

Mountrath Ballyfin

Online Newsletter

3rd - 4th Jan. 2026

2nd Sunday of Christmas

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."

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

A New Year's Prayer and 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.

In This Issue

Leader Page (Parish Contacts)	Page 2
New Year Prayer and Blessing	Page 3
In This Issue	Pages 4 to 7

Obituaries

Phina and Pat Kavanagh, Clonard.	Page 8
Margaret (Maggie) O'Rourke (Nee Bowe),Lr. Sconce	Page 9
Moirity Delaney, Woodview, Lacca.	Page 10
Elizabeth Ormsby (nee Vousden) Rosslare Harbour	Page 10
New Year Blessing	Page 11
Thank You - Ballyfin Parish	Page 12
Thank You - Mountrath Parish	Page 13
"Thank you" to Ballyfin Bridge Club	Page 14
Lourdes Pilgrimage July 2026	Page 15
Tots and Co. Playschool — Promotion	Page 17
Ref. Mountrath Parish Financial Statement	Page 18
Ref. Ballyfin Parish Financial Statement	Page 19
Ministries Rota Mountrath	Page 20
Ministries Rota Ballyfin	Page 21

In This Issue Page 2

Next "Do This In Memory" Mass	Page 22
Café Donate Open on Patrick St.	Page 23
Sunday Missals 2026 (Ballyfin)	Page 24
Sunday Missals 2026 (Mountrath)	Page 35
Sacramental Dates	Page 26
Next "Do This In Memory" Masses	Page 27
Parish Confirmation Preparation Dates	Page 28
Sacramental Dates Mountrath	Page 329
Sacramental Dates Ballyfin Parish	Page 30
1 st Eucharist Preparation Programme	Page 31
Arranging Anniversary Mass or Month's Mind Mass	Page 32
Safeguarding Children Parish Reps.	Page 33
Ways to contribute to Parish	Page 34
Re. Parish Newsletters - Deadline	Page 35
Parish News	From Page 36
Seniors Alert Scheme (Ballyfin)	Page 44

In This Issue Page 3

Tax Back Scheme Mountrath Parish Page 45

Tax Back Scheme – Ballyfin Parish Page 46

“Thank You” Note Page 47

Get Well Wishes Page 48

Bingo in Mountrath Hall Page 49–50

Ways to Contribute to Parish Funds

Bank Details Page 51

Anniv. Masses From Page 52

Ballyfin Page 53

Mountrath Pages 54 - 55

Parish Lotto Results From Page 56

K and L News Page 61

Irish Cancer Society's Transport Service Page 74

250 Years of Presentation Sisters Page 63

Events in Bloon HQ From Page 64

Other News From Page 101

Tots and Co. Playschool Promotion Page 102

In This Issue Page 4

Fiddle Workshops with Gerry O'Connor Page 103

Café Donate - Now Open on Patrick St., Page 104

Parish Finances From Page 105

Bank Account Details Page 106

Ballyfin Parish Statement of Account 2024 Page 107 / 9

Mountrath Parish Statement of Account 2024 Page 110 / 113

Parish Bank Accounts Details

Ways to Contribute to Parish Page 114

Tax Back - Mountrath Parish Page 115

Tax Back - Ballyfin Parish Page 116

A "Thank You" Note Page 117

Mountrath Prish Statement of Account 2023 Page 118

Ballyfin Prish Statement of Account 2023 Page 119

Phina (nee Maher) and Pat Kavanagh,

Clonard, Kilbricken. R.I.P.

We pray for Phina who died peacefully at her home on Wed. 17th Dec. and for her husband Pat who died peacefully at Reg. Hosp., Portlaoise on Tues. 23rd Dec. Phina's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Mountrath on Fri. 19th Dec. Pat's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Mountrath on Sun. 28th Dec. Phine and Pat were laid to rest in Mountrath Cemetery. We extend sympathy to Mary, Fenton, Michael, Ronan and families, Phina and Pat's 10 grandchildren, Conor, Ryan, Aoife, Aisling, Seán, Ruaidhrí, Katie, Eoin, Tadhg and Lucy, Phina's sisters Nora and Mary, Pat's sister and brother, May and Seán and their families, nieces and nephews and their families, relatives and a wide circle of friends. Phina and Pat were highly involved in Parish and Community over their lifetime. Phina was Minister of Holy Communion and Reader at Church of the Sacred Heart, The Hollow for many years. Many will know Phina as Principal at Killanure National School where she taught for 35 years. I first met Phina when I was appointed curate to Mountrath Ballyfin Parishes, when I, as Chair of the Board of Management of Gaelscoil Thromaire reappointed her as Community Rep. on the School's Board of Management Committee in 2012. Pat, very well known to many of us as the "voice" of Mountrath Co Op. Marts on the Rushin Road where he was a member of the Auctioneering team for thirty years. At Parish level Pat was Chair of the Pastoral Council and was always so willing to help where he could and t'was many a Charity Auction he brought to life with his distinctive and special auctioneering skills. Pat, I understand was a founding member of Mountrath Macra in the 1960's and was one of the team who instigated (and indeed built) the building we know as "The Macra Hall" on Main St., (before the days of cement blocks or Readymix) (Mountrath Macra Hall is still going strong) Pat and the Macra Team of his day were skilled debaters and it's many a trophy they brought home after winning many a debating competition around the country.

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. 25th Dec). Margaret's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin on Mon. 29th 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, sister-in-law, Ann Grehan and family, New Line Rd., nephews, nieces, extended family, relatives, neighbours and friends.

May Phina, Pat and John rest in the peace of Christ.

Moirity Delaney, Woodview, Lacca. R.I.P.

We pray for Moirty who died unexpectedly at Portlaoise Reg. Hosp., on Fri. 19th Dec. Moirty's Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Fergal's Church, Camross on Christmas Eve (Wed. 24th Dec) followed by burial in adjoining Cemetery. We extend sympathy to parents Martin and Carol (nee Dunne, Catholes), son Martin, brothers Colin, Adrian and Gavin, sisters Emma (Cole), Edel (Jackson) and Áine and their families, nephews, nieces, aunts, uncles, and their families, cousins, extended family, relatives, neighbours and friends and to all the Dunne and Delaney families.

