

First reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord. 'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels. 'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: My soul rejoices in my God.

Second reading

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The Word of the Lord

TODAY'S MASS READINGS

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord



CONTACT

ARLES, BALLYLINAN & KILLEEN NEWSLETTER



Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

13th December 2020

Third Sunday of Advent

Reflection

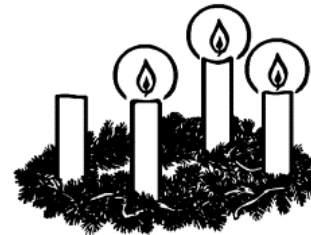
Take time for friendship, for love, for care, for those activities that grow our friendship and love with the people who mean a lot.

Take time these days for the poor, for ensuring that someone's Christmas will be better because of your generosity.

Then the songs will be full and the gifts will be a reminder of love, and Santa, the friend of children, will be like the Christ-child.

Then love for God and others will come to birth at Christmas.

Donal Neary SJ



Loving God,

On this Advent day we turn to you in prayer.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of your Son, we ask your blessing on each of us.

Open our hearts to the good news that you bring to us and help us to welcome your light into our lives, a light that gives us the gift of



joy.

May your joy fill our heart, our mind and our home.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Come. Lord Jesus.

Our Parish Website

arlesparish.ie

During the last phase of lockdown we launched our parish website (arlesparish.ie). On the site you will find a range of items of interest: latest notices; scripture readings for each day and the following Sunday; mass times; photo galleries; contact numbers; donation details to support our parish; advice on preparing for sacraments etc.

In Memoriam

This Mass is broadcast on radio Medium 109

We pray for: Daniel Kelly, The Maisonettes, Ballylinan who died during this past week.

Anniversaries for 12 / 13 Dec

Killeen (9am):

Arles (10am):

Ballylinan (8pm):

(11.30am): Phyllis Flynn, Dublin (1st Anniv.)

Anniversaries for 19 / 20 Dec

Killeen (9am): Rita & Mick Farrell

Liam Byrne & Pauline O'Shea

Arles (10am):

Ballylinan (8pm): Delia & Patrick Fitzpatrick

(11.30am):

Parish Office & Shop

(059) 862 5456

Opening Hours: Tuesday: 10am—12 noon

Friday: 10am—12 noon



We have a selection of Christmas items available in the shop.

Get them while stocks last!



Parish Contact Details

Fr. Pdraig Shelley PP (059) 914 7637

Fr. Tommy O'Shea PE (059) 862 5261

Parish Office: ☎ (059) 862 5456

✉ arlesparish@gmail.com



First Confessions

Ballylinan NS: Tues 15th Dec. in St. Anne's Church, Ballylinan.

Two ceremonies, at 7.15pm and 8pm will be celebrated to preserve social distancing

Killeen NS: Wed 16th Dec at 7.15pm in St. Abban's Church, Killeen.

Arles NS: Thurs 17th Dec at 7.15pm in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Arles.

Let us keep them all in our prayers this week.

Thank you for your continued support of our Covid 19 practices.



Weekly Collections

Sunday 06th December

Arles: Offertory €103.60

Envelope €702.00

Ballylinan: Offertory €633.38

Envelope €623.62

Killeen: Offertory €78.17

Envelope €554.00

A sincere word of thanks to all those who contribute to the upkeep of our parish.

Ceremony of Light

Ballylinan NS: Monday 14th Dec. in St. Anne's Church, Ballylinan.



Three ceremonies, at 7pm, 7.30pm & 8pm will be celebrated to preserve social distancing.

Killeen NS: Wed 16th Dec at 8pm in St. Abban's Church, Killeen.

Arles NS: Thurs 17th Dec at 8pm in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Arles.

May the light of faith continue to shine in their young lives.

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday: No mass

Tuesday: 10am Ballylinan

Wednesday: 10am Killeen

Thursday: 10am Arles

Friday: 10am Ballylinan



St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

will take place this weekend.

Due to Covid 19 a church gate collection will not be held this year.

Special Donation Envelopes for your contribution are available in the Parish Office.

Please give generously.



Christmas Mass Programme 2020

Christmas Eve

(24th December)

Ballylinan 5pm & 7pm

Arles 9pm

Killeen 9pm



Christmas Day

(25th December)

Killeen - 9am

Arles - 10am

Ballylinan - 11.30am

St. Stephen's Day

(26th December)

Ballylinan - 8pm

Sunday 27th December

Killeen - 9am, Arles - 10am

Ballylinan - 11.30am

Please be mindful of the Covid 19 safety guidelines in effect for all our ceremonies. We will have a capacity of 50 persons per mass with social distancing and wearing of face masks to protect our congregation and the wider community.