

Mountrath – Ballyfin Parish News - 20th Jan. 2022

7th Sunday - 7th Week in Ordinary Time

St. Fintan's Parish, Mountrath - Ballyfin

Sat. 19th - Sun. 20th Feb. 2022 - 7th Sunday – Week in ordinary Time.

Fr. P.J. Fitzgerald C.C. (087) 605 5783 Fr. Joe (087) 2411 594

Mountrath Parish Radio transmits on FM 104.5

www.ballyfinparish.ie - www.mountrathparish.ie - Email jmbrophy2@gmail.com

Safeguarding Children Parish Representatives

Ballyfin Parish Triona O'Rourke and Peter Byrne

Mountrath Parish Caroline Moore and Pachelli Walsh

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person: Ms Kathleen Sherry

Deputy Diocesan Liaison Person: Ms Michelle Hughes, c/o Bishop's House, Dublin Rd, Carlow Ph: 085 802 1633

For Anniversary Mass Remembrances see Parish Newsletters -

Breda Thompson (Nee Mooney) Ballylusk, Ballyfin R.I.P.

We pray

for Breda who died peacefully at Regional Hosp., Portlaoise on Wed. 16th Feb. Breda's Funeral Mass will be celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin on Sun. 20th Feb. at 12.30 pm followed by burial in adjoining Cemetery. We keep and hold in our thoughts and prayers at this sad and difficult time, Breda's family and friends.

May Breda rest in the peace of Christ.

Arthur Buckley, Laurel Hill, Coolrain. R.I.P.

We pray for Arthur who died peacefully at his home on Tues. 15th Feb. Arthur's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fergal's Church, Camross on Sat. 19th Feb. followed by burial in adjoining Cemetery. We extend sympathy to wife Ann (nee Moloney) and his children Gerard, Yvonne, David, Eoghan, Ann Marie, Michael and Claire, and their families, his 20 grandchildren, his sister Mary, sons in law, daughters in law, nieces and nephew, neighbours and many life long friends.

May Arthur rest in the peace of Christ.

Month's Mind Masses

Sat. 5th Mch. 7.00 pm Bernard (Bernie) O'Keeffe, Moanbaun.

Sun. 6th March. 10.00 am Rita Fitzpatrick (Nee Keegan) Esker. (Ballyfin Church)

1st Anniv. Mass Remembrance

Martin Lowry, Lower Sconce. Sun. 13th March 11.30 am

We remember in our Prayers

People, their families and carers, who are ill – at home, in Hospital or in a Nursing Home at this time

Synod News: Practical Information on our Listening Lent

The K&L Synod Committee is preparing templates for parishes to use in listening sessions during Lent. Parishes are very welcome to join with other parishes in hosting these sessions. We will also be offering an online survey that we ask parishes to promote during Lent. Parishioners might be invited to take out their phones at an appropriate point at Mass, perhaps during the homily, and find the link to the survey for use later. While the diocesan committee will host focus groups during Lent, Parishes are also very welcome to identify particular groups they wish to hear from using the template as a tool. The intentional listening that might take place between two people over a cup of coffee will be equally welcome. A youth listening template will be offered also.

Digital submissions from parishes will be able to be submitted to a dedicated email address Guidelines for how the submissions can be assembled will also be offered in due course.

"Healing Whispers" Dedicated to Áine Purcell R.I.P.

Áine Purcell (nee O'Connell) Lower Sconce, died on 4th May of last year after battling with Motor Neurone Disease with great dignity and courage. At the onset of her illness Áine was member of Ballyfin National School Board of Management Committee. A handsome book, featuring some of Aine's lovely photography, dedicated to Áine, has recently been published.

- Available at Laois Pharmacy and All Books and News in Portlaoise. at cost of € 15
All proceeds going to IMNDA (Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association)

2022 Diary Dates

Wed. 2nd March Ash Wed.

Mountrath - Masses 10.0 am and 7.30 pm

Ballyfin - 7.30 pm

As we did last year, we will be preparing small sachets of Bless Ashes for you to collect at our Churches on Ash Wednesday.

St. Fintan's Community Hall AGM

The AGM of the St. Fintan's Community Hall will take place on Thursday March 3 at 8pm. It is hoped that all clubs who use the Hall will send a representative as we need new faces and new ideas going forward with the running of the Hall and the Bingo. All are very welcome.

Apostolate of Santification began on Mon 17th Jan

St. Fintan's Church, Church. Starts at 7.00 pm

Intercession for Bishops and Priests, through Our Lady of Knock takes place each Monday night at 6.45pm in our parish church, St.Fintan's Ballyfin. All are invited to join in the two hour session which consists of community prayer, reciting -

The Divine Mercy Chaplet, meditations on The Holy Rosary and a chaplet offered for our Bishops and priests in the presence of The Blessed Sacrament. When we pray for our priests, Our Lady of Knock blesses us and our families abundantly. All most welcome!

Admissions/Enrolments to Ballyfin N.S. will open on January 13th 2022 until February 13th 2022. Forms will be available on the school website from January 13th 2022. Our school website is www.ballyfinns.ie Our Admission's Notice will appear on the school website from January 6th 2022



Ballyfin Parish Lotto 16th Feb Jackpot €13,000

Nos. Drawn 4 17 23 30

No Winner 16 Match 3 Rec. €63 ea.