Elizabeth Ormsby (née Vousden)

Rosslare Harbour, Boley, Abbeylaxey, R.I.P.

We pray for Elizabeth who died peacefully on Christmas Eve (Wed. 24th Dec) Elizabeth's Funeral Mass was celebrated in Church of the Assumption, Our Lady's Island on Sat. 27th followed by burial in Kilrane Cemetery. We extend sympathy to her sister, Bridie (Quinn) and family, Pallas and all her family,

May Moirty and Elizabeth rest in the peace of Christ.

New Year Blessing

May this New Year

be a time of

renewal

and reflection,

where every

sunrise brings

new hope

and inspiration

Thank You (Ballyfin Parish)

A very special note of thanks to all involved in our various and enriching Ministries here at Ballyfin Church, throughout the year.

Servers, Readers (Proclaimers of the Word) - Ministers of Holy Communion - Collectors - Church Cleaners - Ministries co-ordinators, Esther and Crescentia, Sacristans, Musicians, Organists, Singers, Choirs and coordinators and all who enhance our celebration of the Eucharist and liturgies here in Ballyfin Parishes.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the preparation and decoration of the Christmas Tree and Christmas Crib and thanks to all who helped with all our Christmas preparations inside and outside. Please know that our help and co-operation is very much appreciated.

Fr. Joe - Parish Priest

Thank You

A very special note of thanks to all involved in our various and enriching Ministries here at Mountrath Church, throughout the year. Servers, Readers (Proclaimers of the Word) - Ministers of Holy Communion - Collectors - Church Cleaners - Pauric. Ministries co-ordinators, Geraldine and Paulo, Musicians, Organists, Singers, Choirs and coordinators and all who enhance our celebration of the Eucharist and liturgies here in Mountrath Parish. Thanks to Geraldine, Niamh and Pauric and everyone who helped with the preparation and decoration of the Christmas Tree and Christmas Crib, and indeed all the other decorations, Imelda, for her beautiful flower arrangements (as always) Organists, musicians and our lovely choirs, members of Mountrath CE Scheme, Servers and thanks to all who helped with all our Christmas preparations inside and outside. Thanks to the people who supplied our beautiful Christmas wreaths.

Please know that your help and co-operation is very greatly acknowledged and much appreciated.

Ballyfin Bridge Club

A Note of Thanks to Ballyfin Bridge Club
for their generous contribution
of € 700.00 to Ballyfin Parish Funds
in relation to the use of Ballyfin Old School.

*Ballyfin Bridge Club meet in
Ballyfin Old School
every Tues. night at 8.00 pm*

LOURDES



MOUNTMELICK, BALLYFIN, MOUNTRATH LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026

Spiritual Director: Fr Mícheál Murphy

20th 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 30th January 2026.
- LIMITED NUMBER OF PLACES AVAILABLE.

For more information and to book please contact:
Ann 087-4186192

Joe Walsh Tours | 89 Harcourt St, Dublin 2, D02WY88
joewalsh tours.ie | info@joewalsh tours.ie | Reservations: 012410800
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Thank You (Mountrath Parish)

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Thanks to everyone who helped with the preparation and decoration of the Christmas Tree and Christmas Crib and thanks to all who helped with all our Christmas preparations inside and outside. Please know that our help and co-operation is very much appreciated.

Fr. Joe - Parish Priest



TOTS AND CO PLAYSCHOOL

REGISTRATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026



**20 YEARS' EXPERIENCE
IN QUALITY CHILDCARE**

**ECCE & NCS
SCHEMES AVAILABLE**

**CONTACT COLETTE:
0874162377**

MOUNTRATH, CO. LAOIS

Copy of Financial Statement
available on
Notice Board at back of Church
and on Online Newsletter

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account
for Mountrath Parish for 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st Dec. 2024)

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

Your kind and generous support is much appreciated

See Below - From Pages 110

Copy of Financial Statement
available on
Notice Board at back of Church
and on Online Newsletter

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account
for Ballyfin Parish for 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st Dec. 2024)

*Thank you for your continued and generous
support of
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and Ballyfin Parish Collections.
Your kind and generous support
is much appreciated*

See Below - From Page 107

Mountrath Parish

Ministries Rota

Ballyfin Parish

Ministries Rota

Sat. 10th - Sun. 11th 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

"Do This In Memory"

Our Next

"Do This In Memory" Mass
is arranged for this weekend

Mountrath Church

Sat. 10th Jan. 7.00 pm

Ballyfin Church.

Sun. 11th Jan. 10.00 am



C

CAFE DONATE

Something has been brewing
in Mountrath.....

Now
Open



Check out our socials



Sunday Missals 2026. (Year A)

Our Readers (Proclaimers of the Word) are invited to collect their Sunday Missals for next year. (they are on the church organ) A very special note of thanks to all involved in our various Ministries here at Ballyfin Church. Servers, Readers (Proclaimers of the Word) - Ministers of Holy Communion - Collectors - Church Cleaners - Ministries coordinators, Esther and Crescentia, Sacristans, Musicians, Singers, Choirs and coordinators and to all who enrich our celebration of the Eucharist here in Ballyfin Church.

Sunday Missals 2026. (Year A)

Mountrath

Our Readers (Proclaimers of the Word) are invited to collect their Sunday Missals for next year.

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Sacramental Dates

Mountrath Ballyfin

Parishes

1st Holy Communion Preparation

"Do This In Memory" Mass.

Sat. 10th January

Mountrath Ch. 7.00 pm

1st Holy Communion Preparation

"Do This In Memory" Mass.

Sun. 11th January

Ballyfin Ch. 10.00 am

Parish Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation Catechesis

Mountrath

. After 7.00 pm Mass

For Confirmation Candidates and their parents

in Mountrath Parish.

