

## St. Fintan's Parish, Ballyfin

Sat. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Sun. 4<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas  
Fr. P.J. S.P.S. (087) 605 5783 Fr. Joe (087) 2411 594  
[www.ballyfinparish.ie](http://www.ballyfinparish.ie) Email [jmbrophy2@gmail.com](mailto:jmbrophy2@gmail.com)  
Mountrath Ballyfin Parish App. *Mountrath Ballyfin Parishes*

**Mass Times - Anniversaries Sat. 3<sup>rd</sup> to Sun. 11<sup>th</sup> Jan**  
Sat. 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan. 8.00 pm Kathleen and Richard Guilfoyle,  
Pallas, Kathleen's 1<sup>st</sup> Anniv. Richard's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniv.  
Sun. 4<sup>th</sup> Jan. 10.00 am 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas  
Mon. 5<sup>th</sup> Jan. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification  
Sat. 10<sup>th</sup> Jan. 8.00 pm Vigil Mass - Baptism of the Lord.  
Sun. 11<sup>th</sup> Jan. 10.00 am Feast of Baptism of the Lord.  
Mon. 12<sup>th</sup> Jan. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification  
**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Mass Remembrances**  
Sun. 25<sup>th</sup> Jan. 10.00 am Mary Conroy, Ross - Sutton, Dublin  
Sun. 8<sup>th</sup> Feb. 10.00 am John Hearn, Hillview, Portlaoise.

## New Year Blessing

Taken from "The Gate to the Year"  
by Minnie Louise Haskins - Written in 1909

And I said to the man who stood  
at the gate of the year:  
"Give me a light that I may tread safely  
into the unknown."  
And he replied:  
"Go out into the darkness and  
put your hand into the Hand of God.  
That shall be to you better than light  
and safer than a known way."  
So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God,  
trod gladly into the night.  
And He led me towards the hills and the breaking  
of day in the lone East.

## Ballyfin Parish Income

Week ending 20/21<sup>st</sup> Dec

49 Envelopes.....€632.00  
Offertory Collection.....€297.78  
Lenten Stations.....€30.00  
Easter Dues.....€30.00  
Autumn Dues.....€50.00  
November Stations.....€150.00  
Christmas Dues.....€520.00

Christmas Eve

Christmas Day

32 Envelopes.....€1,098.00  
Offertory Collection....€1,399.55  
Lenten Stations.....€30.00  
Easter Dues.....€40.00  
Autumn Dues.....€160.00  
November Stations.....€185.00  
Retired Priest Fund.....€10.00  
Peter Pence.....€10.00

Week ending 27/28<sup>th</sup> Dec,

33 Envelopes.....€335.00  
Offertory Collection....€261.22  
Lenten Stations.....€20.00  
Autumn Dues.....€40.00  
November Stations.....€70.00  
Christmas Dues.....€2,110.00  
Ballyfin Bridge Club € 700.00

I wish to extend my very  
sincere appreciation to you for  
your loyal and most generous  
support of Ballyfin Parish  
Collections and Ballyfin Parish  
Lotto throughout the year.  
Your generous support is  
deeply appreciated.

Fr. Joe Brophy - Parish Priest.

*Lord, for  
your faithful  
people, Life  
is changed,  
Not ended*

## Safeguarding Children Parish Reps.

Ballyfin Triona O'Rourke and Peter Byrne  
Mountrath Caroline Moore Pacelli Walsh  
Diocesan Designated Liaison Person:  
Ms. Ailish Higgins. Deputy Diocesan Liaison  
Michelle Hughes, c/o Bishop's House,  
Dublin Rd., Carlow Ph: 085 802 1633

## "Do This In Memory"

Masses next Weekend

Mountrath Church Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Jan.  
Ballyfin Church. Sun. 11<sup>th</sup> Jan.  
7.00 pm Mt.R. 10.00 am Ballyfin

## Margaret (Maggie) O'Rourke (nee Bowe) Lower Sconce. R.I.P.

We pray for Margaret who died peacefully at Regional Hosp., Portlaoise on Christmas Day (Thurs. 25<sup>th</sup> Dec). Margaret's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> Dec. followed by burial in Mountrath Cemetery. We extend sympathy to Carmel (Fitzpatrick) Dysart, Michael and John and their families, 6 grandchildren, Patrick, Breda, Ciara, Aoife, Meg and Kim, brother Mick and family, New Road, Mountrath, nephews, nieces, extended family, relatives, neighbours and friends. *May Margaret rest in the peace of Christ*

## 250 Years of Presentation Sisters

A proud legacy that has deep roots in our Diocese.  
Tullow St., Carlow founded in 1811 and from Carlow,  
Portlaoise founded in 1824; Kildare in 1830;  
Stradbally in 1852; Portarlinton and Mountmellick in  
1854; Clondalkin in 1857 and Baltinglass in 1873.  
from Portlaoise, Bagenalstown founded in 1837 and  
Clane in 1839. From Kildare, Wagga Wagga in New  
South Wales, Australia founded in 1874 and from  
Clondalkin, Lucan was founded in 1867 and  
Warrenmount in 1892, Lismore, New South Wales in  
1896 and Rockford Manor in 1958.

*Quote from Bishop Denis Nulty*

## Ballyfin Parish Lotto

1st Draw of 2026 Wed. 7<sup>th</sup> Jan.

**Jackpot € 10,000**

I wish to extend my very sincere appreciation to  
you for your loyal support of Ballyfin Parish  
Lotto throughout the year.

Fr. Joe Brophy - Parish Priest.

## Ministries Rota

Sat. 10<sup>th</sup> - Sun. 11<sup>th</sup> Jan.

Reader Ministers of Holy Comm

Sat. 8.00 pm TBC Mary Finn

Sun. 10.00am TBC Alacoque Gilligan

Collectors for January

Sat. Denis Bowe Sun. John Coughlan

## LOURDES



**MOUNTMELICK, BALLYFIN, MOUNTRATH  
LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026**

Spiritual Director: Fr Micheál Murphy

20<sup>th</sup> July 2026

**7 Nights Hotel La Solitude**

€1,120 per person sharing

- Direct return flights
- Return airport transfers in Lourdes
- 7 nights' accommodation in the Hotel La Solitude
- Full Board: breakfast, lunch & dinner each day
- Full religious programme including Mass at the Grotto, Anointing of the Sick, Torchlight Procession, Blessed Sacrament Procession & International Mass
- Visit places associated with the life of St. Bernadette
- Full assistance of Joe Walsh Tours guides and representatives throughout the pilgrimage and at airports
- Single rooms available - supplement is €49 per night
- Travel Insurance available €55 up to 79 years; €75 for those 80 - 94 years old
- Deadline for deposits (€200 per person) is Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

LIMITED NUMBER OF PLACES AVAILABLE.  
For more information and to book please contact:  
Ann 087-4186192

See Online Newsletter for Details