



## TODAY'S MASS READINGS

### First reading

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus

Wisdom speaks her own praises, in the midst of her people she glories in herself. She opens her mouth in the assembly of the Most High, she glories in herself in the presence of the Mighty One; 'Then the creator of all things instructed me, and he who created me fixed a place for my tent. He said, "Pitch your tent in Jacob, make Israel your inheritance." From eternity, in the beginning, he created me, and for eternity I shall remain. I ministered before him in the holy tabernacle, and thus was I established on Zion. In the beloved city he has given me rest, and in Jerusalem I wield my authority. I have taken root in a privileged people, in the Lord's property, in his inheritance.'

The Word of the Lord

### Responsorial Psalm

Response: The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.

### Second Reading

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

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved. That will explain why I, having once heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus, and

the love that you show towards all the saints, have never failed to remember you in my prayers and to thank God for you. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit.

The Word of the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans. Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world. Alleluia!

### Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the beginning was the Word: and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord



## ARLES DOONANE PARISH NEWSLETTER

SERVING ARLES, BALLYLINAN, DOONANE, KILLEEN AND MAYO

2nd Sunday of Christmas

4th January 2026

Feast of Epiphany,  
January 6th



### Chalking the Door of the Home on Epiphany

An Epiphany tradition in parts of Europe is for people to write a special sign in chalk over their front door, as a reminder of the Magi that visited the baby Jesus. It's made using the year split in two, with the initials of the names that are sometimes given to the Magi, Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar, in the middle. So 2026 is written as: 20+C+M+B+26. The initials CMB also stand for the Latin phrase, Christus mansionem benedicat: 'May Christ bless the house'. The inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless the home and be with all those who dwell in it throughout the year.

### Prayer as you chalk the lintel of your front door

*Gather at the front door of your home.*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. God of Light, bless our home. Make it a haven of rest for all in need of your warmth and care. And when we go out from this place, may we never lose sight of that Epiphany star. We mark our door with the symbols of the Magi. **20 + C + M + B + 26** May all who enter throughout the year find love and light; for Christ has come to dwell in this home and in our hearts. Amen.

*Having marked your door you may now like to place the Magi figures at the crib while praying the following:*



Loving Jesus, may we be like the Magi and always look for you in our lives. Be with us, protect us and guide us. Help us to always show your love to one another and to all in need. Amen.



Morning Mass (Arles): 10am Tuesday - Friday

Recitation of the Rosary (Arles): 9.30am Tuesday - Friday

## Religious Services to attend

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

### Anniversaries for 04 January 2026

**Ballylinan (7pm):** Thomas Walsh, Carlow Road

Paddy McEvoy, Rahin

Barbara Lammon

**Doonane (8pm):**

**Killeen (9am):** Oliver Byrne (1st Anniversary)

Paddy Warren

Mary Kate Byrne

Tom Myron & deceased family members

Thomas Fitzpatrick (30th Anniversary) & his wife Peggy Fitzpatrick.

Kathleen Connolly (nee Thornton), Ballyfoyle (9th Anniversary)

**Arles (10am):** Jim Scully, Ballinakill

**Mayo (11.30am):**

### Anniversaries for 11 January 2026

**Ballylinan (7pm):** Eamon Behan

**Doonane (8pm):** Martin Brophy (1st Anniversary)

**Killeen (9am):** Kathleen Dunne & deceased family members

Jack McDonald, Killabban (3rd Anniversary)

**Arles (10am):** Michael & Vera O'Shea

William Fitzpatrick, Farnans (5th Anniversary)

Edward (Ned) Doogue (21st Anniversary)

**Mayo (11.30am):**

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



## Feast of the Epiphany

Tuesday 6th January

Mass time:

Arles 10am



**St. Carlo Acutis**

**Mass & Blessing of Relic**

St. Anne's Church, Ballylinan

7.30pm Tuesday

13th January 2026

All Welcome.

No morning mass in Arles that morning.



## Parish Office & Shop



*The Parish Office is closed for the holidays and will reopen again at 10am on Tuesday 6th January.*

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

## Parish Contact Details

V. Rev. Fr. Padraig Shelley PP (059) 914 7637

Parish Office: (083) 8765 800

Opening Hours: Tuesday 10am - 1pm & Friday 10am - 1pm

✉ arlesdoonanparish@gmail.com



## Epiphany Prayer

For those who seek a Saviour

we lead them to the Stable

To the One who was born

To bring freedom

Forgiveness

Liberty

For those who seek Assurance

we lead them to the Light

To the One who opens eyes

to understanding

God's Word

Truth

For those who seek Forgiveness

We lead them to a Grace

beyond comprehension

To wholeness

Healing

Peace.

Father, the star that led the Magi to the stable announced to the world that its Saviour was born. Today we live in a world that is still covered by darkness, and still needing to make that journey to the stable door. May our lives reflect your light day by day, as we seek to serve where you have placed us. That we might be the means through which others can encounter Jesus Christ. Amen.



## A Prayer for the New Year

Lord, thank you so much for all that you have done for me, my friends, and my family. Your hand on our lives is so much more than we could ask for, and your blessings are so greatly appreciated. I know, Lord, that you have seen our challenges, wept at our weaknesses, and rejoiced in our successes.

We have now entered a new year. You know I have made resolutions to change the areas of my life that need it, and I ask for your strength to make those changes. I ask for your continued blessings and guidance to make me more like you, to walk better in your path, this year.

I also ask, Lord, for your continued blessings on those around me. I ask that this year be one of peace and joy for my family and friends. I ask that you continue to be a presence in all of our lives. I ask that you give each of us a heart for you and a desire to serve to make the world a better place. I also ask for peace and blessings on those far from home, for those who suffer, and for those who need you a little more each day.

Thank you, Lord, for all you do in my life and for all your continued blessings and love. Amen.

