

Mountrath – Ballyfin Parish News – 11th Dec. '22

Christmas Carol
Services
See Below

3rd Sunday of Advent Year A

St. Fintan's Parish, Mountrath - Ballyfin

Sat. 10th - Sun. 11th Dec. 2022

3rd Sunday of Advent

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

VDP Annual Collection

St. Vincent de Paul Annual Collection

takes place this weekend at all our

Masses in Mountrath, Ballyfin and the

Hollow Church. Your generous

support is always very much

appreciated.

Mountrath – Ballyfin Parish App. available to download on iPhone and Android

Safeguarding Children Parish Reps.

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

Mountrath Mass Times – Anniversaries Sat. 10th - Sun. 18th Dec.

Sat. 10th Dec. 7.00 pm John Doheny, Fr. O'Connor Cresc. 4th Anniv.

**Christmas
Carol Service**

Wed. 14th Dec.

7.30 pm

Ballyfin

Church

Patty and John O'Connell, Thomas Court. (Patty's 5th Anniv)

Joseph & Margaret Connolly and Eilish Tann (Nee Connolly)

Denis Carroll, Shannon Rd., 6th Anniv.

Jimmy Fitzpatrick, Clonbarrow. 6th Anniv.

Alice Thompson, Trumera. 6th Anniv.

Noel Hogan – Eilish and James McKeon, Stillbrook.

Sun. 11th Dec. 9.00 am The Hollow Ch. Fergus Beere, Clonkeen R.I.P.

11.30 am Peadar Gorman, Factory St., 3rd Anniv.

Mon. 12th Dec. 10.00 am Catherine and Michael Farrell, Patrick St.,

and their son Fintan - 12th Anniv.

Tues 13th Dec. 10.00 am Frank and Mary Brophy, Clonin

Eugene and Sean McCarthy, Thomas Court.

Wed. 14th Dec. 10.00 am People who are ill in the Parish.

12.00 midday Carol Service with Mountrath Community School

7.30 pm Carol Service in Ballyfin Ch.

Fri. 16th Dec. 10.00 am Altar List of the Dead.

12.00 midday Carol Service with Scoil Bhríde.

Sat. 17th Dec. 7.00 pm Maura Kelly, Main St. 11th Anniv.

Ann Grincell, Spring Gardens, Shannon St., 4th Anniv.

Sun. 18th Dec. 9.00 am The Hollow Ch. Michael and Ann Heffernan, Clonkeen.

Michael and Mary Ann Culleton, Gurteen

11.30 am Jimmy Fitzpatrick, Clonbarrow, 6th Anniv.

Ballyfin - Mass Times Anniversaries Fri. 9th - Sun. 18th Dec.

Fri. 9th Dec. 5.00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

7.30 pm Carmel Croke (Nee Conroy) Pallas 1st Anniv.

Michael O'Rourke and deceased members of O'Rourke Family

Sat 10th Dec. 8.00 pm Ann Rochford (Nee Whelan) Lr. Forest, Mountmellick. R.I.P

Sun. 11th Dec. 10.00 am Charles and Elizabeth O'Neill, Clontyclass.

Mon. 12th Dec. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification

Wed. 14th Dec. 7.30 pm Carol Service in St. Fintan's Church, Ballyfin.

Fri. 16th Dec. 5.00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

7.30 pm Mary Thompson (Nee Kenna) Irej. M. M.

Mary Madden, The Knocks. 3rd Anniv.

Deceased members of Madden Family.

Mary Brady (Nee Cox) Clontowra - 6th Anniv.

Sat. 17th Dec. 8.00 pm Joseph, Ellen and Rory Culleton, Clonagown.

Tim Heffernam, Brockera. 14th Anniv.

Sun. 18th Dec. 10.00 am Elizabeth and Brian O'Donnell, Clonkeen

Mon. 19th Dec. 7.00 pm Apostolate of Sanctification.

Mountrath
Church

Wed. 14th Dec.
12.00 midday
Carol Service
with Mountrath
Community
School

We keep and hold in our thoughts and Prayers

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

Christmas Carol Service

Wed. 14th Dec.

7.30 pm

Ballyfin Church

Child Safeguarding Review

A letter from Bishop Denis regarding the Review by the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland was issued on 21st November. This review will commence in our Diocese on Mon. 12th Dec. See our Online Newsletter for copy of this letter, below

Irish Guide Dog For The Blind.

Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind are again selling Christmas Cards and 2023 Calendars to support our fundraising efforts.



These can be purchased at Aidan Byrne's shop
Main St.
or give Seán a ring at 087 767 6318.

