



TODAY'S MASS READINGS

First reading

A reading from the prophet Baruch

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.' Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: What marvels the Lord worked for us!
In deed we were glad.

Second reading

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

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes;

and God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

The Gospel of the Lord



CONTACT



ARLES, BALLYLINAN & KILLEEN NEWSLETTER



Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

8th December 2024

2nd Sunday of Advent

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

The Two Parts of Advent:

Part 1: up until December 16

While most liturgical seasons have the gospel as their main focus, during the first weeks of Advent, the Church gives us daily readings from the prophet Isaiah. With the eyes of faith, these foretell the coming of the Messiah. Rather than a continuous gospel narrative familiar to us for most of the year, this part of Advent offers a wide variety of gospel readings that support the first reading of the day. After almost two weeks of Isaiah readings, we hear the foretelling of a Messiah from other prophets from the Hebrew scriptures - in Sirach, Numbers, Zephaniah and returning to Isaiah. With each passing week, the prophets speak more clearly of the coming of a Saviour. So, in reading the first reading, for the first part of Advent, we listen to the anticipation, expectation, hope and promise. In listening to the second reading, we listen for the fulfilment or connection with the gospel.



Part 2: December 17 - 24

In these last eight days before Christmas, the relationship between the readings changes. Now the gospel brings us to our celebration of Christmas. The gospels are taken from the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke. Each of these days, the first reading is taken from the Hebrew scriptures, and chosen to match the gospel. In many cases we can imagine Matthew or Luke having the first reading open on their desks while they wrote the gospel. So, we can read the gospel first and then read the first reading. The sense of anticipation and fulfilment builds as we read the story of the preparation for Jesus' first coming into this world for us.



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 08 December '24

Killeen (9am): Brigid Moran, Ballinagar
(1st Anniversary)

Arles (10am): Sean Kenna
Patrick & Mariah Kealy

Betty Byrne, Ballickmoyler (2nd Anniversary)

Ballylinan (7.30pm): Patrick & Delia Fitzpatrick
(11.30am):

Anniversaries for 15 December '24

Killeen (9am): Breada Whelan, Hollymount
Rita & Mick Farrell

Arles (10am):

Ballylinan (7.30pm): Phyllis Flynn

(11.30am):

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord



Parish Office Opening Hours

Tuesday & Friday 10am—1pm

Parochial House, Ballylinan



Christmas Whist Drive

In Arles Hall Thursday 12th Dec. 8.30pm

Prizes: Top Score €70

Many other prizes &

Bumper Raffle on the Night

Safeguarding

DLP: Kathleen Sherry, mobile number 085-8021633 and email: dlp@kandle.ie

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Christine Oglesby (087) 654 6149

Concert with Liam Lawton & Friends

O Holy Night



(including Perfect Harmony Choir) in St. Mary's Church Edenderry on 8th Dec 2024.
Doors open: 6.30 p.m., Concert: 7.00 p.m.,
Tickets: €15.00.

Tickets available: Anna-Marie Boutique,
Mangan's Centra and the Parish Centre 046
9733311.

Proceeds in aid of St. Mary's Church refurbishment.

Ballylinan Altar Society

A collection for flowers for St. Anne's Church will take place on
Sunday, 15th December.

Your support would be appreciated.



The Sick and Housebound in Ballylinan & Killeen will be attended on Thursday morning (12th December). Those in Arles will be attended on Thursday afternoon.

If you wish to be included on the Housebound List please contact Mairead in the Parish Office with your details. (059) 862 5456

Christmas O Holy Night

live with The Three Tenors



Sunday 8th December 7.30 p.m. in Leighlinbridge Church. Tickets €30.00, now on sale from the Leighlinbridge Parish Centre 059 9722607 or online @ eventbrite.ie

Special Guests: Ballinabranna N.S. Choir.



Christmas Carol Service

Monday 23rd December St. Abban's Church,
Killeen at 7.30pm



All are welcome to gather in praise

Dominican Extended Advent Retreat

Finding an alternative to the commercialization and activism of the Christmas season. We enter silence and stillness and learn once again to hear the 'tidings of great joy': "A Child is born for us, a Son is given to us". The Retreat takes place – Thursday 12th December to Sunday 15th December 2024 in the Dominican Retreat Centre, Tallaght Village, D24 KA40. For more information/bookings, Telephone: 01 4048189/4048123 or Email: dominicanretreats@gmail.com.

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

Ballylinan Church this Weekend



7th & 8th December

Please give generously.



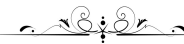
Irish Catholic Bishop's Conference

Digital Advent Calendar

The Irish catholic Bishops' Conference are delighted to be bringing you our digital Advent Calendar again this year.

Advent marks the beginning of the new calendar year for Christians. The digital Advent calendar offers a distinctive and spiritually enriching way to journey through this holy season. Based on the Jubilee Year's theme of #Hope, the 2024 calendar offers prayers and resources designed to guide individuals, families and faith communities to reflect on the hope that Christ brings to the world, while also preparing for the upcoming Holy Jubilee Year in 2025.

To access the calendar please visit: <https://www.catholicbishops.ie/adventcalendar/>



Arles Altar Society



Thank you to all who contributed to recent collection. Total collected €573.15



Parish Contact Details



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