Today's Mass Readings

First reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified'; I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength.

And now the Lord has spoken, he who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, to gather Israel to him: 'It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel; I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Arles Doonane Parish Newsletter

Serving Arles, Ballylinan, Doonane, Killeen and Mayo

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 18th January 2026

Come and See…

As Jesus walks by minding his own business, John points at him and says to those who are with him, 'Look there is the Lamb of God.' They drop everything they were doing, leave John and go after Jesus. Before they can speak or say anything, Jesus turns, looks at them and asks a very direct and personal question; 'What are you looking for?'

What a question! Jesus wastes no time in getting to the heart of the matter. They respond with a question of their own, 'Master, where do you live? This question is not about directions or an address. They really want to know who Jesus is and where he comes from. In response, Jesus does not give them directions or an address. He offers them an invitation, 'Come and see.' This is a very open and a very challenging invitation. It was then and still is today.

Jesus does not force them to follow him. He does not insist that they go with him. He simply says to them that if they want to know who he is, then they are welcome to go with him and spend some time with him. The best way to get to know a person is to spend time with them. And so, we are told that they went with him, saw where he lived and stayed with him the rest of the day. We can only guess that they ate with Jesus, they spoke to him and that they listened to him. After their time with Jesus, we are told that one of them, Andrew went and told his brother Peter about Jesus and actually brings him to meet Jesus. Andrew has become a missionary disciple. He shares with Peter what he himself experienced from being with Jesus

Are we so different from these people in the gospel? Every day Jesus offers us the same open invitation, 'Come and see.' Jesus wants to be with us so we too can spend some time with him. The choice whether or not we accept this invitation and follow Jesus is ours to make. He will not force us or make us follow him. It has to be our choice. If we do follow Jesus, then we are going to be changed, just as Andrew was. You can't experience Jesus and stay the same. Andrew didn't keep to himself the experience of being with Jesus and neither can we. We are called by Jesus to share our good news about him with others. That's what being a disciple means. Today each of us is being called by Jesus to become missionary disciples.

The best way we can talk to Jesus and listen to him is through prayer. We can read the gospels, pray the rosary, go to mass or we can simply light a candle in our kitchen and sit in silence. Through our prayer, we hear the invitation of Jesus. When he says, 'Come and see,' what is your response?

Michael Moore OM

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**: Tues. 11am-1pm (Killeen), Wed. 10am-9pm (Doonane) & Fri. 7.30pm-8.30pm (Ballylinan)

In Memoriam

We pray for: Betty Hosey, Doonane & Carmel Brophy, Fairymount who died during the past week

Anniversaries for 18 January 2026

Ballylinan (7pm): John Hyland (Months Mind)

Denis, Christina & Bernadette Murphy

Doonane (8pm): Dominic Buggy

Killeen (9am): Angela Wall, Gurteen

Arles (10am): Michael & Sheila McDonald, Ashfield

Mayo (11.30am): Nora Dowling, Gortahile

Anniversaries for 25 January 2026

Ballylinan (7pm): Peter Brennan

John McHugh

Tony, Cissie & Sr. Nora Kaye

Doonane (8pm):

Killeen (9am): James Julian, Grange

Arles (10am): Michael (Mick) Stynes (2nd Anniversary)

Mayo (11.30am): Mary Hackett, Ardough, Bilboa (3rd anniversary)

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

Safeguarding

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

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Christine Oglesby (087) 654 6149

Catholic Schools Week 2026

Grandparents Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 21st January at 12.30pm in St. Anne's Church, Ballylinan

Lotto Results

13th January 2026

Winning Numbers

5 10 20 21

Jackpot €7,750

Jackpot - No Winner

Lucky Dip €20 - Sinead Brennan

Lucky Dip €20 - Brian O'Sullivan

Lucky Dip €20 - Paul Delaney

Lucky Dip €20 - Michael Jordan

Next Weeks Jackpot €7,800

The next Ballylinan Community Council meeting will take place on Wednesday 21st Jan. at 8pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Spiritual Exercises

5 Day Silent Ignatian Retreat

Led Benedictine monks from St. Joseph Abbey, in France. Starts Thursday 30th April (3pm). Benburb Priory, Co. Tyrone (1.5 hrs from Dublin). €450 (all meals & single room included).

Daily Mass - Ordinary Form (Latin & ad orientem).

Discover the strength that only comes when you stop running and let God speak.

Book at: https://soutenir.clairval.com/retreat-benburb-priory

Carlow Flower Club

Carlow Flower Club's January event will be a flower arranging demonstration by AOIFA Teacher and Demonstrator Betty Cumiskey from Wexford Flower and Garden Club. 8.00pm on Tuesday 27th Jan. at the Woodford Dolmen Hotel.

Competition for all classes "No Flowers Please" an all foliage arrangement. Visitors welcome €10.

"Faith is like a bright ray of sun light. It enables us to see God in all things as well as all things in God."

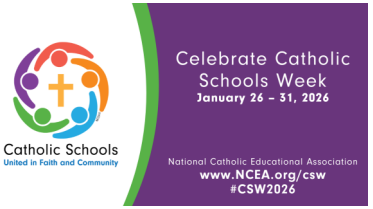
St. Francis de Sale *Feast day: 24 January*

Crettyard Ladies GFC

AGM

Ladies club AGM will be on Monday 19th at 8pm in Crettyard GAA clubhouse.

All are welcome and invited to get involved with the club for the coming year!



Catholic Schools Week 2026

Message from Bishop Denis

As we celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2026, we give thanks for the faith, learning and care that shape daily life in our Catholic schools. This year's theme, "Catholic Schools – Normal Lives, Called to Holiness," reminds us that holiness is lived through simple acts of kindness, respect and love. As Saint (Mother) Teresa said, "We can do small things with great love." In our Catholic schools, children are encouraged to live this message each day through how they treat others and care for their community. We remember and we pray for all of those who attend, support and work in the Catholic Schools in our diocese. The purpose of CSW is to highlight the distinctive role of Catholic Education in forming young people who understand their lives as purposeful and grounded in faith. Catholic Schools share the priorities of Christ towards the weak, the poor, the disadvantaged. I am so proud of our Catholic Schools, I thank all who work in them, all who are formed by them and all who support them. Our schools are inclusive and welcoming to all.

Denis Nulty

Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin

Parish Contact Details

Fr. Padraig Shelley PP (059) 914 7637 Parish Office: (083) 8765 800

arlesdoonaneparish@gmail.com Opening Hours: Tuesday 10am - 1pm & Friday 10am - 1pm