

First reading

A reading from the second book of Chronicles

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy. They burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.' And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "the Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."' "

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!

Second reading

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

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead

TODAY'S MASS READINGS

through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John


Jesus said to Nicodemus: 'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

The Gospel of the Lord



CONTACT

ARLES, BALLYLINAN & KILLEEN NEWSLETTER

 Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

10th March 2024

4th Sunday of Lent



From our Gospel today ...

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him”.

Reflection

It has been said that if all the Gospels were lost except the first verse in this passage, we would have enough to survive. 'God so loved the world that he gave his only Son!' This is the heart of the Good News, and hopefully we shall be eternally grateful for it.

Another way to sum up the New Testament is the little word 'FOR'. God is totally 'for' us, and asks us to be totally 'for' him and 'for' one another. There are no strings or stings attached to God's loving. Nor must there be any strings or stings in the quality of my loving.



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 10 March '24

Killeen (9am):

Arles (10am): Bridget Dolan, Ashfield (60th Anniv)

Ballylinan (7.30pm):

(11.30am): Stan Farrell, Skehana House (Months Mind)

Norah Byrne

Anniversaries for 17 March '24

Killeen (9am): Patrick Leigh

James, Annie & Jack Dooley, Grange

Arles (10am): Jimmy Myron

Ballylinan (7.30pm):

(11.30am): Eddie Fisher Doyle (Months Mind)

Portuguese Mass Portlaoise



The Brazilian Catholic community in Laois invites you and your family to join them for a mass in Portuguese. The celebration will take place on Saturday, 16th March at 7.30 pm, St. Peter & St. Paul's Church, Portlaoise.

All are welcome.



Weekly Collections

Sunday 3rd March

Arles:	Offertory	€232.73
	Envelope	€417.20
Ballylinan:	Offertory	€359.00
	Envelope	€574.00
Killeen:	Offertory	€159.38
	Envelope	€346.00

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

Community Employment

Scheme vacancies:



Applications on jobsireland.ie and enquiries to CE Supervisor 087 2232515.

Office Administrative Assistant, Luggacurren -
From April 2024 - Ref CES2322844

Ballylinan Village - Ref CES2322816

Immediate start.

Ballylinan Village - Ref CES2322823. -

Immediate start.

The Swan Community Hall & Village - Ref
CES2322822. Immediate start.

St. Joseph's Cemetery, Ballyadams
CES2322833 - Immediate start.

25th Pioneer National Ball



Calling Pioneers and Friends to the 25th Pioneer National Ball next month. An evening of celebration and fun

on Saturday April 6th 2024. Mass at 6pm in the Cathedral of Christ the King, Mullingar, followed by special guest speaker, dinner, music and dancing at the Annebrook House Hotel, Mullingar. Extra activities on Friday night and Saturday and Sunday afternoons. For details/ tickets contact Dermot Fagan 085-7201646 or Daisy Carey 087-6544626.



Chrism Mass

Bishop Denis invites you to join him for the celebration of the

Chrism Mass. It will take place in the Cathedral of the Assumption in Carlow on Monday, 25 March at 7:30 pm. At this diocesan Mass, the holy oils are blessed and consecrated for use in parishes in the coming year and the priests of the diocese renew their priestly promises. The diocesan choir will lead us in singing, for the first time, the newly composed Mass of St Brigid by Fr Liam Lawton.

Safeguarding

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

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Christine Oglesby (087) 654 6149

Welcome



We welcome our First Communion children to our masses this weekend as they participate in their monthly Parish Preparation Programme.

Arles N.S Parents' Association

Arles N.S Parents' Association are organising a Clothes Collection on Wednesday, March 13th. Bags can be dropped to the school shelter from Monday, March 11th.



Items accepted include: clothing, paired shoes, handbags, hats, towels, bedlinen, soft toys, curtains, jewellery and belts.

All money raised will go towards Arles N.S and a 10% donation will be made to LauraLynn Children's Hospice.

Parish Contact Details



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Parish Website: arlesparish.ie



Please Note

No morning mass or rosary in Arles on Tuesday (12th March) to accommodate the Celebration of Confirmation in St. Mary's Church, Wolfhill.