Date to be Confirmed

Parish Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation Catechesis -

Ballyfin

after 10.00 am Mass

For Confirmation Candidates
and their parents /guardians in Ballyfin Parish

Date to be Confirmed

Sacramental Dates

Mountrath Parish

1st Holy Communion Sun. 26th April 11.30 am

Ceremony of Confirmation

Friday 1st May 11.00 pm

Main celebrant, Bishop Denis Nulty

1st Penance with 1st Holy Communion children,

Tues. 21st April 11.30am

The Sacrament of Penance (Confessions)

with Confirmation Candidates

Tues. 28th April 7.30pm (Mountrath Ch)

Enrolment for 1st Holy Communion

Sat. 11th Oct. 7.00 pm Mass

"Do This In Memory" Masses

All "Do This In Memory" Masses will be on the

2nd Sunday of the month.

Vigil Mass on Saturday evening 7.00 pm

(Unless otherwise indicated)

Sacramental Dates

'25 – '26 Ballyfin Parish

1st Holy Communion

Ballyfin Sch. Sun. 17th May 10.00 am

Barnashrone School

Sun. 24th May 10.00 am

Enrolment - Sun. 12th Oct. 10.00 am

Ceremony of Confirmation

Friday 1st May 2.30 pm

Main celebrant, Bishop Denis Nulty

1st Penance with 1st Holy Communion children

Thurs. 23rd April 11.30am

The Sacrament of Penance (Confessions)

with Confirmation Candidates

Tues. 28th April 7.30pm (Ballyfin Church)

All "Do This In Memory" Masses will be on the

2nd Sunday of the month.

(Unless otherwise indicated)

1st Eucharist Preparation Programme

All candidates preparing to receive 1st Holy Communion next year are required to attend all "Do This In Memory" Masses with their parents or guardian.

If, for whatever reason, you are unable to bring your child to Saturday evening Mass in Mountrath you are most welcome to bring your child to the Sunday morning Mass in Ballyfin Church at 10.00 am on the following morning.

If, for whatever reason, you are unable to bring your child to Sunday morning Mass in Ballyfin you are most welcome to bring your child to the Saturday evening Mass in Mountrath Church 7.00 pm on the previous evening

Or

To the Sunday morning Mass in Mountrath at 11.30 am

Arranging Anniversary Mass or Month's Mind Mass

The traditional way of arranging an Anniversary Mass remembrance was by visiting the Sacristy before or after Mass and making the necessary arrangement with the priest, who wrote the intention into the Anniversaries Diary, there and then. However, since Covid this practice has changed.

Arrangements for Anniversary Mass remembrances and Month's Mind Masses are, more often than not, now arranged by email, text message, whatsapp, by phone, among many other ways. Which is great.

On the down-side, it can be quite difficult to keep track of all these ways. - Sometimes emails can go to folders on the computer other than the main folder and are not seen straight away. The same can apply to text messages and Whatsapp. messages. This can cause a problem when I have no knowledge of these emails / messages coming in and are sometimes not detected at the time.

Can I ask you -

if you send me an email, text message or a message on Whatsapp, or any way, other than visiting the Sacristy, requesting an Anniversary Mass remembrance or arrangements for a Month's Mind Mass and don't hear from me or don't see the relevant name / names in the Newsletter,

please give me a call on 087 241 1594

Safeguarding Children Parish Reps.

Ballyfin Parish

Triona O'Rourke Peter Byrne

Mountrath Parish.

Caroline Moore Pacelli Walsh

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person

Ms. Ailish Higgins.

Deputy Diocesan Liaison Person:

Ms Michelle Hughes c/o

Bishop's Hse, Dublin Rd, Carlow Phone 085 802 1633

*If you wish to contribute directly through your Bank account
to Parish funds*

Here are our Bank Account details

Ballyfin Parish - (A.I.B. Portlaoise Branch)

Lyster Square, Portlaoise.

Name of Account - Ballyfin Parish Pastoral Council

IBAN - IE44 AIBK 9332 7900 203030

BIC. - AIBKIE2D

Mountrath Parish - Bank Account Details

(Bank of Ireland) (Portlaoise Branch)

Name - Mountrath Parish Current Account -

Account number - 7274 7250

IBAN - IE93 BOFI 9018 2972 7472 50 -

BIC. - BOFIE2D

**If contributing to Parish directly through our bank account please include
your own name as the reference.**

Parish Newsletters.

There are three Parish Newsletters prepared
and published each week -

2 A4 Print editions for Mountrath and Ballyfin Parishes -
available at all our Masses

and 1 online Newsletter, uploaded to our Parish App.

(Mountrath and Ballyfin Parishes)

and to our parish Website,

www.mountrathparish.ie

and available to view from early Sat morning.

Deadline 12.00 midday Thursday

Parish News



Sacramental Dates

Mountrath Parish

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1st Penance with 1st Holy Communion children,

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Tues. 28th April 7.30pm (Mountrath Ch)

Enrolment for 1st Holy Communion

Sat. 11th Oct. 7.00 pm Mass

"Do This In Memory" Masses

All "Do This In Memory" Masses will be on the

2nd Sunday of the month.

Vigil Mass on Saturday evening 7.00 pm

Sunday Missals 2026.

(Year A)

Ballyfin and Mountrath

Our Readers (Proclaimers of the Word)

are invited to collect their

Sunday Missals for next year.

1st Holy Communion Preparation

Next

"Do This In Memory" Mass.

Sat. 10th January

Mountrath Ch. 7.00 pm

1st Holy Communion Preparation

Next

"Do This In Memory" Mass.

Sun. 11th January

Ballyfin Ch. 10.00 am

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Confirmation Catechesis

Mountrath

After 7.00 pm Mass

For Confirmation Candidates and their parents

in Mountrath Parish.

Date to be Confirmed

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Ballyfin

after 10.00 am Mass

For Confirmation Candidates
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Or

To the Sunday morning Mass in Mountrath at 11.30 am

Parish Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation Catechesis

Mountrath Church

After 7.00 pm Mass

For Confirmation Candidates and their
parents / guardians in Mountrath Parish

Date to be Confirmed

Parish Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation Catechesis

after 10.00 am Mass

For Confirmation Candidates and their
parents / guardians in Ballyfin Parish

Date to be Confirmed

Ballyfin Community Alert

Seniors Alert Scheme

Grant aided personal 24/7 personal monitored alarms help people aged 65 and over to live securely in their homes with peace of mind. If you know a family member, friend or neighbour in Ballyfin or Laois area who may qualify

Please contact Sheila on 086 157 0145
for information/application form.

