

First reading

A reading from the book of Genesis

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.' When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son. The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Second reading

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

With God on our side who can be against us?

Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ! From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus: 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord



CONTACT



ARLES, BALLYLINAN & KILLEEN NEWSLETTER



Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

25th February 2024

2nd Sunday of Lent

Reflection



Every Lent is a new beginning; sometimes beginnings are welcomed, other times half and half! We welcome Lent as a time to make our faith fresh, but we know from other Lents that it's hard to keep going, and it's for a long time! We might ask ourselves what Lent is really for.

The focus of Lent is not on what we give up but on what we are given. We focus our minds on the self-giving love of Jesus which we will celebrate in Holy Week. We allow ourselves believe in this love. Often it's difficult to believe in the tender love of God. This conquers all else in the world; it is given in the mercy and compassion of God.

Lent pours the grace of forgiveness into our world, needed individually and as a people. We need to know that God is bigger than any of our sins, wars, violence and hatred. God wants his kingdom to come now. Lent is our time of saying 'yes' to a partnership with God in saving the world from the effects of evil and sin.

Pray a bit, read the gospel every day, do something good for another every day – this is the way to share in the saving love of God. Maybe we can ask what our Lent does for others rather than just what we are doing for Lent. It is a time of renewal, then it shows in love, forgiveness and care of others in our lives.

Donal Neary SJ



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

We pray for: Eddie (Fisher) Doyle, Aughanure who died during the past week.

Anniversaries for 25 February '24

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

Arles (10am): Mick Stynes (Months Mind)

Margaret Fenlon, Castletown (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

Annie McDonnell, Rahin

(11.30am): Harry Hovenden

Joanna Doyle (6th Anniversary)

Anniversaries for 03 March '24

Killeen (9am): Mary Kelly, Coolenaugh (34th anniversary)

Arles (10am): Katie Graham (Months Mind)

Joseph Graham (1st Anniversary)

Ballylinan (7.30pm): Kitty Kelly, The Pike and deceased members of the Kelly family

(11.30am): Mona Morris (Months Mind)

Liam Brennan (5th Anniversary)

First Confession



Tuesday 27th 7.30pm:
Ballylinan NS

Wednesday 28th
7.30pm: Arles NS

Thursday 29th 7.30pm:
Killeen NS

We keep all the children in our prayers as they take another step in preparation for the celebration of their First Holy Communion this year.

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.



Peace Mass in Carlow Cathedral

on Thursday 29th Feb.

Starting at 7pm with Rosary, Divine Mercy, followed by Mass and Benediction.

All are welcome.



The Sick and Housebound in Ballylinan & Killeen will be attended next Thursday morning 29th Feb. Those in Arles will be attended on Thursday afternoon.



Confirmation Retreat

We wish our young people in the three parish schools all the best for their Retreat this coming Friday in the De La Salle Retreat Centre, Castletown.

Ballylinan Community Council

Meeting this Wednesday 28th February at 8pm in St. Ann's Hall.

All welcome

Carlow Flower Club

Our guest demonstrator for February will be Brenda Joyce from Doddervale Flower Club in south Dublin. Brenda is an AOIFA demonstrator, teacher and judge, and she will be demonstrating some beautiful Spring arrangements all of which will be raffled on the night.



The competition for all categories is "A Spring Cascade" Looking forward to seeing lots of members and visitors on:

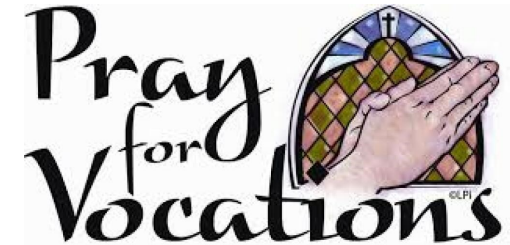
Tuesday 27th February at 8.00pm in the Woodford Dolmen Hotel.

Non-members €10

Safeguarding

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

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Christine Oglesby (087) 654 6149



Vocations Webinar

There is a webinar on Vocations taking place on Tuesday 5th March from 8-9pm. The Webinar is hosted by 'The Hook of Faith' platform (www.thehookoffaith.com) and is organised in collaboration with the National Vocations Office.

The webinar is entitled 'The Last Priest in Ireland? It Depends on You'. It is a follow up of a RTE documentary broadcast in January entitled 'The Last Priest in Ireland'. The keynote speaker will be Breda O'Brien. There will be a panel of responders.

The webinar is a Church response to the programme and an opportunity for dialogue about the future of vocations to the priesthood in Ireland. The provocative title aims to promote a desire to create a culture of vocations for which we are all responsible.

The initiative is part of the year of prayer and promotion to the diocesan priesthood 'Take the Risk for Christ'.



Parish Contact Details



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Women's World Day of Prayer

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

All welcome.