

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

## BALALLY PARISH

**18th February 2024**

**First Sunday in Lent**



Parish Office Open Hours:



**Monday to Friday**

**9.30am 12.30**

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### Mass Times & Intentions:

**Saturday 17th February 6.00pm Mass**

**Eddie O' Riordan (Months Mind)/**

**Maura Hand (3rd Annv)**

**Sunday 18th February 10.00:am Mass**

**Maureen Keenan (Months Mind)/**

**Rudie Dorrepaal (Months Mind)/**

**John Kane (3<sup>rd</sup> Annv)/ John Cassidy (13<sup>th</sup> Annv)**

**Paul Black/ Paddy Cahill/**

**Monday 19th February 10:00am Mass**

**Gail Byrne/ Liam Marren/ Aubrey Condon/ Bríd Cahir**

**Special Intention (Get well for Vincent Maher)**

**Wednesday 21st February 10.00am Mass**

**Elizabeth & Ita Fagan/Maureen Keenan/ Pat McCarthy/**

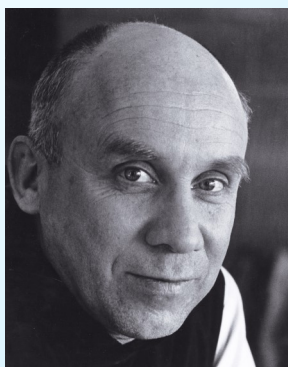
**Liam Marren/ Bríd Cahir/ Special Intention X2**

**Friday 23rd February 10.00am**

**Liam Marren/**

**Annie Barry & Special Intention (Get well)/**

**Nancy O' Brien**



### Quote

**Thomas Merton**

“If you want to identify me, ask me not where I live, or what I like to eat, or how I comb my hair, but ask me what I am living for, in detail, ask me what I think is keeping me from living fully for the thing I want to live for.”

### Reflection by Fr Laurence Freeman

I'm going to ask you to think of the way that the mantra accompanies us and sort of takes us through the different levels of consciousness, with regular practice of course and how as it does so it becomes a friend, it becomes a guide, it becomes a way of life. In that process, we move from *saying* the mantra with constant interruption in our minds, we all begin in our heads, and then gradually over time as the conversion process unfolds, we move to *sounding* the mantra. What does that mean? It means that we say the mantra of course, but with less effort, less self-conscious effort, because now it is more becoming part of us. It resonates with us and we need less effort.

We are interrupted less often.

## COLLECTIONS

Thank you for your very generous response to last Sundays collections  
1st Collection €755 2nd Collection €525



## Balally Parish 400 Club

If you would like to Subscribe  
Please contact Parish Office 012954296



St Olaf's Ladies Club  
Friday 23rd February at 3.30pm  
St Olaf's School Hall  
"Bingo"



World Day of Prayer 2024  
Friday 1st March 2024  
Theme:

"I Beg you... Bear with one another in love"  
Kiltiernan Church of Ireland 7:30pm  
All are welcome



A Cup of Soup for Gazza



+ Brown Bread, tea or coffee, tray bake

On  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb  
5<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> March  
12.30 pm – 1.30 pm  
Donation €5  
Sweetmount Café  
Holy Cross Pastoral Centre

## Sympathy

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of  
**Joan Hartley: Wesley Heights**  
May she rest in the peace of Christ



## A Word from Fr Jim

Another Lent has arrived, 40 days of preparation for Easter. How can we prepare? Here are some practical suggestions.

### Spiritual

Develop a daily practice, We would love you to join us For prayer in the Icon Chapel.

### Morning Prayer:

Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:15am  
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 10:am.

### Evening Prayer:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 7:00pm  
Tuesday: Contemplative Mass, Lane Room, 7:00pm.

Use our Lenten pledges to care for the earth.

Read our Lenten book

(Divine beauty by John O' Donoghue  
(A good spiritual book))

Read Mark's Gospel. A good way to start would be by attending "I am Mark" in the Church on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February @ 7:00pm and invite someone to come along with you.

Take a Trócaire box and contribute to their campaign for justice. Blessed Lent

With My Love & Blessing: Fr Jim

## Naomh Olaf Club Notes



Michael Brides the former Cavan star footballer and Naomh Olaf Club member, had managed our senior football team for the past five years. He decided to take a well deserved break. Patrick "Pado" Flynn a Carlow native has been appointed to replace him. Pado started his coaching career in the famous St. Ciaran's College, Kilkenny. He has since managed teams such as Carlow's under 20's, Celbridge in Kildare and most recently Palatine of Carlow where the team won the County Championship in his first year there. Pado brings a fresh voice to our lads and is settling in very well in the Club. We wish him and his team every success in the coming season.

The Havlova Family (From Clonard) who were baptised last Sunday.  
Tomas, Zuzana, Julie & Lea

Sr. Eileen leads St. Brigid day service







# BALALLY PARISH

## LENT 2024

**Morning Prayer Icon Chapel**  
Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays,  
Fridays  
9:15 am  
  
Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays  
10am



**Evening Prayer Icon Chapel**  
Mondays, Wednesdays,  
Thursdays  
7pm

**Desert Day  
Contemplative Mass**



Tuesdays Lane Room  
7pm

**"I am Mark"**  
Monday 26th February



Performance by Stefan Smart of  
Mark's Gospel  
at 7pm

**Station of the cross**  
Fridays at 10am Mass



**Lent Book**  
Divine Beauty: John  
O'Donoghue

### Holy Week Poetry Retreat



**Monday 25th March**  
An Audience with the poet  
Aidan Matthews  
8pm



**Tuesday 26th March**  
An Audience with the poet  
Patrick Kavanagh  
(Sr. Una Agnew)  
8pm



**Wednesday 27th March**  
An Audience with the poet  
John F. Deane  
8pm