

R.I.P: Barbara Gahan, Rathoe

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 29th Ballon 6.00pm

Sun 30th Rathoe 10.00am

Donal English-Hayden, Rathrush
Ned Byrne, Kilcoole

Sun 30th Ballon 11.30am

Tues 1st Ballon

No Mass

Wed 2nd Rathoe

No Mass

Thurs 3rd Ballon 10.00am

Fri 4th Rathoe 7.00pm

Laurence, Kathleen & Andy Murphy,
Kellistown

Sat 29th Ballon 6.00pm

John (Jack) Cranny, Boggan

Sun 30th Rathoe 10.00am

Sun 30th Ballon 11.30am

23/08/2026 Offertory €1019.30. Envelopes €816.80

To donate online: Ballon Rathoe Parish:

IBAN: IE24 BOFI 906689 79838964. BIC: BOFIE2D.

Ballon Rathoe Priests Fund: IBAN: IE07BOFI90668984337742. BIC: BOFIE2D

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

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

Safe Pass 2/9/26 from 7.30am - 4.30 pm. **Watercolour Art** starts 16th Sept €60. **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

Burrin Celtic Lotto: No's 03 - 06 - 08 - 24. No Winner: Lucky Dip

Winners: €100: Johnny Nolan, Ballon. **€50.** Aine Ryan, Pottle
Next weeks Lotto €2,100. Draw Tues 7.30pm.

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 1st September 2026. St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 44 numbers €1220. Double number €740. Lotto €3,000. Bonus Ball €2,300.

Kirwan Academy of Irish Dance classes every Wednesday in Ballon Community Centre at 5.30pm Contact Emily Kirwan, A.D.C.R.G on 087-214 0324.

Ballon GFC Lotto. . No's 04- 16 -26 - 28. **Lucky Dip Winners €25**

each: David Brennan, Laragh, Caroline Nolan, Ballon Hill, Tommy Kirwan, Ballon, Emma Byrne, Conaberry. Next Draw Mon 31st August 2026 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Jackpot €2,350. Tickets €2. Play on line <https://bit.ly/3FuNdhZ>

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

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.

Harvest Thanksgiving—All Sanits,' Aghade Sunday 13th Sept, 7pm Speaker: The Rev. Maria Carlsson, Rector of Tullow Group of Parishes. Worship Leaders: Rev. Dr. Lester Scott, Rector and Mr. Eric Driver, Diocesan Reader. Organist. Mr. Stephen Adams. Collections in support of parish funds.

The Children God Has Given Me.

I'm a short woman married to a tall man. As a result, I have children tower over me physically even at a young age. But of course they are still children, and need all the physical affection other children their age need.

Every now and then I still get a small chuckle at the incongruity, as I cuddle a young giant some inches taller than myself. The gracious humour of it hits me: in a way, this is an image of what every mother does. We enfold in our tiny arms a creature with a soul that will live for all eternity. We care for and comfort a being who is *capax Dei*, able to know and love the infinite God. We introduce to life and love a person meant to live God's life, to be filled with his all-powerful love, and to look forever into his face.

Mary knew this breathless incongruity more than anyone: the Child she held in the small circle of her embrace was himself the infinite, all-powerful, all-knowing God. Yet, in his humility, this was how he asked her to love him, as the tiny One in her arms.

And he asks me to love him in my children. When I hold in my arms these small (or not so small) members of Christ's Body, I hold something infinitely precious. **Wendy-Irene Zepeda** is a homeschooling mother of six, writer, and musician. She holds a Master's in theology with a specialization in marriage and the family.

I Knew it Was Christ.

[Our sisters] had to go to the home of the dying. And before they went, I said to them... "You saw during Holy Mass with what tenderness, with what love, Father was touching the Body of Christ. Make sure it is the same body in the poor that you will be touching. Give that same love, that same tenderness." They went.

After three hours they returned, and one of them came up to my room and said, "Mother, I've been touching the body of Christ for three hours." Her face was shining with joy. I said "What did you do sister?" "Well, just as we arrived, they brought a man covered with maggots. He had been picked up from a drain. And for three hours, I have been touching the body of Christ. I knew it was he".... This young sister...understood that Jesus cannot deceive. He had said so; *I was sick and you took care of me.* **Saint Teresa of Calcutta.**

He got a BMW because he wanted a car he could spell

Harry discovers that someone has backed into his Jaguar while it's been in the car park. He finds a note under the windscreen. It says, "Sorry for wrecking your car, The policeman watching me from over the road thinks I'm leaving you my details. But I'm Not.