

## BALLINAMORE & DRUMREILLY LOWER PARISH NEWSLETTER

24 & 25<sup>th</sup> December 2023

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Christmas Day

Feast Days: 26<sup>th</sup> St Stephens Day, 27<sup>th</sup> St John 28<sup>th</sup> the Holy Innocents, 29<sup>th</sup> St Thomas Becket & 31<sup>st</sup> The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Office Phone: 071 9644039

Website: [ballinamoreparish.com](http://ballinamoreparish.com)

Office Hours: Closed 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> Dec

Fr. Seán Mawn P.P. Home 071 96 81992 Mob 087 686 9040

Open: Weds, Thurs & Fri 9:30- 2:30 pm.

Fr. Malachy Moses C.C. Mob 087 490 4380

Email: [ballinamore@kilmorediocese.ie](mailto:ballinamore@kilmorediocese.ie)

Fr. John Mc Mahon 049-4339610 Mob. 086-2126582 (Carrigallen)

Join us live, at [churchtv.ie](http://churchtv.ie) Select Leitrim, and then Aghnasheelin, Ballinamore or Corraleehan Church

**Ballinamore Church:**

Sat & Sun 11am, Mon 25<sup>th</sup> 12 noon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, & Fri 11am.

Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec 11 am Margaret Sweeney (Church Street)

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Dec 11 am no intention

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Dec 9:30pm Christmas Eve

Tues 26<sup>th</sup> Dec 11 am

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Dec 12pm Christmas Day Mass

Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Dec 11 am

Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Dec 11 am James Bohan (Drumrane) and all deceased members of the Bohan and Prior families.

Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Dec 11 am no Intention

Sun 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 11 am Micheal Costello (Ardrum)

Deceased members of the McKiernan family (High Street)

Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 12 noon No Intention

**Eucharistic Adoration** Fridays 11.30am –12.30am

**Eucharist Ministers:** 24<sup>th</sup> Patricia McGoldrick, Marian Quinn, & Leigh Murphy **Christmas Eve** Deirdre Harvey, Pdraig McÁodh, Philomena Early, Mary McWeeney & Aileen Wisley. **Christmas Day** Micheal Darcy, Maeve Sharpley & Noel Dolan. **St Stephens Day** Alice Costello, Raymond McHugh, & Marcella Kiernan

**Ministers of the Word** 24<sup>th</sup> Dec Marie O'Connor 9:30 pm Ballinamore Community School 25<sup>th</sup> Dec Gabriel Cronin 31<sup>st</sup> Dec PJ McLoughlin

**Door Collectors:** 24<sup>th</sup> Dec & 25<sup>th</sup> Dec John McWeeney, Micheal Duignan, and David Prior 31<sup>st</sup> Dec & 7<sup>th</sup> Jan Group 4

**CONFESSIONS AVAILABLE:** Saturdays after the 11am Mass in Ballinamore Church, and on request at any time.

**Aghnasheelin, St. Mary's Church:**

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Children's Christmas Mass, Mon 25<sup>th</sup> 10am, & Sat 8:15

**Mass Intentions**

Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec 7pm No Intention

Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec 8:15 pm Jack, Margaret and Micheál Benison (Crimlin)

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Dec 6:30 pm Children's Mass

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Dec 10 am Christmas Day Mass

Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Dec 8:15 pm no intention

**Eucharist Ministers:** 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> Maura Mulvey & Maureen Conway 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Jan Mary Costello & Sheila O'Dowd

**Ministers of the Word:** Stephanie Prior & Maura Mulvey **Door Collectors:** Philip Rooney, Terence Boyle &

**Eucharistic Adoration** Wednesday 11am to 12 noon, and 8 to 10 pm Christopher Mc Nulty

**Corraleehan St. Brigid's Church:**

Christmas Day 11 am & Sun 9:45 am

**Mass Intentions**

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Dec no intention

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Dec 11 am Christmas Day Mass

Sun 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 9:45 am Kathleen Higgins, her parents Jim & Jenny, & deceased members of Higgins & Griffin families

**Eucharist Ministers:** Teresa Maxwell & Annie McManus **Altar Society:** Bridie McNiff and Josie Maguire

**Ministers of the Word:** Damien Gilheany & Tracy McTague **Door Collectors:** Seamus Beirne & Micheal McManus

**Eucharistic Adoration:** NOT on 27<sup>th</sup> Dec resumes Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 10 am to 4pm & 6pm to 8pm

