

## First reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

‘Console my people, console them’ says your God. ‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.’ A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low. Let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’ Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, ‘Here is your God.’ Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

Response: Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are.

## Second reading

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to Titus

God’s grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free

## TODAY’S MASS READINGS

from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

But when the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

The Word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Someone is coming, said John, someone greater than I. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia!

## Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, ‘I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.’

The Gospel of the Lord



# CONTACT

ARLES, BALLYLINAN & KILLEEN NEWSLETTER



Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

12th January 2025

The Baptism of the Lord



## Baptism of the Lord

The baptism of Jesus immerses him in the life of the people. He joined the queue of people for John’s baptism, wanting to share the joys and sorrows of his people. In the depths of the water he entered into the depths of his own humanity and the depths of his people.

Fully part of us

We could say that Jesus has entered into that part of all of us which laughs and sings, dances and cries, feels for the sick and the suffering, desires the best for self and others; nothing human is foreign to him as he was baptised into the life of his people and the God of his ancestors.

At our baptism he enters fully into our lives. At the time when we are most vulnerable, the church and our family celebrate the love of God for us, and that God will call us into his service. At baptism we are twice anointed – once with the protection of God, and then anointed for service. The words spoken to Jesus are spoken for all of us – you are my son, my daughter, the beloved – my favour rests on you.

Men and Women for others

Baptism in the Jordan gave Jesus the start and strength for his service of God’s people. Our baptism gives a grace and help we can call on any time to give our lives as best we can in God’s service in the service of others. We are called to be men and women for others, as Jesus was a man of love for all whom he met.

Lord teach me to be generous, to give and not to count the cost, for fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to seek reward, save only that of knowing that I do your holy will (Prayer of St Ignatius Loyola).

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

### Anniversaries for 12 Jan 2025

Killeen (9am): John Jack McDonald, Killabban  
(2nd Anniversary)

Kathleen Dunne & deceased the members of the Dunne family.

Arles (10am): Edward (Ned) Doogue (20th Anniversary)

Ballylinan (7.30pm): Eamon Behan, Oldcourt  
(11.30am): Delia Murphy, Aughanure  
(Months Mind)

### Anniversaries for 19 Jan 2025

Killeen (9am):

Arles (10am): Willie & Margaret Brennan  
Joe & Kathleen Brennan  
Margaret Brennan  
Vincent Brennan  
Pat Brennan  
Br. Damien Brennan

Ballylinan (7.30pm): Denis, Christina & Bernadette Murphy  
John McHugh

(11.30am):

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord*

**RADIO MARIA IRELAND** is an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station. Prayer, Catechesis, Uplifting music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies



### Rosary for Peace

Each Sunday morning before Sunday Mass.



In Killeen (at 8.40am)

In Arles (at 9.40am)

In Ballylinan (at 11.10am)

*Join us to pray for peace.*

### Whist Drive

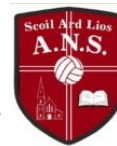
In Arles Hall every Thursday Night 8.30pm

*All welcome.*



### Clothes Collection

Arles NS Parents' Association are having their annual clothes collection on Thursday Jan 23rd. Bags of clothes can be left into the school from Monday Jan 20th to Thursday morning. Funds raised go towards Arles NS and LauraLynn Children's Hospice. For further info contact the school on 0599147731.



### Safeguarding

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

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Christine Oglesby (087) 654 6149

### St. Brigid's Camino Walk

#### Monasterevin Parish



St. Brigid is reputed to have born in the Townsland of Umeras, just outside Monasterevin, Co. Kildare. To commemorate St. Brigid,

Monasterevin Parish have organised a Camino Walk in her honour. Starting at St. Brigid's Shrine at Mountrice (W34 X529) at 11am on Monday 3rd February 2025 (walk is approximately 6km/car parking provided at Mountrice Cross). The walk will be led by the Bishop and will journey via Umeras, then along the Canal Blueway, finishing in Saints Peter & Paul Church Monasterevin with a Service of Light at 12.30 pm.

A bus will leave the Parish Church Monasterevin at 10.30 am to Mountrice and return at 2pm. For those who wish to avail of this service, payment on the bus. All those who participate will be issued with a special St. Brigid Camino Passport.

St. Brigid's Crosses and refreshments will be provided on the day.

For more information, please contact Monasterevin Parish Office – 045 525346.



You can't heal the people you love

You can't make choices for them

You can't rescue them

You can promise

that they won't journey alone



You can loan them your map

but this trip is theirs

(Laura Jean Truman)

Lord Jesus

We place our loved ones in your outstretched arms of love

Take care of them for us and help them to work out your perfect plan in their lives. Amen.

### Diocesan Pilgrimage for the Canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis



Coinciding with the Jubilee for Teenagers, during the Jubilee Year of Hope, the Diocese is travelling for the Canonisation of Blessed Carlow Carlo Acutis 25th - 29th April.

This pilgrimage includes a day trip to Assisi, trips to the pilgrims' sites of Rome and of course the Mass on Sunday in St. Peter's Square when Blessed Carlo will be declared the first 'Millennial Saint.' Bishop Denis will join us for the pilgrimage as well as Fr. David Vard. Places are limited and can be booked through Marian Pilgrimages or forms, and itinerary can be collected in Portlaoise Parish Centre.



### Parish Contact Details



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