

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

**GREETING**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.  
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

**PENITENTIAL ACT**

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. You bring pardon and peace to the sinner: Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You bring light to those in darkness: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. May almighty God have mercy on us.... Amen.

**THE GLORIA**

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**OPENING PRAYER**

Almighty ever-living God, who, when Christ had been baptised in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son, grant that your children by adoption, reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, may always be well pleasing to you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11**

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah.** 'Console my people, console them,' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.' A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain,

and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

**The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Ps. 103:1-3.3-4.24-25.27-30**  
**R. Bless the Lord, my soul!**  
**Lord God, how great you are!**

1. Lord God, how great you are, clothed in majesty and glory, wrapped in light as in a robe! You stretch out the heavens like a tent [R]
2. Above the rains you build your dwelling. You make the clouds your chariot, you walk on the wings of the wind, you make the winds your messengers and flashing fire your servants. [R]
3. How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your riches. There is the sea, vast and wide, with its moving swarms past counting, living things great and small. [R]
4. All of these look to you to give them their food in due season. You give it, they gather it up; you open your hand, they have their fill. [R]
5. You take back your spirit, they die, returning to the dust from which they came. You send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the earth. [R]

**SECOND READING**

**Titus 2:11 - 14; 3. 4-7**  
**A reading from the letter of St. Paul to Titus**  
God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own

and would have no ambition except to do good.

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

**The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Someone is coming, said John, someone greater than I.**  
**He will baptise with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia !**

**GOSPEL Luke 3:15-16. 21-22**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.**

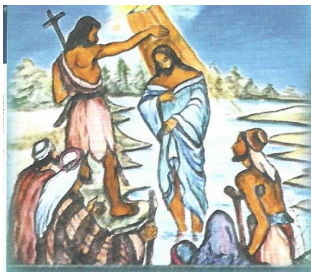
A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

**The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, **All bow for following two lines:** who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.



Year C  
**focus on sunday**

At the baptism of Jesus, God witnessed that Jesus was his Son. By baptism we too have been made God's children, chosen to bring his Good News to the world.

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

Pray brothers and sisters, .....  
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Accept, O Lord, the offerings we have brought to honour the revealing of your beloved Son, so that the oblation of your faithful may be transformed into the sacrifice of him who willed in his compassion to wash away the sins of the world. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

**SANCTUS**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

**AFTER THE CONSECRATION**

**The mystery of faith.**  
Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

**INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

Behold the Lamb of God, .....  
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

**Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly entreat your mercy, O Lord, that, faithfully listening to your Only Begotten Son, we may be your children in name and in truth. Through Christ our Lord.

**CONCLUDING RITE**

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. Go in peace. Thanks be to God.



The baptism of Jesus was not just like our baptism. Baptism for us is entering the church and it is asserting the freedom from the sin. Even though Jesus was not the sinful one, he took part in the ritual of his people - plunging himself, if you put it like this, into the depths of his people. And plunging himself into the depths of our humanity. These depths include our sin as well as all our hopes.

And it's more than that. At the baptism, Jesus heard the words, You are my beloved Son. We could say he came out of the water a different man, Receiving his title from his Father. Later on, he would hear those words again at the Transfiguration. At that time, others would hear them also, Peter and James and John. At the Transfiguration, they were told to listen to him.

But here, nobody else heard the words. We know them because the writers of the Gospel. have shared with us what they heard from Jesus. Only Jesus could have told them what he heard.

The words of Jesus are extended to all of us. He would say, I am God's beloved Son. And because of that, you are his beloved sons and his beloved daughters.

Allow yourself today hear those words spoken to you. Substitute your gender and your name. And give thanks that you are the beloved of God.

**Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger**

**Jesus' Story**

Fr. Liam Hickey



At Baptism we celebrate that the baby has Three Special Friends: God The Father, who makes the sun shine on everybody; God The Son, Jesus, our forever friend, born at Christmas; and God the Holy Spirit who lives in our heart with every breath we breathe. The people touch the baby with welcome and blessing. The baby is carried with loving hands, beginning life. We are carried with loving hands too at the end of life to a new home of love and joy.

Liturgical texts: concordat cum originali: †Demot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin Other texts: cum permissu: †Demot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin. Excerpts from the English translation of the Roman Missal; © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Used with permission. The Jerusalem version of the Scripture is copyright Darton Longman & Todd & Doubleday & Co. Inc. Responsorial psalms are copyright The Grail & or Geoffrey Chapman Ltd. Main Image by David Zelenka. Published by Logos Publications, 26 Tolka Valley Business Park, Ballybogdan Rd, Glasnevin, D11 WK38 Phone (01 830 6751).

# ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, BALLYHAUNIS

## PARISH NEWSLETTER 12th JANUARY 2025

Parish Priest: Fr. Stephen Farragher, 094-9630006 / 087-9210305

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PARISH RADIO: 105.2FM Newsletter on line: Parish website & www.mcn.live

WEBCAM: www.ballyhaunisparish.ie or www.mcn.live

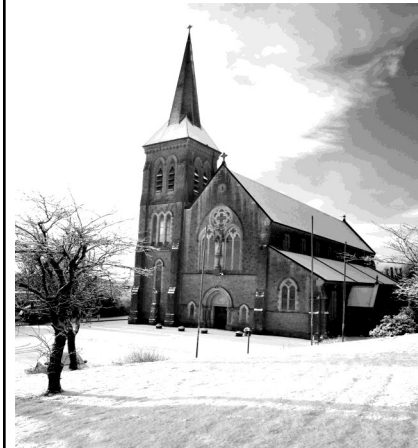
Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR) Jacinta Flynn, (contact the parish office)

*Emergency numbers:*

Knock: 094-9388100

Fr. Feeney, Ballinlough: 094-9640155

Fr. McGuinness, Bekan: 094-9313937



**MASSES:**

Monday, Tuesday,  
Wednesday, Friday 10.00am.  
Saturday Evening Vigil:  
7.30pm  
Sunday: 10.00am.

**CONFESSIONS:**

Before Saturday Vigil Mass

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Between 9am & 7pm daily.

**BAPTISMS**

First Saturday & third Sunday of the month at 11.00am. Minimum of four weeks' notice required. Contact the parish office, 094-9630006.



**ANNIVERSARY MASSES 13th-18th JANUARY 2025**

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10.00am; Saturday 7.30pm.**

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Thomas & Kathleen Connell, Redford & decd. of the Connell & Molloy families

PJ Kelly, Bekan & Liam Carney, Kildare

Mark & Eileen Waldron, Cave

Danny & Annette Fadian, Achill & Padraic Phillips, Leow

Peter & Kathleen Regan, Agloragh

Richard Grogan, Devlis & Tom Kelly, Merseyside

Michael & Kitty Nolan, Erritt, Castlerea

Nellie, Tom & Seamus Lyons, Ballinastoka

Tom & John Fitzmaurice & decd. Tullaghane

John, Teresa & John Murphy & Phyllis Nolan, Cartron North, Tooreen

Jack & Maureen Ruane, Ballincar, Sligo

Anthony Waldron, Clagnagh & Matthew Barnaville, London

Jimmy, John & Helena Finnegan, Bohogue

Thomas, Mary, Martin, & Terry McDonagh, Tooraree

Mary & Peter Gallagher, Derrintogher & Bridie Goldstein, Long Island

**SUNDAY 19TH JANUARY- MONTH'S MIND**

Jim McLoughlin, Carrowreagh

13th-19th Jan.	READERS	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST
<b>Monday</b>	Martin Fitzmaurice	Joe Byrne, Marion Regan
<b>Tuesday</b>	Tommy Caulfield	Breege Halpin, Frances Mulhern
<b>Wednesday</b>	Mary Donnelly	Margaret Byrne, Mary Sykes
<b>Friday</b>	Paula Donnellan	Willie Broderick, Irene Healy
<b>Saturday 7.30pm</b>	John Doyle	Jacinta Flynn, Jenny Glynn, Tim Byrne, Seamus Mulrennan
<b>Sunday 10am</b>	Maura Murphy	Willie Broderick, Margaret Tarpey, Aileen Burke, Geraldine Murphy

All weekday and weekend Masses, and the daily Rosary at 9pm (when possible) Mondays to Fridays, continue to be broadcast on parish radio 105.2 FM and streamed on the parish webcam: <https://www.mcn.live/camera/st-patricks-church-ballyhaunis> or on our website: [www.ballyhaunisparish.ie](http://www.ballyhaunisparish.ie).

**"GROW IN LOVE"**: The preparation programme for children celebrating the Sacraments of Reconciliation & Holy Communion later this year continues at 7.30pm Mass this Saturday evening 11th January. Our focus this month is on teaching them about Baptism, the sacrament through which new members are welcomed into our parish family.

**Recently Deceased** - We remember in our prayers:

Seamus Waldron, Cottage;

Robert Kelly, Dublin & formerly Hazelhill, brother of Aidan Kelly, Hazelhill

**PPC MEETING:** The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council takes place this Monday night 13th January at 8.30pm in the Community Hall.

**CONFIRMATION:** A meeting of parents/ guardians of the Confirmation classes will take place in the Community Hall this Tuesday 14th January at 8pm. All parents are asked to attend. The 2025 Confirmation ceremony will take place on Thursday 13th March.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** takes place at the 10am Mass next Sunday 19th January. Children aged 4-8 are invited into the Sacristy during Mass, and will return to their parents after Communion.

**LATIN MASS:** The next Latin Mass takes place in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Knock this Sunday 12th Jan at 6pm.

