

Bulletin Board

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www.ballinora.com

DISEASE PREVENTION GUIDELINES FOR CHURCHES (Revised HSE/Diocese)

Those who have colds or flu, sick or elderly are under no obligation to go to Mass. If you have coughs, sneezes etc, please stay at home, rest, stay well hydrated and, if necessary, seek your doctor's help. Mass is available via the internet and via television and radio. **Sign of Peace: While the threat of viruses prevails, a handshake at the Sign of Peace is being discontinued.** During the sign of peace it is fine to simply smile, wave, or bow to others and to say 'Peace be with you'. **Weekday reception from the chalice is temporarily discontinued. Hand sanitisers** have been attached to the walls of the porches. Please use them before entering the church. The supply of these is becoming extremely limited. While it is recognised that some people don't do so out of reverence, **parishioners are asked to receive Communion on the hand, and not on the tongue.** Again, for reasons of limiting possible contagion, **Holy Water fonts will not be filled.**

PERSON OF THE YEAR 2020 – ST PATRICK'S DAY AWARD

Each year, as a parish, for the last ten years, the award of **Ballinora Person of the Year** has been conferred by the parish council on one of our parishioners, after the Mass on St Patrick's Day. **The award is not limited to church-related activities.** To celebrate Eucharist for the parish is to include and encourage all of our parish activities, sports, youth activities, music, dance, community development and all that makes Ballinora such a warm, close, welcoming and supportive community. Please take some time to fill in a nomination form available in the church this weekend and return before Sunday evening, March 8th.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Major fundraiser for the International Women's Day event in the Oriel House Hotel this Sunday 8th March at 12.30. Performers will include the White Horse Gospel Choir.

AUTISM EVENT

Cork Autism Conference 2020 - Autism: Beyond Behaviours. Sunday October 11th, Clayton Silversprings Hotel, Cork. This conference offers interventions, skills and strategies to support autistic people with behaviours of concern. Suitable for Parents, Families, Caregivers, Autistics, Employers, Educators, Professionals, Agencies, Advocates and anyone with an interest in autism. Visit: www.autismcork.ie or call 089 239 8900

SCÉALTA Ó SCOIL BHAILENÓRA

(www.ballinorans.ie and @SBNORA on Twitter)

Engineers week saw parent Michael Gorman and uncle Kevin Bruchaell enthral the pupils with the practical applications of engineering. Sciath na Scoil season is warming up with challenge matches – a chance for pupils to see old friend Mr O'Draighneáin. Karl McCoy was another welcome visitor ensuring the club and school remain intrinsically linked. Past pupils Daniel Cremin, Sarah Tracy and Liam Lyons got stuck-in helping today's pupils and still had time to begin the Scoil Bhailenóra museum.

A LENTEN FAITH EVENING

Fr Philip Mulryne is a young Dominican Priest based in Popes' Quay, in charge of formation of their young students. He is a **former professional soccer player, who played as mid-fielder with Manchester united and with Norwich.** At the height of his career he experienced a call to follow God more closely. **Fr Philip will share his fascinating personal story in St James Church, after our parish Mass, on Tuesday night, March 10th, at 8pm.** We hope it will be of interest to all parishioners, and especially to the families of teenagers and young adult.

ANNUAL RUN

The annual Karen Fenton Memorial Run will take place here in Ballinora on Sunday April 19th at 12.30pm. Online registration is encouraged. All those who pre-enter will be put in a draw for 2 nights B&B for 2 people in the lovely Celtic Ross Hotel in West Cork. Visit karenfenton.ie to register.

RECENT BEREAVEMENT

Sincere sympathies to Mary Dennehy of Ballyshoneen whose husband, Noel, passed away during the week, and whose funeral took place in Nohoval on Tuesday. Condolences too to her daughter Catherine, her son Thomas and their families, relatives and friends, and to Noel's brothers and sisters. Thanks to our funeral team members who travelled down.

NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY PROJECT

Volunteers with an interest in Nature and Biodiversity required to join a Habitat Mapping team to advance our Biodiversity project. No previous experience required as full training will be given. All ages and abilities welcome: **Location:** Retired Men's Hub (beside the GAA Hall) **Date:** Saturday 14th March 2020. **Time:** 11.00am to 1.00pm. See www.ballinora.com / Environment / Wildlife Habitats: a 5 Year Plan for details of our Nature and Biodiversity Project. If you are interested contact Pat on 0872852228 for further details, of what is involved, or turn up on the day. The success of our Biodiversity Project will depend on local participation.

The Parish Word

Issue 853 March 7th & 8th 2020 Ballinora

The Transfiguration 2nd Sunday in Lent



The Gospel Picture: A snapshot of a wonderful moment of Jesus' life. His Father lifts him up for the world to see. More proud of His child than of all his other achievements. A New Creation; God has entered the world and human existence. The Father speaks to him words of love and acclaim, loud enough to hear. Bathes him in the light of heaven. The onlookers are thrilled. "Listen to him!" they are told. And we have the Gospel picture for life; we are to be nourished with that love and life and light. And we must listen.

Fear: But the disciples fell on their faces, afraid. Fear is the most crippling of all human emotions. It drains our energy, leaves us paralysed and tired. Nervousness sometimes spurs us on to do our best, but other times, it holds us back. Maybe the disciples were simply overawed in the presence of such dazzling brightness, but maybe they just felt totally humbled and sinful in God's sight. But Jesus touched them and said 'Don't be afraid. Get up!' What encouragement! Have you ever been touched by Jesus in this way? You have! But you haven't recognised Him in your friends and family.

Down the mountain: Peter, James and John opened their eyes and 'they saw only Jesus'. "Tell no one about this vision until the Son of Man is risen from the dead" he said. But they **did** tell others, because he **did** rise from the dead, and those others have told us... and here we are as followers of Jesus in 2020. The Gospel disciples were so overcome by having witnessed the glory of Jesus that they couldn't keep it a secret. What do we do? Have we seen this side of Jesus? Do we keep our faith as something private to ourselves alone? We too are children of God, who says to us 'You are my beloved son, my daughter', and we have a task to do. There's a family to love, wounds to be healed, faith to be lived. We have to bring Jesus into the real world. Mountains are lovely places, but God came down to our level in Jesus, and we must find him, especially in some of the unlovely places in our lives.

LENTEN DAILY MASS REMINDER:

Mass will continue to be celebrated each day except Wednesday at 7.30pm. On Wednesdays, Mass will be at 9am. **This Tuesday, March 10th, the Mass will be at 7.15pm, due to the talk which follows it.**

ST PATRICK'S DAY MASSES: ADVANCE NOTICE

Mass for St. Patrick's Day: 10am. The Ballinora Person of the Year Award will be presented at that Mass. The 7.30 evening mass on Monday 16th will be the Vigil Mass for St Patrick.

SPECIAL CONFIRMATION MASS

This weekend, the 10am Mass will be celebrated with the special participation of the students of Rang a Sé, who are preparing for their Confirmation on May 20th.

SPRING STATIONS 2020:

The Station for School to Ballinora Cross will take place in the home of Pat and Imelda O'Connor on Friday March 13th. The Station Mass for Greybrook/Sraleigh/Lower Corbally will take place with Phyllis and Colm O'Driscoll on Friday March 27th; the Station for Dineens Lane to Maglin will be in Eileen and Eamon O'Grady's home on Friday April 3rd. All other areas remain vacant. Much of April and part of May still available.

TRÓCAIRE BOXES

Available in the Church, and to be returned for Easter. Please take one.

Special Quarterly Collection for Diocesan Needs

The second quarterly collection towards the running expenses of the Diocese will be taken up as a second collection at all Masses this weekend.

CONTACT Fr. Declan Mansfield, Parish House, Ballinora at 021-4872792 or in case of emergency at 086 8123833