Tax Back Scheme Mountrath Parish

Once again, I want to renew my appreciation to you for the ways you supported the Parish and us, the priests of the parish, over the past year. We are deeply grateful.

Donations to Mountrath Parish of over €250 have the potential to increase your contribution to Parish funds by 31% through participation in the Tax Back Scheme. It is of huge benefit to the Parish if we know the amount parishioners donate and the name of the donors. Hence this year we are sending out numbered boxes to all households in the Parish.

We sent out CHY3 Forms to eligible parishioners (who donated over € 250) for the first time in 2023 and we were able to claim back over € 13,739 for the years 2021 and 2022 . This is of immense benefit to the Parish. Thank you to everyone who has joined this scheme - it is very much appreciated.

If you receive a CHY3 Form later on in the Spring please consider completing the details and returning it . If you would like more information please contact me.

If you are already part of the Tax Back Scheme — *Thank You*

If you are not yet part of the tax back Scheme, I ask you to consider becoming part of it - It is of huge benefit to the Parish

Thank you for your cooperation in this regard.

Tax Back Scheme (Ballyfin Parish)

Once again, I want to renew my appreciation to you for the ways you support the Parish and us, the priests of the parish, over the past year.

We are deeply grateful.

Donations to Ballyfin Parish of over €250 via the Parish envelopes have the potential to increase your contribution to Parish funds by 31% through participation in the Tax Back Scheme.

"Thank you" to everyone who has joined this scheme - it is very much appreciated.

In 2023, the Tax Rebate scheme augmented our Parish finances by almost € 23,000

If you are not, as yet, part of this scheme and would like more information, please contact me at your convenience. *(Fr. Joe)*

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

Bingo

every Monday night

In St. Fintan's Hall at 8pm.

Come along and bring a friend!!



Bingo in St. Fintan's Hall

Every Monday night.

Commencing Mon. 1st Dec.,

Blue and Yellow Sheets will be increased by
€50, bringing the Full House to €300.

Please support your local Bingo.

All are very welcome.



*If you wish to contribute directly through your Bank account
to Parish funds*

Here are our Bank Account details

Ballyfin Parish - (A.I.B. Portlaoise Branch)

Lyster Square, Portlaoise.

Name of Account - Ballyfin Parish Pastoral Council

IBAN - IE44 AIBK 9332 7900 203030

BIC. - AIBKIE2D

Mountrath Parish - Bank Account Details

(Bank of Ireland) (Portlaoise Branch)

Name - Mountrath Parish Current Account -

Account number - 7274 7250

IBAN - IE93 BOFI 9018 2972 7472 50 -

BIC. - BOFIE2D

**If contributing to Parish directly through our bank account please include
your own name as the reference.**

Anniversary Masses

Mountrath Ballyfin Parishes

Sat. 3rd Jan

To

Sun. 11th Jan.

Lord, for your faithful people,

Life is Changed, not ended

Ballyfin Anniversaries

Anniversary and Mass Times

Sat. 3rd to Sun. 11th Jan.

Sat. 3rd Jan. 8.00 pm Kathleen and Richard Guilfoyle,
Pallas, Kathleen's 1st Anniv. Richard's 20th Anniv.

Sun. 4th Jan. 10.00 am 2nd Sunday of Christmas

Mon. 5th Jan. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification

Sat. 10th Jan. 8.00 pm Vigil Mass – Baptism of the Lord.

Sun. 11th Jan. 10.00 am Feast of Baptism of the Lord.

Mon. 12th Jan. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification

1st Anniversary Mass Remembrances

Sun. 25th Jan. 10.00 am

Mary Conroy, Ross - Sutton, Dublin Sun.

8th Feb. 10.00 am

John Hearn, Hillview, Portlaoise.

Mountrath Anniversaries

Mass Times Anniversaries

Sat. 3rd Jan. to Sun. 11th Jan. .

Mass times as listed below are for Mountrath Church unless otherwise indicated

Sat. 3rd Jan. 7.00 pm Martin Mulhall. Derrough, 2nd Anniv.
James and Kate Fitzpatrick and deceased
members of Fitzpatrick Familky, Forest

Sun. 4th Jan. 9.00 am **The Hollow Church**
11.30 am Patsy Conroy, Redcastle. Month's Mind
Tom Fitzpatrick, Derrylusk. 8th Anniv.
Pat McCormack, Dublin. 14th Anniv,

Mon. 5th Jan. 7.00 pm Vigil Mass for Feast of Epiphany.

Tues. 6th Jan. 10.00 am **Feast of Epiphany** (Mountrath Ch).

Wed. 7th Jan. 10.00 am Eamon Cranks, Ballyfin Rd., Birthday Rem.

Thur. 8th Jan. 10.00 am

Fri. 9th Jan. 10.00 am Altar List of the Dead.

Continued on next frame

Mountrath Anniversaries

Mass Times Anniversaries

Sat. 3rd to Sun. 11th Jan. (Continued)

Sat. 10th Jan. 7.00 pm Richard Maybury, Fr. O'Connor Cr., 1st Anniv

John Connor, Cappagh North. 5th Anniv.

Sun. 11th Jan. 9.00 am **The Hollow Ch.** Feast of Baptism of the Lord.

11.30 am John McDermott, Trumera. 1st Anniv

Peter and Mary Redmond, Redcastle

and deceased family members

Peter's 2nd Anniv. Mary's 8th Anniv.

Andy Sinnott, Lower Sconce. 6th Anniv.

Lord, for your Faithful people, Life is changed not ended

Parish Lottos



Ballyfin Parish Lotto

1st Draw of '26

Wed. 7th 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.

Mountrath Parish Lotto

1st Draw of '26 Thurs 8th Jan

Jackpot €11,000

An Ideal New Year's Gift

½ Year Voucher €50.00

Full Year Voucher €100.00

I wish to extend my very sincere
appreciation to you for your loyal
support of

Mountrath Parish Lotto

throughout the year

Fr. Joe - Parish Priest.

