

TODAY'S MASS READINGS



First reading

A reading from the prophet Micah

The Lord says this: But you, Bethlehem Ephra- thah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Second reading

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

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world: You who wanted no sacrifice or obla- tion, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the obla-

tions, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be hon- oured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

The Gospel of the Lord



CONTACT



ARLES, BALLYLINAN & KILLEEN NEWSLETTER



Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

22nd December 2024

4th Sunday of Advent

Reflection

It's almost Christmas eve. Are you tired? It's been a long journey to the Bethlehem barn.

Are you ready for Christmas? Gifts wrapped, tree decorated, crib in place, food bought. But are you ready? Are you filled with wonder at this God of ours who loves us, forgives us, who wants us, who gives His very own Son to be our Saviour? Are you ready to sing Alleluia with the heavenly choir?



Take a moment—take a moment to savour and welcome what all the preparations have been for: God is with us.



Loving God,

On this Advent day we turn to you in prayer. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of your Son, we ask your blessing on each of us.

Help us to welcome your light into our lives, a light that gives us the gift of love. You showed us the greatness of your love in Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us.

May your love fill our heart, our mind and our home.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. Come. Lord Jesus.



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 22 December '24

Killeen (9am): The Barron, Leigh & Kelly families.
Edward, Elizabeth & John Kelly, Tierernane
Liam Byrne, Killabban (20th Anniversary)
Pauline O'Shea (10th Anniversary)

Arles (10am):

Ballylinan (7.30pm): Billy Coogan (3rd Anniversary)

(11.30am): Patrick Julian (2nd Anniversary)

Anniversaries for 29 December '24

Killeen (9am): Tom & Peggy Fitzpatrick,
Hollymount

Arles (10am): John McDonald, Ashfield
(2nd Anniversary)

Paul Day (3rd Anniversary)

Thomas & Christopher Bolton

Ballylinan (7.30pm): Joe Kelly, The Pike
& deceased members of the Kelly family

(11.30am): Ellen Cooney (2nd Anniversary)

Eoin Julian (9th Anniversary)

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord



Congratulations and good wishes to:



Padraic Brennan & Sarah Jane Kenny

who were married on 14th December

in St. Patrick's Church, Kilquade.



We wish you many happy years together and God's blessing in your home.

St. Vincent de Paul Annual Collection



A special word of thanks to all who supported the recent collection in St. Anne's Church, Ballylinan. A total of €833.00 was collected from both masses.

Confessions for Christmas 2024



Rite 3 of the Church's Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered to all those who attend Masses this weekend (the Fourth Sunday of Advent).

As part of our Sunday mass we will have a brief reflection upon our lives and a general absolution for all.

Safeguarding

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

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Christine Oglesby (087) 654 6149

Christmas Station Collection

The Christmas Collection will be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Day. Our usual collectors are asked to attend to facilitate this collection.

Thank you for your kindness and support



O sweet Child of Bethlehem, grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas.

Put into the hearts of all people this peace for which we sometimes seek so desperately and which you alone can give to us. Help us to know one another better, and to live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father.

Reveal to us also your beauty, holiness and purity.

Awaken in our hearts love and gratitude for your infinite goodness.

Join us all together in your love.

And give us your heavenly peace. Amen.

Pope John XXIII

Christmas Confessions



Individual Confessions heard on Christmas Eve morning:

Arles: 10am

Killeen: 11am

Ballylinan 12 noon

Please note: No morning mass at 10am in Arles on Tuesday (Christmas Eve).

Christmas Mass Programme 2024

Christmas Eve

(Tuesday 24th December)

Ballylinan 7pm (*Children's Mass*)

Arles 9pm

Christmas Day

(25th December)

Killeen - 9am

Arles - 10am

Ballylinan - 11.30am

No Morning Mass in Arles Thurs (26th Dec) & Fri (27th Dec)



Parish Office & Shop

The Parish Office is now closed for the holidays and will reopen again at 10am on Tuesday 7th January.

Thanks to you all for using the Office and Shop over the past year.

Christmas Carol Service



Monday 23rd December St.

Abban's Church,

Killeen at 7.30pm

All are welcome to gather in praise



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