



Today's Mass Readings

First reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom my soul delights. I have endowed him with my spirit that he may bring true justice to the nations. He does not cry out or shout aloud, or make his voice heard in the streets. He does not break the crushed reed, nor quench the wavering flame. Faithfully he brings true justice; he will neither waver, nor be crushed until true justice is established on earth, for the islands are awaiting his law. I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right; I have taken you by the hand and formed you; I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to free captives from prison, and those who live in darkness from the dungeon.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Second reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.

'It is true, God sent his word to the people

of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! John saw Jesus coming towards him, and said: This is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'

The Gospel of the Lord



ARLES DOONANE PARISH NEWSLETTER

SERVING ARLES, BALLYLINAN, DOONANE, KILLEEN AND MAYO

The Baptism of the Lord

11th January 2026

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

In Memoriam

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)

Willie & Margaret Brennan, Arles & their sons and daughters: Joe & Kathleen, Margaret, Vincent, Pat & Br. Damien.

Mayo (11.30am): Lillie & Liam Brennan, Ardough

Joseph Lawler, Ardough

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):

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



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.*



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.



Baptism of Our Lord – what does it mean to say, 'I am baptised'?

With the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord we mark the end of the Christmas season, as on Monday we begin Ordinary Time. Jesus' baptism was a significant moment in the life of Jesus – a moment that led to a new beginning as Jesus began his public ministry on earth. Reflecting on Jesus' baptism might also be a good time to reflect on our own baptism. Baptism marks for us a new beginning. It is not so much that we were baptised, but rather, that we are baptised. What difference does that make to who we are in the world? What does it mean practically and spiritually for you to say, 'I am baptised'? What might it mean?

Synod conversations in Ireland and across the world highlighted the huge importance of baptism. The preparatory document for the 2025 pre-synodal national assembly offers a short reflection paper, by Fr Liam Bergin, outlining a fresh understanding of baptism. It can be read at www.synod.ie.

Whist Drive

In Arles Hall every Thursday Night 8.15pm

All welcome.



Fr. Padraig Shelley PP (059) 914 7637

✉ arlesdoonaneparish@gmail.com



Parish Contact Details

Parish Office: (083) 8765 800

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



Lotto Results 6th January 2026

Winning Numbers

8 12 15 25

Jackpot €7,650

Jackpot - No Winner

Lucky Dip €20 - Connor Kelly

Lucky Dip €20 - Anna & Lily Graham

Lucky Dip €20 - Pat Kelly

Lucky Dip €20 - Mary Wheatley

Next Weeks Jackpot €7,700

Crettyard GAA wishes all its players, members, supporters and the wider community a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Invitation to Meditation

Carlow Meditation Group meets on Monday evenings from 7 pm to 7:45 pm in the Cathedral Parish Centre, College Street, Carlow - excluding bank holidays.

Meditation, the universal practice of silent contemplation, can awaken the heart, deepen our spiritual sensitivity and promote our wellbeing.

All are welcome - no experience needed. No need to book – just turn up on any Monday evening! (Noel Keating, 087 2251183)