

Mountrath Ballyfin

Online Newsletter

Sat. 8th Sun. 9th Aug. 2026



Liam O'Neill R.I.P.

1955 — 2026

Bawnaree, Parkavilla, Mountrath,

Mountrath Ballyfin Online Newsletter

(Online from Early Saturday mornings)

Fr. P.J. Fitzgerald S.P.S C.C. (087) 605 5783

Fr. Joe Brophy P.P. (087) 241 1594

Website www.mountrathparish.ie

or www.ballyfinparish.ie

Email jmbrophy2@gmail.com

Name of Parish App.

Mountrath and Ballyfin Parishes

Sun. 16th August
2026

20th Sunday
In Ordinary Time

Safeguarding Children Parish Reps

Ballyfin Triona O'Rourke and Peter Byrne

Mountrath Caroline Moore Pacelli Walsh

Deputy Diocesan Liaison

Michelle Hughes c/o Bishop's House,

Dublin Rd., Carlow Ph: 085 802 1633

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person:

Ms. Ailish Higgins is now on Maternity Leave

Maternity Cover for Diocesan DLP., Ailish Higgins,
is being provided on a part-time basis by Michelle Hughes,
our current deputy DLP.

Anniversaries

Masses

From

Page 35

Obituaries

Liam O'Neill, Parkavilla, (Trumera) R.I.P.

We pray for Liam who died peacefully at his home, following illness, on Tues. 4th Aug. Liam's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Raheen on Sat. 8th Aug. followed by committal ceremony in adjoining Cemetery. We extend sympathy to Áine, Caoimhe, Ciarán and Clíodhna and their families, grandchildren, Éanan, Orla, Aobh and Alva. sisters Maria, Gráinne, Mairéad, Gertrude, Suzette, brothers Diarmuid, Colm, and Killian and their families. Many yards and many reams of print have been filled with countless tributes to Liam on his untimely passing, expressing thanks for Liam's many achievements throughout his life, as family man, teacher and Principal at Gaelscoil Thromaire, his involvement with INTO and Laois Education Centre. - his lifetime involvement with the G.A. A. at so many levels and in so many capacities, involvement with Cumann na mBunscol / Cool Camps - as member and manager of Trumera G.A.A. Club, Secretary and Chair of the Leinster Council, as 37th President/ Uachtarán, Chumann Lúthchleas Gael from 2012 to 2015, Liam has the distinction of being the only President of the GAA to be elected, unopposed. Reading through the countless tributes to Liam on r.i.p. I was very taken by the range of Counties (and indeed countries) and Clubs, the length and breath of the land which his presence touched over the years. Liam, has certainly left his mark. At Community level, Liam had significant involvement in so many aspects of life throughout the County, with "Laois Leader" Programmes and as member of Mountrath Town Team since its inception about 4 years ago. (to mention but a few). I conclude with a short piece from one person's blessing to Liam - Braithneoidh mé uaim é Liam mar bhí sé iontaofa, fírineach, láidir agus misniúil. Ní bheidh a leithéid arís ann. Slán agus beannacht a chara agus leaba i measc na Naoimh go raibh agat.

Anne McDermott (née Ryan) Trumera, R.I.P.

We pray for Anne who died suddenly and unexpectedly at St. James' Hosp., on Sat. 8th Aug. Anne's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Raheen on Wed. 12th Aug. followed by burial in Mountrath Cemetery. We extend sympathy to Sharon and Brian, grandchildren Ben, Dara and Eoin, brothers Seamus and John and their families, nephews, nieces, extended family, relatives, close friends and neighbours.

May Anne rest in the peace of Christ.

Annie Patricia (Alo) Heffernan (Nee Phelan),
New Line Road. R.I.P.

We pray for Alo who died peacefully at Oakdale Nursing Home. Portarlinton on Sat. 1st Aug. Alo's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Mountrath on Tues. 4th Aug. followed by burial in Mountrath Cemetery. We extend sympathy to Tom and Ann Portlaoise, Geraldine and Liam, Redcastle and Ann and Joe, Portlaoise Rd., and their families, her 9 grandchildren Keith, Alan, Ian, Liam Óg, Claire, Damien, Joanne, Jillian and Colm and their families, her 15 great-grandchildren; Sisters, Sheila, Patrick St. and Bernie (Oxford) brothers Eddie, Willie and Mick and their partners and families, nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews, extended family, neighbours and her many friends.

May Alore rest in the peace of Christ.

Kildare and Leighlin

Eucharistic Adoration Prayer Day

"Peace I leave you; My peace I give you" John 14:27.

Find peace in a day of Prayer and Adoration. K&L Eucharistic Adoration Committee invites you to join us with Most Rev. Bishop Denis Nulty, Fr Ruairi O Domhnaill, Ms Margaret Brennan & Guest Speakers Ms Una Allen and Ms Mary Connolly.

Location: Mount St. Anne's, Portarlinton. (R32 WN59)

Date: Sat. 29th Aug. 9.30am - 4.00pm.

