



Today's Mass Readings

First reading

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: They are happy who follow God's law!

Second Reading

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

When We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of

man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples, 'I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

The Gospel of the Lord



ARLES DOONANE PARISH NEWSLETTER

SERVING ARLES, BALLYLINAN, DOONANE, KILLEEN AND MAYO

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

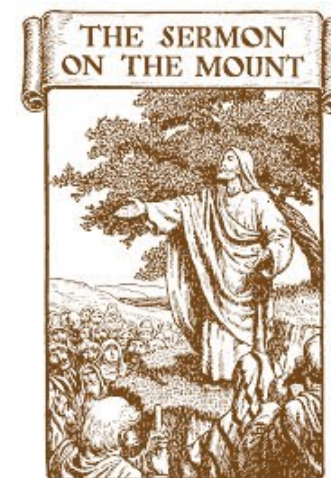
15th February 2026

Reflection

This Sunday we have a third extract from the Sermon on the Mount. It can appear at first glance to be a series of moral statements and rules from Jesus. On closer reflection we can see Jesus' message here is the call for each of us to 'go deeper'. The Scribes and the Pharisees followed the letter of the law but without depth. Jesus is clear that he has not come to demolish the law, rather, this whole passage is a call to a more profound reflection on our lives; not ticking boxes but moving towards a deeper change of heart in dealings with others. Jesus gives many examples of how people might do this: warning against the hypocrisy of offering gifts and rituals at the altar when we may have huge anger and resentment towards another. Is the real sacrament not in reconciling that relationship first? Which offering is more life-giving? It is not enough to 'not murder', but we must watch our anger which can lead to violence. Jesus is calling on people to watch

their thoughts which can lead to serious actions like murder and adultery. When we encounter Christ, the grace that this experience brings can make us aware of what is not ok in our lives. We are called to a radical conversion, a change of heart. And so we read today's passage with our hearts, not our heads. It may help to recall a time when you felt God's grace bringing you to a deeper realisation about your life.

Jane Mellet



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: Mary Kehoe, Old Leigh, Ballickmoyler who died during the past week.

Anniversaries for 15 February 2026

Ballylinan (7pm): Paddy Flanagan (Months Mind)

Eddie Doyle

Harry Hovenden

Doonane (8pm): Carmel Brophy (Months Mind)

Patrick Nash, Doonane Tce

Andy Rowan, Clonbrock

Killeen (9am): Bernie Kelly, Killabban

May Lawless (45th Anniversary) & deceased family

Arles (10am):

Mayo (11.30am):

Anniversaries for 22 February 2026

Ballylinan (7pm): Fr. O'Shea PE (1st Anniversary)

Mai Delaney

Annie McDonnell, Rahin

Joseph Barry, Kilberry

Bridget & Frank Whelan

Michael & Sarah Loughman

Doonane (8pm): Sean Corcoran (2nd Anniversary)

Killeen (9am): Jimmy Moran, Anna Evans & deceased family

Margaret & Tom Myron & deceased family

Arles (10am): Jimmy O'Shea, and parents Mary & James O'Shea

Mayo (11.30am):

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord



Congratulations

Best Wishes to the students who made their Confirmation last Thursday in St. Abban's Church, Doonane. It was a lovely celebration.

Special thanks to all who helped to make the day a special occasion, especially their teachers in the three National Schools (Mayo, Ardough and Newtown), Nicola and the student choir for the beautiful music at our ceremony, our sacristan Marian, and our Parish Sacramental Co-Ordinator, Christine.



Carlow Flower Club

Carlow Flower Club will hold a flower arranging demonstration by Brenda Joyce on Tuesday 24th February at 8pm in the Woodford Dolmen Hotel. Non members welcome to attend, Fee for non-members €10.

Competition on the night for all classes "Spring Awakening"



Arles Doonane Parish Office

(083) 8765 800

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

Please contact the Office if you require an Anniversary Mass booking, a copy of a Baptismal Certificate or if you wish to book a Baptism or Wedding in the Parish.

✉ arlesdoonane@parish@gmail.com

Safeguarding

DLP: Michele Hughes, mobile number 086-1710643 and email: dlp@kandle.ie

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Christine Oglesby (087) 654 6149



Brickworld Lego Exhibition

In Killeen Hall, Sunday 8th March

11am — 4pm



Admission: under 3s Free

Individual Ticket €8

Family Ticket €32 (5 people)



A Word of Welcome ...



This weekend sees a new addition to our parish team with the appointment of Rev. Joe O'Rourke, Deacon.

Deacon Joe was ordained in 2013. He is married to Phil for 40 years, and they have two daughters. He works as a Prison Chaplain in Portlaoise Prison.

As an ordained minister of the church, Joe will assist at our weekend masses, celebrating baptisms and weddings, assisting with sacramental preparation, and contributing to general life of our parish. If you wish to contact Deacon Joe, he may be contacted via the Parish Office.

We wish him every happiness in his new role in our parish.

Ad multos annos



Ash Wednesday

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday (18th February), the beginning of Lent.

Mass & Distribution of Ashes

will take place at 10am in Arles

on Wednesday morning.

All are welcome to attend.

Loving Jesus, as I place on my forehead the sign of your saving cross, You say to me, repent and believe in the Gospel.



Walking into Lent my heart is set on you. May my fasting fill me with hunger for you. May my prayer draw me deeper into your presence.

May my acts of charity bring your love to my home and my parish.

Lord of life, grant that by turning back to you in these forty days I will re-awaken the joy of my Easter faith;

for you raise me up from fear and despair and call me to hope and trust in God who is with me always.

With you, I will rise again.

Amen.

Parish Contact Details

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

Rev. Joe O'Rourke, Deacon - Parish Office: (083) 8765 800