Your continued support is very much appreciated





Mountrath Parish Lotto

8th Dec

Nos. Drawn 8 24 26 31

No Jackpot Winner

7 Match 3 Winner. Rec. €143 ea

1 Local Winner

Declan Fitzpatrick

Next Week's Jackpot €14,000

*Thank you for your Generous and continued
Support of all our Parish Collections*



Ballyfin Parish Lotto

7th Dec.

Nos. Drawn 10 15 23 30

No Jackpot Winner

12 Match 3 Rec. Each € 84

Next Week's Jackpot € 14,000

Thanks to everyone involved in
Ballyfin Parish Lotto for support
and your generosity



Bloom HQ _ Christmas at the Convent Sun. 4th December '22

Raffle Prize Winners

1st Prize Dorothy McDowall, Cash prize

2nd Tadgh Hearn, Telfords Voucher

3rd Agnes Kiely, Printer

4th Mattie Rice, Wine

5th Heather Rice, Baileys

6th Liam Phelan, Crafts by Edwina hamper

7th Margaret O'Brien, Slieve Bloom Creations hamper

8th Charlotte Fairbrother, Crystal Cavern hamper

Thank you for your support, all funds to doing up the Convent for the Community. A massive thanks to our kind sponsors too!

Telfords Portlaoise Mountrath

Crafts By Edwina Slieve Bloom Creations

Mountrath & District Camera Club

Mountrath Health & Fitness Academy

Mountrath Development Association - MDA

Mountrath Golf Club Laois Local News Laois People

[#connectedhubs](#) [#community](#) [#christmas2022](#) [#christmasmarkets](#)

1st prize Dorothy McDowall
 2nd Tadhg Herns
 3rd Agnes Kiely
 4th Mattie Rice
 5th Heather Rice
 6th Liam Phelan
 7th Margaret O'Brien
 8th Charlotte Fairbrother



Thank you
 to all who supported the
 raffle



"CHRISTMAS IN THE CONVENT"
 RAFFLE WINNERS

- *A Word of Thanks*

Parish Finances.

Thanks for your generous contributions to Parish Funds.

Once again, I want to renew my appreciation and gratitude for the ways in which you have found to support the parish and us, the priests of the parish, over the past year. We are deeply grateful. It has and continues to be a most challenging time for so many; families, self employed, hospitality and so much more. By and large we are not doing too bad, thanks in no small part to your generosity. I wish to acknowledge your support given via the weekly envelopes (2023 boxes are ready for distribution at present). Contributing to the Parish by envelope allows us to keep track of your donations for the whole year and, where possible, (and totally at

your discretion) claim the additional 45% back from Revenue under the charity donations scheme at no cost to yourself. If you are not as yet, part of this scheme – and would like more information, please contact me when you get a chance. Thank you for your continued support and generosity - it is very much appreciated.

Different ways of supporting your Parish:

⇒ Weekly Envelopes ⇐

⇒ Direct payment - Cash/Cheque ⇐

If contributing by cheque please make cheques payable to “Mountrath Parish” - or “Ballyfin Parish”

Please indicate - Parish Fund or Clergy Fund (for support of the priests of the Parish)

Cheques can be posted to – Parish Office, Parochial House, Ballyfin, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

⇒ Online Facility (See Diocesan Website – www.kandle.ie) ⇐

⇒ Standing Order or Transfer directly to our Accounts ⇐

The following are our Bank Account Details

Mountrath Parish - Bank Account Details
(Portlaoise Branch)

Name - Mountrath Parish Current Account

Account number - 7274 7250

IBAN - IE93 BOFI 9018 2972 7472 50

BIC. - BOFIE2D

Ballyfin Parish - Bank Account Details
(Portlaoise Branch)

Name - Ballyfin Parish Pastoral Council

IBAN - IE44 AIBK 9332 7900 203030

BIC. - AIBKIE2D

Please include your own name as the reference.

⇒ Support Mountrath and Ballyfin Parish Lottos ⇐

If you have any queries or would like to speak with us regarding donating to the Parish or participating in the charity tax donation scheme, just ring me on 087 241 1594 (Fr. Joe)

Stay connected with us!

Parish Website www.mountrath/ballyfinparish.ie - Links to Webcams on Home Page

Visit our Parish App. Mountrath Ballyfin Parish

National Board for the Safeguarding of Children

The National Board for the Safeguarding of Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland (the National Board) will be commencing their review of safeguarding practice in the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin on Dec 12th . This review is to assess the safeguarding practice in the Diocese against the Catholic Church in Ireland's current standards as

detailed in Safeguarding Children - Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2016.

If you would like to know more about safeguarding in your parish, please speak with your Local Safeguarding Representative(s) (INSERT NAME(S) HERE) or look at the Safeguarding section on www.kandle.ie.

If you ever wish to report a child or vulnerable adult safeguarding concern, please contact the Diocesan DLP on 085 8021633 or the statutory authorities of the Gardai, TUSLA, HSE.

