

## First reading

A reading from the first book of Samuel

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. In the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul lying asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt? The Lord forbid that I should raise my hand against the Lord's anointed! But now take the spear beside his head and the pitcher of water and let us go away.' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them. David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. He called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

Response: The Lord is compassion and love.

## Second Reading

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

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is,

## TODAY'S MASS READINGS

so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

The Word of the Lord.

**Alleluia**, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

## Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

The Gospel of the Lord



# CONTACT

ARLES, BALLYLINAN & KILLEEN NEWSLETTER



Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

20th February 2022

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Reflection

*Freely giving Lord, teach me to be generous, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to seek reward, save that of knowing that I do your holy will.*



The 'Prayer for Generosity', which many of us learned as children, is associated with St Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuit Order, yet it is unclear whether he actually composed it. One of the earliest references to it comes from 1910, when it began to be used as a prayer for the French scouting movement. To this day it is often known as 'The Scout Prayer' and is used by many Scout groups as a blueprint for the work they do.

The prayer perfectly sums up the generous spirit of the many volunteer organisations and charities whose members give their time and energy so freely and generously to help others. There are thousands of volunteers all over our country who put love into action by visiting those who are lonely, listening to those who are struggling, providing food and other supplies for those in need, and fundraising for all sorts of worthy causes. Week in and week out, they give without ever counting the cost.

These volunteers are living the message of today's Gospel, which can be summed up in one short sentence: Go the extra mile.

Thank you, Lord, for volunteers. Make us ever more generous with our time, energy and resources. Help us to be compassionate, as you are compassionate.

Triona Doherty



## In Memoriam

**We pray for:** Michael Gillick, Farnans who died during the past week.

### Anniversaries for 20 Feb 2022

Killeen (9am): Margaret & Thomas Myron and deceased relatives

John, Kathleen & Michael McDonald

Paddy Dooley

Arles (10am):

Ballylinan (7.30pm):

(11.30am): Annie McDonnell

Joanna Doyle

### Anniversaries for 27 Feb 2022

Killeen (9am):

Arles (10am): Margaret Brennan (Months Mind) and her parents William & Margaret, and her bother Vincent

Patrick & Margaret Moore

Patrick Condron, Old Leighlin.

Ballylinan (7.30pm): Esther Brennan, Gavin Brennan & James Davis.

Bridget & Frank Whelan

Michael & Sarah Loughman

May Delaney, Glosna.

(11.30am): Harry Hovenden



### First Confessions

The children in each of our three schools will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation during

the month of March:

Arles NS: Tuesday 8th March at 7.30pm in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Arles.

Ballylinan NS: Wednesday 9th March in St. Anne's Church, Ballylinan.

Killeen NS: Tuesday 15th March at 7.30pm in St. Abban's Church, Killeen.

*Let us keep them all in our prayers this week.*

### Parish Office

**(059) 862 5456**

*Opening Hours*

Tuesday: 10am—1pm

Friday: 10am—1pm

“Love...It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.” 1 Corinthians 13, 4-7.

To find out more visit [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org)



### Baptisms in March

Ballylinan: Sun. 6th Mar.

Killeen: Sat. 19th Mar. at 12pm. Arles: Sat. 19th Mar. at 1pm.

*Please contact the Parish Office (059) 862 5456 with your details.*

Applications are invited for the position of cleaner in St. Abban's National School.

15 hours approximately per week. Flexible hours.



Apply in writing to:

Mary English Chairperson

St. Abban's NS,

Killeen, Maganey, Co. Laois.

Closing Date : 4th March.

School Contact: 0599145399

“God's word is a lamp that lights my path.”

Envelope Boxes and Trócaire boxes will be distributed throughout the parish over the next fortnight or so.



The envelope collection is the primary way of supporting our parish.

Many thanks to those who continue to offer their support in these difficult times.

*A sincere word of thanks also to all our distributors for giving up their time to help distribute the boxes.*

### Weekly Collections

Sunday 13th February

Arles: Offertory € 162.01

Envelope € 317.50

Ballylinan: Offertory € 187.87

Envelope € 194.00

Killeen: Offertory € 223.94

Envelope € 138.50

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

Next Sunday we welcome the First Communion Children as they gather for their Parish Preparation Programme Mass.



*We keep them in our prayers*

### SPRING APPRECIATION PRAYER

Gracious Lord,

please bless each living creature that helps to make springtime so fantastic.

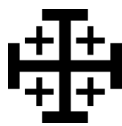
I pray that You will continue to show mercy and grace with our weather.

I ask that you show favour towards our gardens, orchards, and fields.

Help us to appreciate what You give us and allow us to labour in Your name.

Keep our bodies strong so hard work can be completed.

I ask these things in Your name. Amen.



Fr. Pdraig Shelley PP (059) 914 7637

✉ [arlesparish@gmail.com](mailto:arlesparish@gmail.com)

Parish Office: (059) 862 5456

Parish Website: [arlesparish.ie](http://arlesparish.ie)