

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Mission Sunday	
Sat 17th Ballon 6.00pm	Billy Smyth, Ballon Hill
Sun 18th Rathoe 10.00am	Pauline Byrne, Kilcoole Marie Kennedy, & deceased members of Kennedy Family Gilbertstown Mary Larkin, Ballynunnery & her son Pat, her mother & father Paddy & Margaret Larkin, her brothers Pat & Michael Larkin
Sun 18th Ballon 11.30am	Tom Nolan, Boggan, Patrick Doyle, Ballon Hill.
Wed 21st Rathoe 10.00am	Prayer Service
Thurs 22nd Ballon 10.00am	
Fri 23rd Rathoe 7.00pm	
Sat 24th Ballon 6.00pm	Hugh & Fiach O'Byrne, Ballykealy
Sun 25th Rathoe 10.00am	
Sun 26th Ballon 11.30am	

11/10/2026 Offertory €925.89. Envelopes €1320.00
Harvest Collection: Please support the Harvest collection, you will find an envelope in your box of envelopes or there are spare ones in both churches.
October and World Mission Sunday is a time for the faithful of the world to show their appreciation towards the work of overseas missionaries. Envelopes for Mission Sunday in both Churches.
PARISH ENVELOPES: A box of envelopes for 2026-27 is available for each household in the Parish. . The envelopes will be available in both Churches. If you are collecting your own box, you might be so good as to drop off your neighbours box. Thank you for your continued contributions over the past year. Spare envelopes are also available if you need one.
To donate online: Ballon Rathoe Parish: IBAN: IE24 BOFI 906689 79838964. BIC: BOFIE2D. **B/R 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
Courses: Kiln fired pottery - Thurs 5th Nov 10am -1pm. **Needle Felting** - Mon 2nd Nov 10am -12.30pm **5 steps to stress management-** Sat 11th Nov 10am -1pm. **Festive table centrepieces'** - Mon 14th Dec 2pm - 5pm .**Christmas Wreath workshop** Fri 11th Dec 2pm - 5pm .**Flower Arranging** - Fri 16th Oct - 10.30 - 12.30. **Autumnal Wreath Making** - Wed 21st Oct - 10am - 1pm. **Watercolour Art** - Wed 28th Oct - 2pm -4pm . **Intermediate Machine Sewing** - Thurs 22nd Oct - 1pm-4pm
Burrin Celtic Lotto: No's 04 - 11 - 19 - 27. No Winner: Lucky Dip Winners: €100: Joan Hutton. **€50.** Kevin Hutton, Lilly Brennan, Kilnock
Next weeks Lotto €2,450. Draw Tues 7.30pm.
Graiguecullen Bingo; Tues 20th Oct St. Fiaccs Hall @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 48 numbers €2,130. Double number €740. Lotto €3,350. Bonus Ball €2,650.
Rathoe Active Retirement Group: A.G.M. on Wed 21st Oct at 3.30pm in Rathoe Hall. New members welcome.
Living Well Expo running in Mount Wolseley on Wed 25th @ 9:30am - 1pm Contact 087 2145262 or agefriendlycarlow@carlowcoco.ie
Caint agus Caife an Forge Restaurant Déardaoin 22 Oct ag 10.30am R93PC64. Filte Roimh Gach Éinne. Bain sult as deoch te agus comhra!
Proposed multifunctional outdoor recreational hub in Rathoe. You are warmly invited to attend this drop-in Information session to learn more and share their views on the proposed multifunctional outdoor recreational hub. Come along to learn more and share your thoughts on the exciting plans for our park! Rathoe Hall, R93 K5C6. & 20th Oct 2026. 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Or by sharing your thoughts at the following link <https://consult.carlow.ie/en/content/proposed-multifunctional-outdoor-recreationalhub-rathoe>

Parish Office & Shop, Fenagh Road, Ballon. R93 FX93
Phone No: 059-9159959. Email: ballonrathoeaparish@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.
National Childminding Week 19th-23rd October. Eilish Mc Donald, will attend Fairgreen Shopping Centre on 21st October from 9am-1pm and will be available to answer any childminding queries you may have. Free Online Fire Safety Training is also available to Childminders on 20th Oct 7pm-9.30pm. Contact Carlow CCC on 059 9140244 to book your place
Ballon GFC Lotto. . No's **16– 18 –20 – 26. Match Three Winner €100**
Jim George, Craanpursheen. Next Draw Mon 19th Oct 2026 in Fr. Flood House at 9pm. Jackpot €2,700. Tickets €2. Play on line <https://bit.ly/3FuNdhZ>
Connect Magazine: It is that time of the year again for articles for the 2026 edition. Anyone who promised Breeda an article, now is the time to fulfil your promise. Anyone who has anything to contribute– articles or photo-graphs, please email them to breedamcdonald46@gmail.com before the middle of October.
Carlow County Council invites applications for the post of Temporary Relief/Substitute School Wardens in the Ballon and Tullow areas. Please contact the Human Resources Section at 059 9129766 for further details.
Fighting Cocks CLG AGM will take place on November 20th at 8pm in Rathoe Community Hall. Members are invited to submit nominations for election to the Executive Committee and motions for consideration at the AGM. Nominations and motions must be received no later than Nov 6th.
Loop Resistance Class 45 minutes of full-body strength training. Thurs 5th, 12th, 19th &26th Nov. 8-8.45am. Cost €45. Ph: 0851406359 to book.

“Not My Will, But Yours”

A few weeks after her second birthday, our daughter Mia said her first sentence. Three little words that I have now heard thousands of times: “I do it.”

Mia is fiercely independent and loves to do all things by herself and in her own way. Whether she is buckling herself in her car seat, picking out and outfit, or getting down from the swing at the playground– she is completely insistent that she *can* and *will do* something all by herself.

In prayer recently, I realized why this phrase is so familiar to me. How many times throughout the day do I say this to our Heavenly Father? Yet I have the privilege of telling the stories of the saints for my job alongside my husband, and time and again you can see their radical surrender to God’s will. The saints not only accept God’s will above their own– they deserve it.

Not long ago Mia added another word to her vocabulary. She always delivers it with a sigh of defeat after we made it clear that she can’t do everything on her own. “Okay”, she sighs as I buckle her in her car seat. I can’t help but notice a hint of relief in that surrender. All too often I want my own will above our Lord’s, but when I see the relief and even joy in my daughter’s surrender, I am inspired to let go and follow the saints: “Not my will but yours, Lord.”

Melissa Dee is a mom to three little ones and producer for the Saints Alive podcast, which she co-founded with her husband Alex

The best way to remember your wife’s birthday is to forget it once.

The is only one thing that stops him from being a bare face liar, what’s that– his beard.

A small boy watching his Mum do the washing.

Mum where did you work before you got this job here with us?