

TODAY'S MASS READINGS



First reading

A reading from the prophet Micah

The Lord says this: But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Second reading

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

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world: You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the obla-

tions, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

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

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

The Gospel of the Lord



CONTACT

ARLES, BALLYLINAN & KILLEEN NEWSLETTER



Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

19th December 2021

4th 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.



In Memoriam



Anniversaries for 18 Dec / 19 Dec

Killeen (9am): Carol Miller (Months Mind)
John, Edward & Elizabeth Kelly,
Tierernane.
Liam Byrne & Pauline O'Shea

Arles (10am): Michael & Cathy Nash, and daughter
Kate, Farnans

Ballylinan (7.30pm):
(11.30am): Kevin Whelan (Months Mind)

Anniversaries for 26 Dec

Killeen (9am):
Arles (10am):
Ballylinan (11.30am): Kathleen Corcoran & Mary
Conway

Parish Office & Shop



*The Parish Office will be closed at 1pm
Tuesday and will reopen again at 10am on
Tuesday 4th January.*

*Thanks to you all for using the Office and
Shop over the past year.*



Fr. Pdraig Shelley PP (059) 914 7637

✉ arlesparish@gmail.com

Parish Contact Details

Parish Office: (059) 862 5456

Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

Christmas Confessions



Individual Confessions heard
after morning mass this week in
Arles (Tue., Wed. & Thurs.)

And on Friday morning
(Christmas eve): Killeen: 11am & Ballylinan
12 noon

*Please note: No morning mass at 10am in
Arles on Friday (Christmas Eve).*

Parish Shop

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



Get them while stocks last!

Weekly Collections

Sunday 12th December

Arles:	Offertory	€158.42
	Envelope	€185.00
Ballylinan:	Offertory	€183.93
	Envelope	€160.00
Killeen:	Offertory	€162.73
	Envelope	€105.00

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



We continue to wear a mask to protect
ourselves and others.

Christmas Station Collection

The Christmas Collection 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



O sweet Child of Bethlehem,
grant that we may share with
all our hearts
in this profound mystery of
Christmas.

Put into the hearts of all people this peace
for which we sometimes seek so desper-
ately and which you alone can give to us.
Help us to know one another better,
and to live as brothers and sisters,
children of the same Father.
Reveal to us also your beauty, holiness
and purity.

Awaken in our hearts love and gratitude
for your infinite goodness.
Join us all together in your love.
And give us your heavenly peace. Amen.
Pope John XXIII



Killabban
Monastery
Restoration
Committee



Christmas is a time for family and friends,
so why not follow the footsteps of St.
Abban and visit the 13th Century Monas-
tery, read the new Information Boards and
learn more about our heritage.



Christmas Mass Programme 2021

Christmas Eve

(24th December)

Ballylinan 7pm

*NEPHET have advised that children's gatherings should be limited.
We this in mind we have cancelled our Children's Mass*

Arles 9pm



Christmas Day

(25th December)

Killeen - 9am

Arles - 10am

Ballylinan - 11.30am

St. Stephen's Day

(26th December)

Killeen - 9am

Arles - 10am

Ballylinan - 11.30am

Weekday Masses after Christmas

Arles: Mon — Fri 10am

Ballylinan N.S. Admissions 2022/23

Please note that applications for the 2022/23
school year will be open from Thursday, 13th
January to Friday, 4th February 2022.

*Further information on how to apply will be
issued closer to the time. If you are aware of
anyone who may wish to enrol a child for next
year, please let them know these dates.*