**Recently Baptised**

We welcome into the Faith Community:  
Willow Grace Lyons, Spaddagh

**CHRISTIAN UNITY:** The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity runs from Saturday 18th to 25th January. This year, in addition to being a Jubilee Year based on the theme "Pilgrims of Hope, is also the 1700th anniversary of the first Ecumenical Council of the Church, the Council of Nicaea, held in 325 which gathered Christian communities from around the world to strengthen their relationships as the Church of Jesus Christ.

**PRIESTS' CHRISTMAS COLLECTION:** Sincere thanks to those who have already returned their Christmas envelopes. Your ongoing support & generosity is appreciated. Envelopes can be returned at Masses or to the parish office. For those wishing to make an online donation, the IBAN is **IE97 AIBK 9374 4421 3423 54.**

**BALLYHAUNIS ACTIVE RETIREMENT GROUP:**

The bi-weekly meetings will recommence on Wednesday 29th January at 1.30pm in the Communal House, Clare Court with the Annual General Meeting taking place on Wed. 12th February during the regular meeting. All welcome.

**Offertory Collection**

New Year's Day  
€690  
Sunday 5th Jan.2025  
€1,545

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL** is looking for volunteers for the new Vincent's Charity Shop opening in Ballyhaunis later this month. If you can spare a few hours per week to help this important charity in our community, email [vincents.ballyhaunis@svp.ie](mailto:vincents.ballyhaunis@svp.ie) We are also looking for TUS and RSS scheme workers to join our team.

**WOOLLY CRAFT CLUB:** Knitters, spinners, weavers, dyers, crochet creators and anyone interested in learning the crafts is welcome to attend at Ballyhaunis Community Hall next Saturday 18th January from 11am to 2pm.

**KIDS' MOVIE:** "IF" will be screened in the Community Hall on Saturday next 18th Jan. at 3pm. Family movie, all welcome. Donations towards the Hall restoration fund will be accepted.

**IRISH CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER:** Copies are available in the church porch at a cost of €3. Place money in candelabra coinbox.

**UPDATE ON CHURCH REFURBISHMENT PLANS:**

Last November, I spoke at weekend Masses about the planned refurbishment of the interior of the church. Phase One of this refurbishment involves the painting of the entire interior of the church. The whole electrical system also needs to be upgraded and this will also form part of this initial phase of refurbishment. This will entail a complete rewiring of the building, the installation of a new modern, more energy-efficient lighting system, emergency lighting, fire alarm and signed emergency exits.

**Weekday Masses**

Commencing next Wednesday January 15<sup>th</sup>, weekday Mass will be celebrated in the Community (Parochial) Hall at 10am. Having spoken to MCN media who host the livestreaming of our Masses from the church, it is hoped to livestream the weekday Masses via a mobile tab.

**Weekend Masses, Funerals and Baptisms.**

Weekend Masses, funerals and baptisms will continue to be celebrated in the church.

The Confirmation Ceremony on March 13<sup>th</sup> will take place in Knock Basilica at 12pm.

**Blessed Sacrament Chapel**

During the course of each day, parishioners like to pop into the church to say a prayer and perhaps to light a candle. While there will not be access to the main body of the church during weekdays, we will make every effort to maintain access to the Blessed Sacrament chapel and the candelabra next to the entrance of the chapel during the week. However, even this access will have to be temporarily denied for a time to allow for the painting of the area around the porch and entrance to the chapel.

The aim is to have the bulk of Phase One works completed in time for Holy Week, commencing April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Obviously, work like this will involve inconveniencing parishioners and all who are in the habit of using the church building for worship and prayer. We aim to keep that inconvenience to a minimum.

We are blessed to have such a beautiful church building that has been handed onto us by previous generations who built and maintained the church in difficult, less prosperous times.

We ask for your patience and above all your prayers for the successful completion of the project.

Finally, I wish to express my gratitude to the members of Parish Pastoral Council, the Parish Finance Committee and all who have given so generously of their time in progressing the project to this point.

*Fr Stephen*

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**THE CATECHISM CAFÉ** presents "Faith in a Faithless World" - an evening of talks, panel discussion and Q & A in St. John's Centre, Knock Shrine on Friday 31st January at 7.30pm. Guest speakers include Senator Ronan Mullen, Ben Scallan (Gript Media), Ciaran Clarke (MMA fighter) and Clodagh Gallagher (Aid to the Church in Need). All welcome. Light refreshments on the night.

**MAYO STOMA SUPPORT GROUP** will hold a meeting on Thursday 23rd January at 7pm in the Ellison Hotel, Castlebar. All welcome. If attending, please text your name to 087 6275766.

**PARISH NEWSLETTER:** Items for the newsletter can be emailed to [ballyhaunisparish@gmail.com](mailto:ballyhaunisparish@gmail.com)