**Aughawillan St Patrick's Church:**

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> 8 pm, & Sat 7pm

**Mass Intentions**

Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec 7 pm no intention

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Dec 8pm **Christmas Eve** Kathleen and Luke McGovern (Glebe) and all deceased family members Hughie and Jim McGovern (Cully) and all deceased family members

Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Dec 7 pm No Intention

**Eucharist Ministers:** Mary Farrell Quinn & Bernadette Mahon **Altar Society:** Mary Quinn, Colleen Quinn & Martina

**Ministers of the Word:** Sinead Kiernan & Morgan Quinn **Door Collectors:** Pat Stringer & Micheal Quinn. Coneyfrey

**CONFESSIONS FOR CHRISTMAS:**

Aghnasheelin: before & after 7pm mass on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec. Ballinamore Confession on Christmas Eve 12noon, and Aughawillan: before & after 7pm mass Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec

**BALLINAMORE PRAYER GROUP** 8 pm on Tuesday night at the Parish Centre. Come along and invite your friends.

**RECENT DEATHS:** Please pray for Pety Prior (Knockenroe) Frank McCabe (Kiltyhugh), Mary Martin (née Leniston), Ros ÓG, and all the souls of the Faithful departed. **May They Rest in Peace**

**KILMORE YOUTH MINISTRY ART COMPETITION:** With over 600 brilliant entries, the winner is **Martha Mc Govern - St Michaels NS, Glenfarne.** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - Leah Cross Roche - Kilmainhaim Wood NS, Virginia and 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - Scarleth Donohoe - Kilinkere NS, Virginia Co Cavan. Thanks to all entrants. There will be an essay competition in January 2024 for all students making their confirmation so stay tuned for that.

**CHURCH ENVELOPES FOR 2024** will be available for collection in the churches next week. It would be appreciated if you would kindly collect your box of envelopes at your earliest convenience as they will be in use for the Feast Day of the Epiphany on January 6<sup>th</sup>. If you are new to the Parish call or email the **071 96 44039** email [ballinamore@kilmorediocese.ie](mailto:ballinamore@kilmorediocese.ie)

**CAPUCHIN MISSIONS:** acknowledge and sincerely thank you all for contributions to the Capuchin Missions since 5<sup>th</sup> Oct. in the amount of **€731.00** with every good wish and Blessings, from Br. Joe Gallagher, OFM CAP. Your generosity to our missions in Zambia and South Africa is of immense value to the Christian communities we serve. Wishing you all a Happy, Holy & Peaceful Christmas. All donations in St. Anthony's box go to the Capuchin Missions.



**OUGHTERAGH & LOWER DRUMREILLY PARISH:** has setup an online interactive portal. This allows people to light a candle, pay contributions, and make donations online. Scan this QR code with your smart phone, <https://churchtv.ie/> and follow the links for your Church to make a donation. The light a candle feature allows you to light a candle instantly in Ballinamore Church from anywhere in the world 24/7. St Patricks Church Aughawillan is now live on the website, at this link <https://www.churchtv.ie/aughawillan/>

**GENTLE REMINDER:** As the end of the year approaches it would be appreciated if your church contributions were bought up to date. Offertory contributions towards the upkeep of church are made payable to the church area where you reside. All Dues contributions towards salaries for priests are made payable to Ballinamore Catholic Church 2 ACC

**150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THE ORIGINAL St PATRICK'S COLLEGE:** Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2024 will mark the opening of this iconic building which served as a college (up to its relocation to the new college building in 2012) and now houses the **Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre since 2005**. Bishop Martin Hayes will be the principal celebrant of a special Mass to commemorate this milestone anniversary in the Cathedral of Saints Patrick & Felim, Cavan on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2024 at 11am. Further details will be announced in due course.

**MARY'S MEALS SCOPIO BOUTIQUE COLLECTON:** amounted to €267.50, your generosity is greatly appreciated

**MARY'S MEALS CHRISTMAS GIFTS CAMPAIGN:** have launched our Christmas Gifts Campaign - giving gifts that have a real impact on those in need. From as little as €5.50, which will provide 50 meals for children in their place of education, you can make a big difference. Visit [marysmeals.ie](http://marysmeals.ie) to download a gift or call **01-8535163 089-4339592**.

#### **COMMUNITY NOTES**

**ATHLETIC CLUB:** Organised training has now concluded for the Christmas break and will most likely resume on Tues Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>. Additional new members will then be enrolled for coming year.

**POKER CLASSIC IN SHORTS BAR** High St, Ballinamore on Fri 29<sup>th</sup> Dec at 9pm sharp. Admission £20 Buy-ins £5. 50/50 prizes. Proceeds to Ballinamore Patient Comfort Fund.