A Note of Thanks

to everyone involved in
Mountrath and Ballyfin 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.

I extend a very sincere "thank you"
for your continued support and generosity.

Mountrath Ballyfin Lottos

Next Week's



Mountrath € 11,000

Ballyfin € 10,000



News From Around The Diocese

Irish Cancer Society's Transport Service Volunteer Drivers Needed

The Irish Cancer Society's Transport Service is seeking compassionate volunteer drivers in your community. Your time can help to continue the vital service of providing transport for patients attending cancer treatment appointments.

If you have a minimum of 2 days per month to spare, a valid driving license, and a safe, reliable vehicle, you're the perfect candidate to make a significant difference. Your generosity can ease the journey for many during a challenging time, offering comfort and support when it's needed most.

Full training will be provided. There are a number of essential post-drive administration tasks that will require either existing knowledge of basic computer or IT skills, or the willingness to acquire such skills (such as scanning and uploading documents or attending virtual meetings).

For more information and to become a volunteer driver, contact Monica at volunteer@irishcancer.ie.

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

Events
at
Bloom HQ

Before



Customize your space!

Begin your remote
work journey today

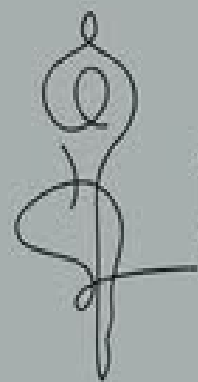
Contact US!

manager@bloomhq.ie

089 2722885



After



Pilates with Claire

€60 for 6 Week block

Starting Wednesday
7th of January
@8PM

Limited spaces available



Mountrath
Health and
Fitness
Academy



ZUMBA®

GET OBSESSED WITH FEELING YOUR BEST

Zumba® Class at BLOOM HQ
MOUNTRATH
WEDNESDAY AT 7PM

RSVP BY CONTACTING AMY
0868424791

€70 FOR 8 WEEKS STARTING
JANUARY 7TH

R32DT9F - free car parking available

Embodied hatha yoga with Cathy

€60 per
block

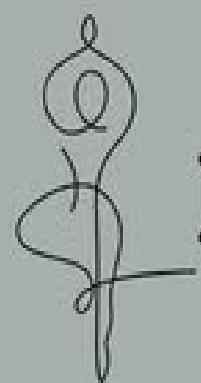
Suitable for all levels
Limited spaces so book today!

Tuesdays @6:30
6 week block starting Tuesday 6th of January



Mountrath
Health and
Fitness
Academy





Pilates with Claire

€60 for 6 Week block

Starting Wednesday
7th of January
@8PM

Limited spaces available



Mountrath
Health and
Fitness
Academy



Embodied hatha yoga with Cathy

€60 per
block

Suitable for all levels
Limited spaces so book today!

Tuesdays @6:30 pm
6 week block starting Tuesday 6th of January



Mountrath
Health and
Fitness
Academy



The Gallery of Devine Inspiration

is proud to present an exhibition by student artist

Minxy



friday 28 November 7pm

Bloom HQ, Mountrath

All welcome



ZUMBA®

GET OBSESSED WITH FEELING YOUR BEST

Zumba® Class at BLOOM HQ
MOUNTRATH
WEDNESDAY AT 7PM

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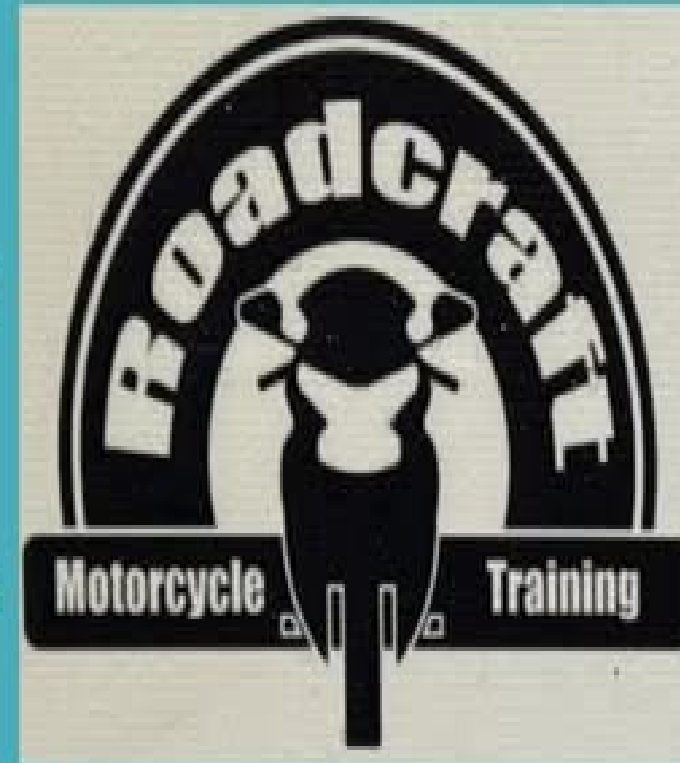






Roadcraft Motorcycle Training

RSA Approved IBT
Centres in
Waterford, Wexford &
Laois.



IBT (Initial Basic Training)
Pre-Test Lessons
Insurance Skills Assessments
Advanced Motorcycle Training
School Bike Hire



Bloom HQ,

Bloomhq

We were delighted to host the Leinster
Ceoltás event at BloomHQ recently.

A big "thank you" to Phelan's Catering for the
fantastic service,

and well done to everyone who took part.

Your talent and energy made it
a truly memorable day!

MATHS GRINDS

HIGHER LEVEL
LEAVING CERT
MATHS GRINDS

FOR 5TH AND
6TH YEAR STUDENTS

CONTACT:
Orlaith
0892336930

BLOOM HQ



OFFICE SPACE RENTALS

Designed for modern professionals, entrepreneurs, and small businesses, our dynamic workspace offers the perfect blend of flexibility, community, and productivity.

From hot desks to gym areas....