2 Ballyfin Winners - Damian O'Rourke Promoter, Patrick O'Rourke,
Marie McEvoy, Promoter, Mary McEvoy

New Jackpot € 14,000

Sincere thanks to everyone involved in Ballyfin Parish Lotto – your loyal support is much appreciated

Mountrath Lotto 17th

Nos. Drawn 7 19 25 29

No Winner of €10,000 Jackpot

9 Match 3 Rec. € 112 each

1 Mountrath Match 3 Winner

PJ and Teresa Gorman

Promoter, Bernie Phelan.

New Jackpot €11,000

Sincere thanks to everyone involved in Ballyfin and Mountrath Parish Lottos - Organising Committees, Promoters, Shops and others who facilitate the sale of Lotto Tickets and most importantly, you, who purchase a Lotto ticket every week. We extend a very sincere "thank you" for your loyal support and your unending generosity

Mountmellick Drama Festival - 4th to 11th March 2022

Mountmellick Drama Festival makes its much-anticipated return to the Community Arts Centre with an exciting programme of plays to suit all tastes from Friday to Friday, 4-11 March. Friday 4 March, The Ray Leonard Players, *The Beauty Queen Of Leenane* by Martin McDonagh; Saturday 5 March, Skibbereen Theatre Society, *Brighton* by Jim Nolan; Sunday 6 March, Palace Players, *Chapatti* by Christian O'Reilly; Monday 7 March, Mullingar Theatre Society, *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* by David Wasserman; Tuesday 8 March, Ballyduff Drama Group, *Rabbit Hole* by David Lindsay Abaire.

Wednesday 9 March, Kilrush Drama Group, *Little Gem* (adult only) by Elaine Murphy; Thursday 10 March, Dalkey Players, *Eurydice* by Sarah Ruhl; and Friday 11 March, Prosperous Dramatic Society, *God of Carnage* by Yasmina Reza. - Nightly ticket €12 (€7), season ticket €60 curtain up at 8pm. Booking and enquiries on 087 7942994 or 087 4121205.

Visit www.mountmellickdramafestival.ie.

Dates for Confirmation and 1st Holy Communion Celebrations in 2022.

We have made the following arrangements for the celebration of the Sacraments of Confirmation and 1st Holy Communion during 2022.

While putting these arrangements in place we are mindful that we are still very much in "Covid 19 Pandemic mode" – Once again the safety of our children and their families and indeed, the safety of everyone involved in the preparation and celebration of these sacraments has been (and must be) our priority and first consideration.

Ballyfin Parish

Confirmation - St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin. 2 Celebrations of Confirmation

Time of each Ceremony 11.00 am.

Sat. 26th March 2022 (Last Sat. in March) - Sat. 2nd April 2022 (First Sat. in April)

Celebration of 1st Holy Communion. 2 Ceremonies. Time of each Ceremony 2.00 pm

Sunday 22nd May 2022 Sunday 29th May 2022

Mountrath Parish

Confirmation - St. Fintan's Church, Mountrath. 2 Ceremonies.

Scoil Naomh Brid. Wed. 16th March. Time 11.00 am

St. Fintan's Boys Nat. Sch. Wed. 16th March 2.00 am

Celebration of 1st Holy Communion - 2 Ceremonies. Time of each Ceremony 2.00 pm

Sunday 8th May 2022 Sunday 15th May 2022

Where there are more than one in a family intending to receive the Sacraments next year (For example – one family member receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation and another member of family, receiving 1st Holy Communion) families are most welcome to combine these ceremonies and have these 2 Celebrations during one Ceremony of their choice. If a family prefers to bring their son or daughter to any of our Parish weekend Masses to receive either of the Sacraments, they are most welcome to do so. *Just contact Fr. Joe.*

Once again, this year, despite all the odds, we managed to celebrate all our Sacraments with respect, dignity and meaning and in a timely way - all in a safe and secure environment for everyone. This in no small way was due to the cooperation and goodwill of everyone involved, Candidates for the Sacraments, parents and families of Candidates, Our teachers and schools staff, Sacramental coordinators and people who prepared our churches and kept them safe for us.

Once again, I wish to express sincere thanks to everyone involved in the celebration of Sacraments of 1st Penance, 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation this year - With your help, goodwill and cooperation, we can (*and Please God, we will*) do the same again next year. *Fr. Joe*

School Enrolment

Gaelscoil Thromaire now accepting enrolments for school year '22/'23 at
gaelscoilthromaire00@gmail.com

You can contact the school to speak to the Principal and Class Teacher. A visit to the school can be organised in line with Covid 19 Regulations.

ALONE - The Organisation that supports Older People to Live Independently.

"ALONE supports older people to age at home, combatting loneliness and isolation. Would you like to volunteer from the comfort of your own home? ? We are seeking volunteers to make Support and Befriending calls to older people. Please visit our website at www.alone.ie or call our National Support and Referral line on 0818 222 024 to find out more about volunteering.

DPC News: (Diocesan Pastoral Council)

There is now a dedicated page on the diocesan website for the DPC – you can view it at <https://www.kandle.ie/pastoral/diocesan-pastoral-council/> where you will find information on membership, the mission statement and identified themes. It also announces Gerry Martin as the new Chair of the DPC and Jean Roche as its secretary.

Ballyfin Community Alert Seniors Alert Scheme

Personal monitored alarms offer security & peace of mind particularly during Winter season. If you are aged 65 or over and would like more information on applying for a government grant aided alarm, Please contact Sheila on 086 1570145