**AUGHNASHEELIN BINGO:** Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> December at 8:30 pm, extra prizes on the night

**IDEAL CHRISTMAS GIFT!** The **St Marys National School 50 Year Reunion Book**, for all family and friends local and global. Contact Geraldine on **086 337 6411** or call into the school.

**ANNUAL SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN:** please look out for our donation envelopes and food appeal boxes, donations can also be made directly to the **SVP account** in the **Ballinamore Credit Union**, **IBAN: IE49BLRU99224009342021** and **BIC: BLRUIE21**, or manually in the Credit Union to **Acc No 9320380**. Our Annual Food appeal takes place in Tesco and SuperValu, with donation boxes in store, or donations can be made to the SVP account in Ballinamore Credit Union, as highlighted above. We really do appreciate your ongoing support.

**IRISH CONVERSATION CLASSES.** Want to Improve or practice your Gaeilge? The very successful Ciorcal Comhrá, or Irish Conversation Circle will resume in Ballinamore Library on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2024, at 8 pm Different levels of classes apply. Admission free. Ring or text **087 682 1566** to book a place.

**PADDY'S ICEBREAKERS, formerly LEITRIM ICEBREAKERS:** Christmas day swim at 1pm in Garadice Lake. We have rebranded this event in honour of Paddy O'Connor who ran it for many years. All funds will go directly to Vision Ireland. A go fund me page has been set up <https://www.idonate.ie/fundraiser/paddysicebreakers>, (or see QR code on Posters) donations will be accepted on the day. We hope you can help us by joining us or donating whatever you can. All donations are processed securely.

**BALLINAMORE GREENWAY PARKRUN & WALK:** every Saturday at 9.30am - looking forward to seeing you there.

**WALK ABOUT TOWN:** meet at the Basin opposite SuperValu at **6 pm on Mondays** all welcome.

**SEAN O'HESLINS NEW YEAR DRAW:** Tickets are on sale now from Club members or on Revolut by contacting **086 390 791**. Tickets are one for €20 or three for €50, first Prize is €4000. 2nd Prize €1000 and 10 Prizes of €100. The draw will take place in Priors on the 6<sup>th</sup> January please support.

**SEAN O'HESLINS DINNER DANCE:** to celebrate this year's achievements has been set for the 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024

#### **REFLECTION - LORD,**

At Christmas time our thoughts go out to loved ones, far and near,  
To those we still remember each day throughout the year.  
At Christmas time we cherish hope with love and joy to share,  
and pray for peace to fill the world for people everywhere. **Amen**



Wishing all Parishioners & Visitors a Blessed & Happy Christmas.  
From Fr Seán, Fr Moses, Martina (Our Pastoral worker) & The Parish Pastoral Council.

All New items for the Newsletter should be dropped into the Parish Office, Convent Road or emailed before 12 noon on Thursdays to [ballinamore@kilmorediocese.ie](mailto:ballinamore@kilmorediocese.ie) the editor reserves the right to edit or omit items according to suitability of content & space in the newsletter

## CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

**Christmas Eve Masses:** Aghnasheelin 6:30pm (Special Children's Mass), Aughawillan 8pm, Ballinamore 11am & 9:30pm. and Corraleehan 9:45am.

**Christmas Day Masses:** Aghnasheelin 10am, Corraleehan 11.00am, and Ballinamore 12 noon

**SILENT RETREAT:** Theme: "If you but knew the gift of God..." Preached by: Fr. Kilian Byrne, Foyer of Charity Venue: St. Mary's Accommodation, Knock, Co. Mayo Date: February 5th to 11th 2024 Cost: €540 full board Contact: Helen:

**086 167 8027/ [hellywilliams@gmail.com](mailto:hellywilliams@gmail.com) [www.foyerofcharity.ie](http://www.foyerofcharity.ie)** A privileged time to come away from noise and distractions, and listen to the Spirit of God, - Who is Love. Silence, prayer, teachings & liturgy of the Church.

**GIVE THE GIFT OF LOUGH DERG THIS CHRISTMAS:** The online Lough Derg Christmas Shop is now open at: [www.loughderg.live/shop](http://www.loughderg.live/shop) Mass Bouquets, Christmas Cards, the limited edition Lough Derg Christmas Candle, and a large range of Nativity Sets and other gifts. The Christmas shop provides much needed financial income to support the mission and ministry of Lough Derg outside the Pilgrimage Season. Thank you for your support.



