

First reading

A reading from the book of Genesis

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.

Second reading

A reading from the first letter of St. Peter

Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits

TODAY'S MASS READINGS

in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

The Gospel of the Lord



CONTACT

ARLES, BALLYLINAN & KILLEEN NEWSLETTER



Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

18th February 2024

1st Sunday of Lent

The Season of Lent



In the early Church, Lent was the process developed to welcome new members. As they prepared themselves, a season before Easter evolved of renewal for the already baptized and confirmed. This is what we now call Lent, from the Latin for springtime: new or renewed life.

Lent is about believing in the possibility of love, of God's dream of reconciliation, of restoration, of people living together with all creatures and creation, in love. And yes, Lent is about what we can and must do to allow the Spirit to pierce our hearts with the arrow of God's fiery, passionate love.

We don't mark one another with ashes to be morose about our sinfulness and mortality or to defy the Gospel warning against performing religious acts just to be noticed. Rather, a



smudgy cross mark reminds us God's love is for real: we come from God and are destined for Him. The cross is a sign seared into our souls that can never be eradicated!

We pray, fast, and give generously to signal our conviction that we live together in the power of Christ's resurrection victory of love. That's the joy and the hope that infuse this entire season of Lent!

Father Francis Gargani, C.Ss.R.



Religious Services to attend

Morning Mass (Arles): 10am Tuesday - Friday

Recitation of the Rosary (Arles): 9.30am Tuesday - Friday

Confession: After 10am Arles Mass (First Friday)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Tuesday 11am - 1pm (Killeen) & Friday 7.30pm - 8.30pm (Ballylinan)

In Memoriam

Anniversaries for 18 February '24

Killeen (9am):

Arles (10am): Kathleen Wall, Ballinagall & sister Mary Koster

Ballylinan (7.30pm):

(11.30am): Breda Kelly, Kilkenny Rd (1st Anniversary)

Michael Gillick (2nd Anniversary)

Thursday (22nd Feb): Annie McDonnell, Rahin

Anniversaries for 25 February '24

Killeen (9am): Kathleen, John & Micheal McDonald

Arles (10am): Mick Stynes, Months Mind
Thomas & Margaret Myron
Patrick & Margaret Moore

Birthday Remembrance: Jimmy Myron (80)
David Myron (50)

Ballylinan (7.30pm): James Davis, Milltown Road

Esther Brennan & Gavin Brennan
Bridget & Frank Whelan
Michael & Sarah Loughman

(11.30am): Harry Hovenden

Living Lent: Some Suggestions for the Week

- + Make the sign of the cross when leaving your home/passing a church/cemetery/ before & after a meal
- + Give up social media for an evening (or more!)
- + Take some time to go on a walk and say a prayer along the way
- + Take a pause when you feel you want to give out
- + Give up a coffee/meal out and donate the money you saved
 - + Support Trócaire's Lenten appeal
 - + Do one green thing, e.g. turn off lights, recycle

Envelope Boxes and Trócaire

boxes will be distributed throughout the parish over the next week 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.



East Laois Macra na Feirme Table Quiz

Friday 23rd February in Flemings Bar, Ballylinan at 8:30pm.

€40 per table with food and a raffle on the night.

Please Note

No morning mass or rosary in Arles on Wednesday (21st Feb) to accommodate the Celebration of Confirmation in St. Mary's Church, Mayo.

Marriage Enrichment Weekend:

The Marriage Enrichment program that has been transforming marriages in Ireland for over 50 years and in 94 countries around the world. The programme involves a Weekend experience that transforms the way spouses communicate to deepen their love for each other. The experience allows you to create a dialogue with each other and with God, to create a higher and broader understanding of what it means to be married.

This is taking place in Prosperous, Co Kildare 26th-28th April 2024.

Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy.

~ Pope Francis ~

Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday 1st March at 7.30pm in St. Abban's Church, Killeen.



All welcome.

Escorted Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 03rd March 2024

€799.00 pps. Price includes 5 nights' in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Full Board. Afternoon Tea at Ashford Castle. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick & Cong. Single supplement on Enquiry.

Contact Patricia or Natali on 094 9006426 or 087 1890 236 or email: knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.



Safeguarding

DLP: Mick Daly, mobile number 085-8021633 and email: dlp@kandle.ie

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Christine Oglesby (087) 654 6149



Evangelium Ireland

Will host its next Apologetics Conference for young Catholics at St Patrick's College, Maynooth on Saturday, 16 March.

Talks & workshops include: The Gift of the Priesthood, Intro to the Theology of Joseph Ratzinger, Christian Marriage, Female Authors of the Catholic Revival, Christian Metaphysics, St Patrick. Mass will also be celebrated.

Cost: €38 including lunch, refreshments and evening social. For to view the full programme and to register visit www.evangelium.ie or search 'Evangelium Ireland' on Eventbrite.

Don't miss this great opportunity to learn and pray with other young Catholics!

Parish Contact Details



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