Concludes with Holy Mass 3pm

Refreshments on arrival - Lunch 12.30-1.15. Cost €25.00

Booking Essential. Call or Text with name and number
of companions

Barbara Kinsella 0861637311

Delany Archive Heritage Week Lecture

The Delany Archive welcomes Dr Niamh NicGhabhann Coleman for a Heritage Week lecture on "Catholic Churches and Chapels Before and After Emancipation", including examples from churches in the Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin. The lecture will be held at Carlow College, St Patrick's (R93 A003) on 18th August at 7.00 pm.

All are welcome. Admission is free of charge and no booking is required. Further event details are available at www.heritageweek.ie

Dr NicGhabhann Coleman is an Associate Professor in the School of History and Geography at the University of Limerick and is currently researching a book on the development of Catholic architecture in Ireland between the 1820s and 1930s.

National Synodal Pathway Update

Preparations are continuing for the National Synodal Assembly, which will take place in October. Working groups from across the country are reflecting on the key priorities identified through the synodal process and helping to shape the next stage of the Church's journey in Ireland.

To learn more and view the latest video update from Fr. Declan Hurley, Chairperson of the National Synodal Pathway, and Patricia Carroll, member of the National Synodal Pathway and Pastoral Coordinator for the Archdiocese of Dublin, please visit <https://theway.ie/the-irish-synodal-pathway-progress-and-purpose/>

Irish Synodal Pathway

The 7 Priorities Proposed

Belonging: Fostering a Church of welcome, inclusion, and safety where each person finds a home in community and in Christ.

Coreponsibility and Lay Ministry: Empowering all the baptised, women and men alike, to share responsibility for leadership and mission through new models of ministry and decision-making.

Family: Supporting the domestic Church as the primary place of faith transmission and belonging, and strengthening its connection with parishes and schools

Formation and Catechesis: Deepening faith through lifelong formation that is Christ centred, experiential, and equips the baptised for discipleship in today's world.

Healing: Acknowledging wounds, especially those caused by abuse; committing to accountability, justice, and reconciliation; and ensuring safe spaces for survivors and all who carry pain.

Women: Recognising and including women's gifts, leadership, and coreponsibility at every level of Church life, as a matter of justice and credibility.

Youth: Engaging young people with authenticity offering our youth meaningful roles in leadership and mission, and listening to their hopes and challenges.

Cemetery Masses

Boughlone Cemetery

Wed. 2rd Sept.

Masses Commence at 7.00 pm

New Defibrillator at Ballyfin Old School

Official Name of Device - Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

(An AED is a portable device and can be used by anyone to help someone experiencing cardiac arrest)

A new state of the art defibrillator and cabinet have been installed at Ballyfin Old School. This Unit has been installed for the protection of patrons of Ballyfin Old School and Ballyfin Community Centre / Ballyfin Parish Hall.

A note about the Defibrillator.

The Cabinet containing the defibrillator is not locked and is available to use, instantly, at any time. When the cabinet door is opened an alarm sounds.

I would like if a number of local people would engage in a training / familiarization programme in the safe use of the Defibrillator. If a number of people come forward, I will organize suitable training –

To ensure that the defibrillator is always in working order and fit for purpose, it needs to be checked out on a regular basis. I would like if a kind local person would commit to looking after the unit on behalf of the Parish. I very much appreciate your help and co-operation.

Please contact me if you are interested in becoming .
involved in this project.

Parishes Alive

Becoming Synodal

Our Bishop, Bishop Denis and the Diocesan Pastoral Council invites you to the third annual Parishes Alive Day on Saturday, June 20th from 10am to 4pm in Carlow College, St. Patrick's. The day will be facilitated by Dr Donagh O'Brien, CEO of Mount St Anne's Retreat & Conference Centre and Janet Forbes the Youth Director in the Archdiocese of Armagh and a Member of the National Synodal Team.

The day will explore how we can become more synodal in practice in our parishes and pastoral areas, taking baptism as a starting point and leading to practical explorations of key aspects of being synodal, including local decision making. Attendees will be given resources to take away for future use in their Parishes..

Lunch and refreshments will be provided. There is no charge to attend or for the hospitality.

Because these are "roundtable" sessions, numbers are limited so early booking is advised. To book or for further information email Pat Roche, Diocesan Director of Parish Development, on parishdevelopment@kandle.ie

Thank You

*Thank you for your continued and generous
support of Mountrath Parish Weekly Lotto
and Mountrath Parish Collections.*

And

*Ballyfin Parish Weekly Lotto
and Ballyfin Parish Collections.*

*Your kind and generous support is
much appreciated*

A Note of Thanks

To everyone involved in Ballyfin Parish Lotto,
Organising Committee, Promoters,
Shops and others who facilitate the sale of Lotto Tickets
and most importantly,
you, who purchase a Lotto ticket every week.

I extend a very sincere
"Thank You"
for your continued loyal support and generosity.

Fr. Joe Brophy P. P.