**THE ADVENT WREATH** is made of various evergreens, signifying continuous, everlasting life. The Laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering; Pine, Holly, and Yew: signifies immortality; and Cedar: strength and healing. Holly also has a special Christian symbolism: The prickly leaves remind us of the crown of thorns and the red berries, the blood of Our Saviour. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul and the everlasting life offered by Christ. Any Pine Cones, Nuts or Seedpods used to decorate the wreath also symbolise life and resurrection.

**ADVENT CANDLES** On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Saviour. This final candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

**BOOKING ANNIVERSARIES MASSES:** As you are aware we have shared mass intentions in our churches at the weekends. We try to limit the number of intentions to a maximum of three. To maintain this arrangement please book

anniversary masses well in advance of your preferred time. Priests are allowed one mass stipend or donation per day, when we have shared intentions the extra donation is sent to retired or missionary Priests, who celebrate the extra Masses. Please book your Masses via email [ballinamore@kilmorediocese.ie](mailto:ballinamore@kilmorediocese.ie) or phone **071 964 4039**

**SCOIL CHLANN NAOFA:** are accepting applications for admission for the 2023/24 school year. Please contact the school on **071 9645001** or email the school at [info@coilchlannaofa.com](mailto:info@coilchlannaofa.com) for the enrolment pack. Thank you

**BALLINAMORE LIBRARY OFFERS ONE-TO-ONE DIGITAL SUPPORT:** to adults on their own devices - iPads, smartphones, tablets, and laptops. This service is free with experienced friendly tutors, will assist people to overcome issues they are facing using digital technology. To obtain more information about the project call **071 964 5566**, or email [ballinamorelibrary@leitrimcoco.ie](mailto:ballinamorelibrary@leitrimcoco.ie) to book a class or call into the library for a chat with a member of staff.

**BALLINAMORE BADMINTON CLUB:** Tues at 9pm Ballinamore Sports Complex. €3 per night, PAYG. All welcome.

**SET DANCING CLASSES:** Shortts Bar on Thursdays, call **086 850 6696** for more information.

**TOTUS TUUS MAGAZINE** is a Catholic magazine, full of articles from Irish priests and laity, which aims to highlight the beauty and joy of our faith. It is now in its 7<sup>th</sup> year and is run by donations. If you haven't come across Totus Tuus Magazine and would like a free copy please contact Fiona Kiely on **086 876 0058**.

**5 STEP SUPPORT SERVICE:** Are you affected by the misuse of alcohol or other drugs by another individual? 5 Step Support can help you; it is a free, non-judgemental, one-one consultation service. Putting your needs and wellbeing first, helping you manage stressful, difficult and emotional issues. For more information please contact **071 915 0578/085 875 9319** or email [sligoleitrim@alcoholforum.com](mailto:sligoleitrim@alcoholforum.com) you don't have to be addicted to suffer from addiction!

**ALONE volunteers required:** ALONE are looking for people to volunteer on their befriending program or telephone services, Mark McCollum - Volunteer Support Officer, would give a brief presentation on the work of ALONE to community groups. He can be contacted on **086 169 3024** or the Donegal Office: **074 932 1598** or you can begin your volunteering journey with ALONE via the website - <https://alone.ie/volunteer/> National Support Line: **0818 222 024**

**CAREER IN CARING FOR THE ELDERLY:** Home Instead are always looking to recruit Caregivers. Whether you can work a couple of hours a week or want to work full time, we would like to hear from you. Experience and FETAC/QQI level 5 qualification in healthcare is an advantage but not compulsory as training is provided. Please contact Seyi or Ciara on **(071) 9317051** or [recruitment-admin.sligo@homeinstead.ie](mailto:recruitment-admin.sligo@homeinstead.ie) for more information.

**ELDERLY NAIL CARE @ HOME:** Trimming, Shaping Finger and Toe Nails, Dry Skin Removal, Hand and Foot Massage. Home Visits available. Contact Sherry **085 725 7001** Leitrim and Longford areas

**SHERRY'S IRONING SERVICE:** Collection and Delivery. Quick turnaround and Beautiful Service. **085 725 7001**

**HEDGE CUTTING GRANT SCHEME 2023/2024:** This scheme is now open and aims to encourage the cutting of roadside hedges/trees along the Public Road Network. Open to all, individual applicants, communities and groups. The Grant is €75 per km of the roadside hedge/overhanging trees which are cut back. Minimum length of road network per application is 1km. Further information and application forms are available from Leitrim Co Co website [www.leitrimcoco.ie](http://www.leitrimcoco.ie) or by e-mail [roads@leitrimcoco.ie](mailto:roads@leitrimcoco.ie) or Tele **071 9620005** Ext. 630. Closing Date is 31<sup>st</sup> Jan. '24