be made directly via the [iDonate Éist Cancer Support Centre Profile](#)

Ballon GFC Lotto. . No's **02– 18 –20 – 29. Match Three Winner €100**
John Kelly, Ballon Hill. Next Draw Mon 24th August 2026 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Jackpot €2,300. Tickets €2. Play on line <https://bit.ly/3FuNdhZ>

A Big Change

We all know boys and girls beginning school or going to a new school or creche this August/early September. There is a lovely welcome generally nowadays from teachers, with even a few sweets around in some classrooms.

I was often reminded that it was a privilege to go to school, as there were so many who didn't get that opportunity—yet as a child, with a child's understanding, I envied those who didn't have to go to school.

Going to school, changing school or indeed finishing school are huge events in the lives of young boys and girls –also for their parents, who are sometimes full of tears at the school door. Parents will miss the little ones at home, and try to help them with school work– for the next 14 years! Despite missing them, I am sure they are grateful that they can go to school. Like those parents, I know all our readers join me in gratitude for the teachers, bus drivers and all those who get children to and through the 'second home'

Donal Neary S.J

Friends and family gathered at Buckfast Abbey on August 12 for the Requiem Mass of Ann Widdecombe, the former cabinet minister and prominent Catholic convert who was murdered aged 78. The Mass was offered by the Rt Rev David Charlesworth OSB, Abbot of Buckfast, at the abbey where Widdecombe had been a regular worshipper. Received into the Catholic Church in 1993, Widdecombe was known throughout her public life for speaking openly about her faith and defending Catholic teaching on questions including the sanctity of life and religious liberty. Buckfast Abbey remembered her as a "woman of profound faith" and a "kind and warm character" who would be "missed and fondly remembered".

My wife converted me to religion, I never believed in Hell until I married her.

Hell is multicultural, the Germans are the police force, the Italians are the defence force, the Indonesians are in charge of housing, the Indians run the railways and the Irish make the laws, the English are the cooks and the common language is Dutch.

I don't like the look of the new missionary said one cannibal to another, that's all right said the other—just eat the potatoes.

Mom is it really true that I'm descendant from monkeys, I don't know said the mother, I never knew any of your father's family.