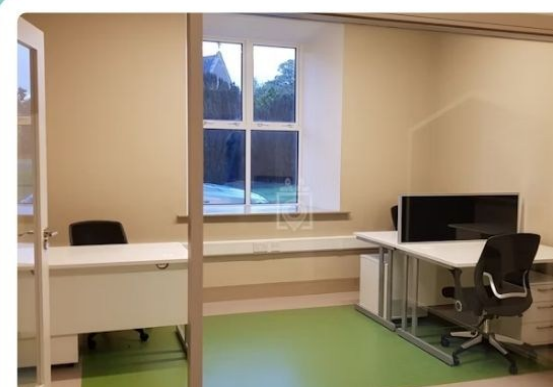
- ✓ Flexible Workspace Options
- ✓ High-Speed Internet
- ✓ Meeting and Conference Rooms

Contact Us



089 2722885

www.bloomhq.ie







R32DT9F,
Patrick St,
Mountrath,
Co.Laois

Contact us: **089 264 7761**

Bowls

🎯 Enjoy competitive yet friendly games, perfect for all skill levels. Roll with us and make new friends! 🤝



Seated exercise

Thurs - 11am

Move, stretch,
and stay
active! 🪑

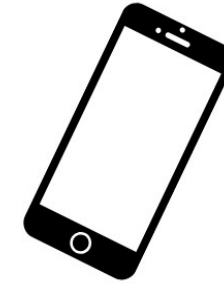


**COMING
SOON**

Talks on...

Help with using MiGov.ie

How to use phones better



Using local bus services

NEW ACTIVITIES

Exciting games and activities —laughter, challenges, and good vibes guaranteed!



BOOK CLUB

Dive into new worlds—our book club is starting soon!

ART CLASSES

**Embark on your creative journey
—art classes starting soon!**



**BLOOMHO'S IS DELIGHTED TO
ANNOUNCE.....**

**Child care facilities
coming early 2026**

RIGHT HERE IN BLOOMHQ!!

Keep an eye on our socials for more details,
updates and notices



BLOOMHQ MONTHLY

Everything worth knowing
— all in one place.....



www.bloomhq.ie





Calling all teachers & tutors!




Are you offering grinds and looking for a base?

BloomhQ is the place for you...
With dedicated rooms, whiteboards,
free advertising and more!!
.....

Email: Marketing@bloomhq.ie

Piano Lessons now Available!

All levels welcome – beginner to advanced!

-  Highly qualified teacher & choral conductor
-  Over 30 years' experience in piano & music education
-   Lessons for all ages – kids & adults
-  Director of children's choirs in
- Ukraine & Ireland
-  BloomHQ, Mountrath



for more details>>



 Free first meeting – come meet the teacher!

 **Book now – Call Lana: 087 3347112**

Looking for an office space to rent in Laois?



CONTACT 089 2722885 or

manager@bloomhq.ie

Visit our website www.bloomhq.ie

UNISLIM

Join Today!

Bloom Hq

Wednesdays 7-8pm

Class Talk 8pm

New members
always welcome!



9 stone
weight
loss



Mairead McCaul
Unislim Member

Join Unislim for €25

Pay €12 weekly fee thereafter

For more info visit unislim.com

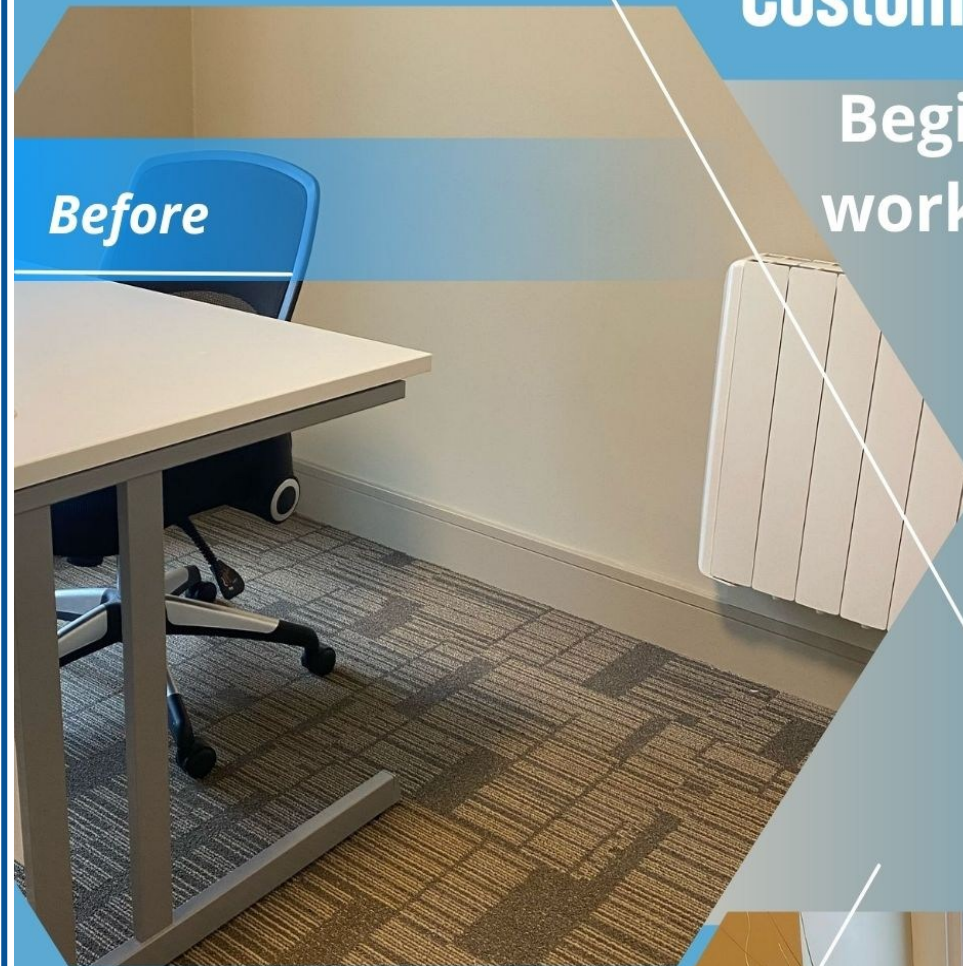


unislim.com | 1800 603020

Customize your space!