Review by the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland.

Letter from Bishop Denis - 21 November 2022

Review by the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland

I am pleased to announce that the National Board for the Safeguarding of Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland (the National Board) will be commencing their review of safeguarding practice in the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin on December 12th.

The National Board was established in 2006 to provide advice, services and assistance in furtherance of the development of the safeguarding of children within the Roman Catholic Church on the island of Ireland; and to monitor compliance with legislation, policy and best practice and to report on these activities.

The Diocese entered into an agreement with the National Board through signing a Memorandum of Understanding and committed to the *Safeguarding Children*

– *Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2016* issued by the National Board.

To assess our compliance, I invited the National Board to undertake a review of practice this year. The Diocese was previously reviewed in 2012 under the *Safeguarding Children – Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2008*.

The purpose of this second review is to assess the safeguarding practice in the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin against the Catholic Church in Ireland's current standards as detailed in *Safeguarding Children – Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2016*.

In advance of this, I encourage anyone who has a child safeguarding concern or who wishes to report an allegation of child abuse to contact a Diocesan Designated Liaison Person or An Garda Síochána or TUSLA or contact the National Board (details below).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who encourage and facilitate children's involvement in parish activities and all those who contribute to safeguarding in their local parishes.

With every best wish, +Denis Nulty - Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin

Contact Details

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP)

Ms. Kathleen Sherry Tel 085 802 1633

Email: dlp@kandle.ie

Deputy DLP's Ms. Michele Hughes Tel 086 1710643 and

Fr. Mícheál Murphy Tel: 086 8244629

Garda National Protective Services Bureau

01 6663430/35

1800 555 222

Tusla Child & Family Agency

Kilkenny & Carlow area – 052 617 7302

Laois & Offaly – 044 935 3997

Kildare & West Wicklow – 045 839 300

HSE Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults

Carlow, Kilkenny: Tel: 056 778 4325

Email: safeguarding.cho5@hse.ie

Wicklow: Tel: 01 216 4511

Email: safeguarding.cho6@hse.ie

Kildare, Wicklow: Tel: 045 920410

Email: safeguarding.cho7@hse.ie

Laois, Offaly: Tel: 01 6914632

Email: safeguarding.cho8@hse.ie

National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland,

New House, Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co. Kildare. Phone: 01 5053124
/ 01 5053026 Email: admin@safeguarding.ie

Lock Up - Light Up



As we approach the time of year when the clocks are set to go back, we are once again appealing to people to secure their homes and premises and to Lock Up and Light Up during the winter months.

Traditionally Burglaries increase by 20% over the winter months of October to March. Some simple methods can make your home and premises less vulnerable to Criminal Attack.

- *Lighting around the house on a sensor or photocell.*
- *Lighting inside on timers*

Natural Surveillance- trim shrubs down to 1m and trees up to 2 m.

- *Use Bogus Caller Cards*
- *Close Curtains during hours of Darkness.*

What Attracts the Burglar:

- *Signs of being unoccupied.*
- *Open Windows*
- *Hidden keys*
- *A build up of Post /Milk, etc.*
- *No alarms.*
- *High vegetation*
- *Ladders or tools in easy reach*
- *Easy access to the rear of your house*
- *Poor lighting or house lights on at the wrong time.*

See WWW.garda.ie for Home Security Tips and Advices.

Christmas Marketing Campaign
Workshop & 2023 Social Media
Planning
14th December 2022
12.30pm - 2pm

Book on Eventbrite
€15 including hot desking for the day
Booking essential

**Christmas
Marketing
Campaigns**

How to choose your target
audiences on your Social
Media accounts and website

BLOOM HQ

Bishop Denis' Prayer for the People of Ukraine

Bishop Denis invites this prayer for peace in Ukraine to be prayed at all our Masses

Loving God, We pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world
that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in need. Amen.

Apostolate of Sanctification

St. Fintan's Church, Church, Ballyfin Every Monday 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!

Transmitting Faith in Contemporary Culture

In processing the diocesan synodal reports the ACI steering group concluded that no issue seemed of greater concern than the growing absence of young people, including younger parents, from regular weekly liturgies - even before the onset of the Covid 19 pandemic in the spring of 2020.