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*One day of prayer in honour
of St. Carlo Acutis:*

Sun. 6th, Sept.; Bus departs:

*Monasterevin, Kildare,
Newbridge, Naas, Sallins, Clane, Kilcock,
Maynooth, M3 Parkway.*

To book your place

Telephone / Text Deirdre 087 2467594

Email: deirdregleeson@medwise.ie

Parishes Alive - Becoming Synodal:

Bishop Denis and the Diocesan Pastoral Council invite you to the 3rd Annual Parishes Alive Day on Sat. June 20th from 10am to 4pm in Carlow College, St. Patrick's. The day will be facilitated by Dr Donagh O'Brien, CEO of Mount St Anne's Retreat and Conference Centre and Janet Forbes the Youth Director in the Archdiocese of Armagh and a Member of the National Synodal Team. Much of the day will be interactive and workshop based. Lunch and refreshments provided. There is no charge to attend or for the hospitality.

Because these are "roundtable" sessions, numbers are limited so earlybooking is advised.

To book or for further information email Pat Roche, Diocesan Director of Parish Development, on parishdevelopment@kandle.ie or phone (office hours) 083-830 5681.

Safeguarding Children Parish Reps

Ballyfin Triona O'Rourke and Peter Byrne

Mountrath Caroline Moore Pacelli Walsh

Deputy Diocesan Liaison

Michelle Hughes c/o Bishop's House,

Dublin Rd., Carlow Ph: 085 802 1633

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person:

Ms. Ailish Higgins is now on Maternity Leave

*We extend our best wishes to Ailish and her partner
at this special time*

Safeguarding Message

Maternity Cover for Diocesan DLP., Ailish Higgins, is being provided on a part-time basis by Michelle Hughes, our current deputy DLP.

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(Online from Early Saturday mornings)

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Email jmbrophy2@gmail.com

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Anniversary Masses Page 35

Ministries Rotas Page 42

Ways of Supporting Parish 48

Lotto Results Page 68

Bloom HQ Page 74

Parish Finances Page 115

Anniversary

Masses

Mountrath Ballyfin

Parishes

Anniversary Masses

Mountrath Ballyfin Parishes

Sat. 15th August

To

Sun. 23rd Aug

Lord, for your faithful people,

Life is Changed, not ended

Ballyfin Anniversaries

Mass Times – Anniversaries

Continued

Sat. 15th Aug. - Sun. 23rd Aug.

Fri.. 21st Aug. 5.00 pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

Sat. 22nd Aug. 8.00 pm Paddy Brennan, Pallas Big. 3rd Anniv.

And his parents, Phoebe and Michael Brennan.

Sun. 23rd Aug. 10.00 am Peter Coughlan.

Mon. 24th Aug. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification

Ministries Rota

Sat. 22nd Aug,

Sun. 23rd Aug.

Ballyfin Parish

Ministries Rota Sat. 22nd – Sun. 23rd Aug.

Reader Ministers of Holy Comm

Sat. 8.00 pm Joe Fingleton Sheila Dowling

Sun. 10.00 am Br. Nicholas Brid Duff

Collectors for Aug.

Sat. Catherine Carroll

Sun. Edward Coughlan

Mountrath Parish

Ministries Rota

Sat 22nd Sun. 23rd Aug.

Readers Sat. John Mulhare Sun. Mgt. Keegan

Min. of Holy Communion

Sat. 7.00 pm Collette Byrne

Anne-Marie Byrne Peg Russell

Sun. 11.30 am Peter Middleton Bernie Phelan

Collectors During August

Sat. Niamh O'Hara

Sun. Pat Mc Spadden

Donal Doheny

Would you like to become more involved
in Mountrath or Ballyfin Parish ?

As

- Minister of Holy Communion
- Member of our hospitality team who looks
after our church building
- Reader, Proclaimer of The Word
- Collector at Mass
- ▪ Member of our parish choir
- Member of any of our Parish Organisations
- Server at Mass

We would welcome your involvement.

Please contact either Fr. P.J or myself
with an expression of interest.

Fr. P.J. 087 605 5783 Fr. Joe 087 241 1594

Rainbows Peer Support Programme

Places available for September offering a 9 week programme of weekly of 1 hour sessions of peer support to children aged 7 years and older experiencing loss through bereavement or parental separation.

Please contact the coordinator on 0871256199 or email rainbows.carlowtown@gmail.com

This service is completely free of charge.

Based in Askea, Carlow.

Ted Fest in Mountmellick

At The Druid on Sun, 23rd Aug

Inspired by the much-loved Father Ted series,
Ted Fest will feature live music, food, drinks,
competitions and entertainment throughout the
afternoon. (from 3pm,) with Paul Watchorn of
The Dubliners, Spoonfed
and The Jury all set to perform.

A very sincere *Thank You*

to you and your family -

for your very generous support of

and continued commitment to

Mountrath and Ballyfin Parish Funds

And

Mountrath and Ballyfin Parish Lottos

Get Well Wishes

We keep and hold in our Thoughts and Prayers,

People, their families and carers,

who are ill or unwell, at home,

in Hospital or Nursing Home

or undergoing any surgical or medical

procedures at this time.

We wish you a speedy recovery

