

## First reading

A reading from the second book of Samuel

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.' But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me; if he does evil, I will punish him with the rod such as men use, with strokes such as mankind gives. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever.'"

The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

Response: I will sing forever of your love, O Lord.

## Second reading

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

## TODAY'S MASS READINGS

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me. Alleluia!

## Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord



# CONTACT

ARLES, BALLYLINAN & KILLEEN NEWSLETTER



Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

20th December 2020

Fourth Sunday of Advent

## Reflection

It's almost Christmas eve. Are you tired? It's been a long journey to the Bethlehem barn.

Are you ready for Christmas? Gifts wrapped, tree decorated, crib in place, food bought. But are you ready? Are you filled with wonder at this God of ours who loves us, forgives us, who wants us, who gives His very own Son to be our Saviour? Are you ready to sing Alleluia with the heavenly choir?



Take a moment—take a moment to savour and welcome what all the preparations have been for: God is with us.



*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.*

*Help us to welcome your light into our lives, a light that gives us the gift of love. You showed us the greatness of your love in Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us.*

*May your love 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

### Anniversaries for 19 / 20 Dec

Killeen (9am): Rita & Mick Farrell  
Liam Byrne & Pauline O'Shea  
Arles (10am):  
Ballylinan (8pm): Delia & Patrick Fitzpatrick  
(11.30am):  
Tuesday (10am): Michael Eustace

### Anniversaries for 26 / 27 Dec

Killeen (9am):  
Arles (10am):  
Ballylinan (8pm):  
(11.30am): Eoin Julian (5th Anniv.)  
Mary Kinsella (Months Mind)



## Parish Office & Shop

Tuesday & Friday 10am – 12noon



Christmas Opening Hours

Closes Tuesday 22nd December

Re-opens Tuesday 5th January

*Thanks to all who supported the shop throughout the year.*

## Well Done

Congratulations to all the boys and girls in our three schools who made their First Confession and celebrated their Ceremony of Light during the past week.



Thanks to all who have supported the children so far in their faith and we keep them all in our prayers.

Parents will be notified when we have firm dates for the First Holy Communion and Confirmation ceremonies.



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



### Weekly Collections

#### Sunday 13th December

Arles:	Offertory	€87.94
	Envelope	€248.00
Ballylinan:	Offertory	€259.47
	Envelope	€323.00
Killeen:	Offertory	€96.65
	Envelope	€645.00

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

We welcome into our faith community through baptism:

Daisy May Brennan  
Maximus Moran  
Stella Ryan  
Ellie Rose Wilson  
Sophie Aleksandra Doyle  
Jack Arnold Mahon  
Tomas James Mahon



*May the Lord bless them and their families*

### Community Café

All at the Café wish all our patrons a very happy Christmas & prosperous New Year.

Thank you for all your continued support . The café caters for all ages. We hope to be back in the New Year.

### Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday:	No mass
Tuesday:	10am Ballylinan
Wednesday:	10am Killeen
Thursday:	See Christmas Eve
Friday:	See Christmas Day

### Christmas Station Collection

The Christmas Collection for the support of the priests of our parish will be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Day. Our usual collectors are asked to attend to facilitate this collection.

*Thank you for your kindness and support*

## 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.*



### Parish Contact Details

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