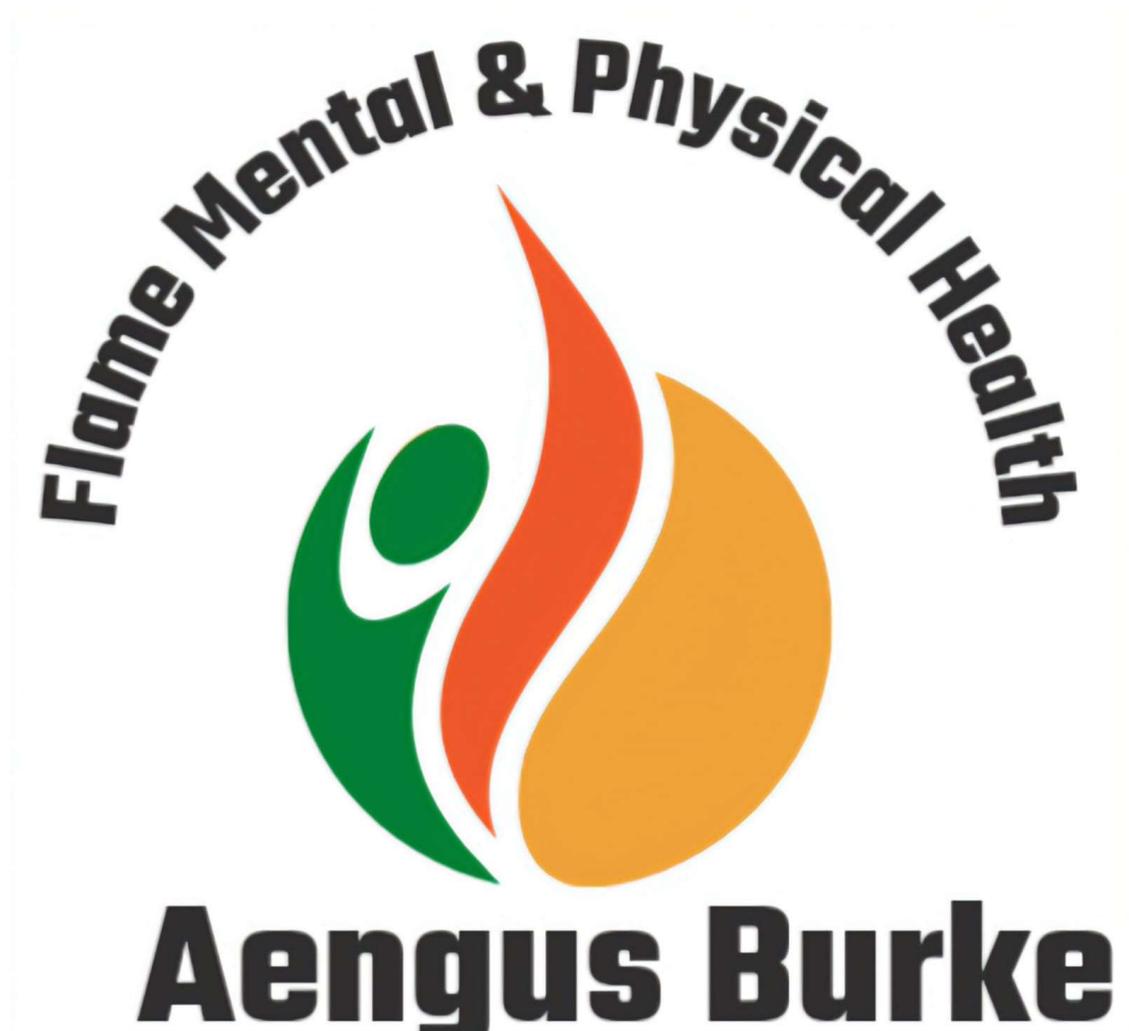
A zoom gathering has been organised by the Association of Catholics in Ireland takes place on Thursday October 6th, 2022 at 8.00 pm. Professor Michael Conway (Professor of Faith and Culture, Pontifical University, St Patrick's College, Maynooth) will present his own view of the issue of faith transmission today, and will be followed by open discussion. All are welcome to join in.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85073799955?pwd=VlpicXViUGlmT2FIQXlmOHVlWjFpZz09>

Meeting ID: 850 7379 9955 Passcode: 690623

Date for the Diary:

Pope John Paul II Awards, 15 December, 7.30pm, Cathedral of the Assumption Carlow.



MIND AND BODY CLASSES. FEEL LIKE

NOBODY LISTENS ,

NO BODY UNDERSTANDS?

***Meet with like minded people in a safe , non judgemental
environment .***

Pick up some tools to improve Mental Health.

BLOOM HQ, MOUNTRATH.

WEDNESDAYS , 7.30 PM. Call/Text

/Whatsapp 087 6100908.

To care for those
who once cared for us
is one of the highest
honors in life.

– Tia Walker



Lessons
learned
Life

Carol Services - Christmas 2022



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Mountrath Church

Wed. 14th December - 12 midday

With Mountrath Community School Pupils and Staff

Ballyfin Church.

Wed. 14th Dec. - 7.30 pm

Mountrath Church.

Fri. 16th Dec. 12 midday

With Pupils and staff of Scoil Bhride, Mountrath