**Begin your remote
work journey today**

Before



Contact US!

089 2722885
manager@bloomhq.ie
www.bloomhq.ie

After



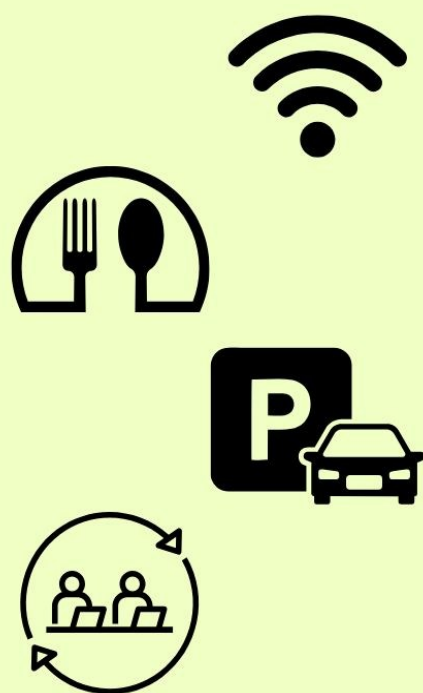


**Dive into your
remote work
with every thing
you need on
hand**

Hot desks at BloomHQ



**Contact:
manager@bloomhq.ie**



For just €20 a day

BOWLS

Thursdays @ 8pm

Philomenas Hall

**R32DT9F,
Patrick St.
Mountrath,
Co.Laois**



BLOOMHQ MONTHLY

GYM



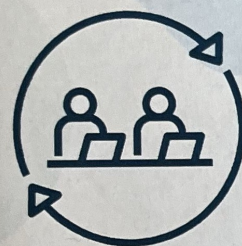
- Join our large, loving gym community! 💪❤️
- Build strength and friendships. 🤝
- Everyone's included —come as you are!
- Don't miss out, join today! ☀️


New timetable each month



BLOOMHQ MONTHLY

SPACES TO RENT



 **HOT DESKS – JUST €20/DAY!**

JUMP IN, PLUG IN, AND GET TO WORK ⚡

POWER SOCKETS & GREAT LIGHTING 🔌💡

CLEAN, MODERN, AND READY TO GO 🧼✨

**NO COMMITMENT – JUST SHOW UP AND
WORK!** 🚀



CONFERENCE ROOMS

From just €55

Seating 2-20

**Ideal for company meetings,
general meetings, training
courses etc**

**Contact BloomHQ to book
today.....**

Roadcraft Motorcycle Training

Mick Smith is teaching the new
RSA approved Motorcycle Initial Basic Training (IBT)
here in BloomHQ, the old Convent Mountrath.

For more details and to book see:

www.roadcraft.ie

www.facebook.com/roadcraft.ie



Mountrath Men's Shed



**Old School on
Patrick Street**



**Tuesdays 10am - 1pm
Thursdays 2pm - 4pm**

Contact 0857053855



**Kindling for sale.
Call in to purchase
on times above**

Mountrath Scouts



Looking for a way for
your kids to learn new
skills and spend time
in the great outdoors
why not try scouts!

**For all ages from beavers to
ventures and into leaders !**



Scouts is a way to

- Meet new people.
- Learn new skills.
- Spend time outside.
- Make friends for life.

Friday nights

In the brigidine convent (Bloom HQ) Patrick street mountrath
R32 DC58

7:00 till 8:30

€5 pp

or

€4 per sibling



Other News

TOTS AND CO PLAYSCHOOL

REGISTRATIONS FOR
SEPTEMBER 2026



20 YEARS' EXPERIENCE
IN QUALITY CHILDCARE

**ECCE & NCS
SCHEMES AVAILABLE**

**CONTACT COLETTE:
0874162377**

MOUNTRATH, CO. LAOIS

Fiddle workshops

with Gerry O'Connor



Followed by
A concert at 8pm
and an open session(9:30pm)

Saturday 24th Jan 2026

Dún Na Sí, Moate,
N37XW31

Beginner workshop 11am-1pm (€15)

Advanced workshop 2pm-4pm (€20)

Workshop fee includes admission to concert

Concert 8pm (€10)



or go to

www.comhaltas.ie/branches/moate-cce/



For queries contact Dave 087 2249725



C

CAFE DONATE

Something has been brewing
in Mountrath.....



Coming
Soon
Now
Open



Check out our socials

Parish Finances

*If you wish to contribute directly through your Bank account
to Parish funds*

Here are our Bank Account details

Ballyfin Parish - (A.I.B. Portlaoise Branch)

Lyster Square, Portlaoise.

Name of Account - Ballyfin Parish Pastoral Council

IBAN - IE44 AIBK 9332 7900 203030

BIC. - AIBKIE2D

Mountrath Parish - Bank Account Details

(Bank of Ireland) (Portlaoise Branch)

Name - Mountrath Parish Current Account -

Account number - 7274 7250

IBAN - IE93 BOFI 9018 2972 7472 50 -

BIC. - BOFIE2D

**If contributing to Parish directly through our bank account please include
your own name as the reference.**

Ballyfin Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account
for Ballyfin Parish for 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st Dec. 2024)

Income:

Basket Collection: € 15,971.70

Envelope Collection: € 36,274.99

Shrine income: € 569.24

Rental income: € 14,320

Tax Refunds / Rebate: € 12,000.07

Church Bookings: € 250

Lotto income: € 11,036.10

Other Income: € 1,389

Total Income € 91,811.10

Ballyfin Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account
for Ballyfin Parish for 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st Dec. 2024)

Expenditure:

Pastoral Programmes: € 1,895

Insurance: € 4,042.27

Security: € 579.16

Light and Heat: € 13,266.21

Rates, Water, LPT : € 736.78

Repairs and Maintenance: € 11,930.20

Diocesan Levy: € 6,576.

Diocesan Retirement Fund: € 1,000

Missalettes/Printing: € 7,692.22

Altar, Shrine Requisites: € 4,176.35

Telephone, Broadband: € 1,165.16

Computer servicing cost/hardware: € 690

Hire of Equipment: € 1,333

Music/choir expenses: € 200

Accountancy Fees: € 300.29

Bank Charges: € 828.11

Donations/Collections: € 880

Total :Expenditure € 57,290.75

Ballyfin Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account
for Ballyfin Parish for 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st Dec. 2024)

*Thank you for your
continued and generous support
of Ballyfin Parish Weekly Lotto
and Ballyfin Parish Collections
throughout the year.*

Your kind and generous support is much appreciated

Mountrath Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account
for Mountrath Parish for 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st Dec. 2024)

Income:

Basket Collection: € 40,269

Envelope Collection: € 41,068

Shrine income: € 9,059

Rental income: € 34,425

Donations: € 6,615

Tax Refunds / Rebate: € 17,018.07

Church Bookings: € 635

Deposit interest: € 127.44

Office: € 978

Lotto Income: € 30,157

Other Income: € 15,732.87

Total Income € 196,084.38

Mountrath Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account
for Mountrath Parish for 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st Dec. 2024)

Expenditure

Pastoral Programmes: € 1,412

Insurance: € 19,107.29

Security: € 484.54

Light and heat: € 19,823.12

Rates, Water, LPT : € 1,444.69

Repairs and Maintenance: € 103,631.35

Diocesan Levy: € 11,005.80

Diocesan Retirement Fund: € 1,000

Clergy Fund: € 2,342

Missalettes/Printing: € 13,534.29

Altar, Shrine Requisites: € 8,353.98

Telephone, Broadband: € 1,400

Computer servicing cost/hardware: € 2,880

Mountrath Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account
for Mountrath Parish for 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st Dec. 2024)

Expenditure (Continued)

Hire of Equipment: € 2,903

Music/Choir Expenses: € 525

Accountancy Fees: € 300.29

Bank Charges: € 969.37

Donations/Collections: € 1,185

Other loan Interest: € 5.37

Interest: € -26.26

Total Expenditure € 192,280.83

Mountrath Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account
for Mountrath Parish for 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st Dec. 2024)

Mountrath Parish Accounts 2024

(Summary of Income and Expenditure Account
for Mountrath Parish for 1st Jan. 2024 to 31st Dec. 2024)

*Thank you for your
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and Mountrath Parish Collections
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(Bank of Ireland) (Portlaoise Branch)

Name - Mountrath Parish Current Account -

Account number - 7274 7250

IBAN - IE93 BOFI 9018 2972 7472 50 -

BIC. - BOFIE2D

*If contributing to Parish directly through our bank account please include
your own name as the reference.*

Tax Back Scheme Mountrath Parish

Once again, I want to renew my appreciation to you for the ways you supported the Parish and us, the priests of the parish, over the past year. We are deeply grateful.

Donations to Mountrath Parish of over €250 have the potential to increase your contribution to Parish funds by 31% through participation in the Tax Back Scheme. It is of huge benefit to the Parish if we know the amount parishioners donate and the name of the donors. Hence this year we are sending out numbered boxes to all households in the Parish.

We sent out CHY3 Forms to eligible parishioners (who donated over € 250) for the first time in 2023 and we were able to claim back over € 13,739 for the years 2021 and 2022 . This is of immense benefit to the Parish. Thank you to everyone who has joined this scheme - it is very much appreciated.

If you receive a CHY3 Form later on in the Spring please consider completing the details and returning it . If you would like more information please contact me.

If you are already part of the Tax Back Scheme — *Thank You*

If you are not yet part of the tax back Scheme, I ask you to consider becoming part of it - It is of huge benefit to the Parish

Tax Back Scheme (Ballyfin Parish)

Once again, I want to renew my appreciation to you for the ways you support the Parish and us, the priests of the parish, over the past year.

We are deeply grateful.

Donations to Ballyfin Parish of over €250 via the Parish envelopes have the potential to increase your contribution to Parish funds by 31% through participation in the Tax Back Scheme.

“Thank you” to everyone who has joined this scheme - it is very much appreciated.

In 2023, the Tax Rebate scheme augmented our Parish finances by almost € 23,000

If you are not, as yet, part of this scheme and would like more information, please contact me at your convenience. *(Fr. Joe)*

Thank you for your cooperation in this regard.

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

Mountrath Parish Statement of Account 2023

Income		Expenses	
Basket Collection	€ 35,932.00	Pastoral Programmes	€ 721.00
Envelope Collection	€ 33,378.00	Insurance	€ 38,065.00
Shrine Income	€ 11,590.00	Security	€ 503.00
Rental Income	€ 30,890.00	Light/Heat	€ 23,349.00
Fundraising	€ 3,225 .00	Cleaning	€ 200.00
Donations	€ 71,400.00	Rates/Water/Waste	€ 579.00
Tax Refunds/Rebate	€ 3,121 .00	Maintenance/Repairs	€ 79,602.00
Church Bookings	€ 500.00	Diocesan Levy	€ 11,006.00
Lotto Income	€ 31,631.00	Loan Interest	€ 3.00
Office	€ 1,899 .00	Bank Charges	€ 926.00
Deposit Interest	€ 36.00	Diocesan Retire't Fund	€ 1,000 .00
Other Income	€ 2,984 .00	Printing/Missalettes	€ 9,233.00
		Altar/Shrine	€ 10,616.00
Total:	€ 226,586.00	Telephone/Broadband	€ 600.00
		Computer/servicing	€ 5,051.00
		Accountancy Fees	€ 540.00
		Youth/Community	€ 260.00
		Hire of Equipment	€ 1,141.00
		Music/Choir	€ 250.00
		Legal/Professional	€ 828.00
		Donations	€ 1,700.00
		Total:	€ 186,173.00

A very sincere "Thank You" for your continuous and generous

Mountrath Parish Statement of Account 2023

Income		Expenses	
Basket Collection	€ 35,932.00	Pastoral Programmes	€ 721.00
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		Music/Choir	€ 250.00
		Legal/Professional	€ 828.00
		Donations	€ 1,700.00
		Total:	€ 186,173.00

*A very sincere "Thank You" for your continuous and generous
support of Mountrath Parish*