

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD BALALLY PARISH

**21st April 2024**

**4th Sunday of Easter**

Parish Office Open Hours:

**Monday to Friday**

**9.30am 12.30**

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## Mass Times & Intentions:

**Saturday 20th April 1st Communion (St Olaf's) 11.00am**

**Saturday 20th April 6.00pm Mass**

**Maura Martin (1st Annv), Paul Martin 3rd Annv)/**

**Anne Barry/ Denis Neavyn**

**Sunday 21st April 10.00am Mass**

**Dave Bacuzzi (4th Annv)/**

**Anne Delandy & Thomas & Kathleen Delaney/**

**Ciaran Farrelly**

**Monday 22nd April 10.00am Mass**

**Michael Diamond (32nd Annv)/ Patrick Campbell/**

**Marie Commins/ Mary Kavanagh/ Pierce Williams/**

**Wednesday 24th April 10.00am**

**Tony Roe (6th Annv)/**

**Michael Jones/ Lila Kirk/ Bridget Ryan**

**Bridget Eileen Collins & Lester Cincoflores– Campilan**

**Friday 26th April 10.00am Mass**

**Eileen Collins (Months Mind)/**

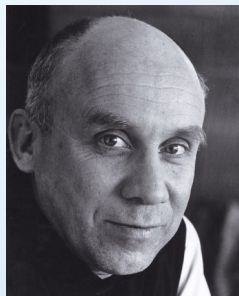
**Mary Parle/ Denis O' Brien/ Mary Kavanagh/**

**Peter Campbell**



## Reflection by Fr Laurence Freeman

A very interesting and important thing that the Pope says is that holiness is about everyday life, how we live each day. Are we conscious? Are we awake? and are we living by the true values of our discipleship? But he also says, although it's about everyday life we need and he says it is an absolute necessity, we simply cannot do without the silence of prolonged prayer. We cannot do without the silence of prolonged prayer. We need times of silence, times of solitude every day and if we want to awaken to our holiness that's what being holy means, that we are temples of the Holy Spirit – if we want to awaken to that, then we need to take time every day to be still, to be silent in God's presence and to be present to God.



## Quote

**Thomas Merton**

“The logic of worldly success rests on a fallacy: the strange error that our perfection depends on the thoughts and opinions and applause of other men! A weird life it is, indeed, to be living always in somebody else's imagination, as if that were the only place in which one could at last become real!”



## COLLECTIONS

Thank you for your very generous response to last Sundays collections

1st Collection €885 2nd Collection € 575



### Balally Parish 400 Club

If you would like to Subscribe  
Please contact Parish Office 012954296



### Knock

We can confirm that departure time for Knock is **8.15am on Saturday morning 27th April** from Balally Church.

### Naomh Olaf Club Notes



Social Hurling and Gaelic Football for Mothers are now very popular sports in many G.A.A. Clubs throughout the Country. Social hurling is provided for players who have retired from competitive hurling. On Easter Saturday, Naomh Olaf G.A.A. Club held its 3<sup>rd</sup> "Annual Easter Social Hurling Blitz" and it has now become a firm favourite in the Social Hurling Calendar. 15 teams from Belfast, Wexford, Kildare and Dublin took part. The teams took to the field but unfortunately after two rounds of matches, due to bad weather the decision was made to call off the remaining rounds. The teams were well entertained in the Clubhouse. "Jorum Ballads" a band from Carlow provided the music. Collette Coady, "Head of Health and Wellbeing for Gaelic Games in Croke Park" addressed the teams. Some teams have already booked for Easter Saturday 2025.

**MONDAY 22nd APRIL is EARTH DAY 2024**  
'Our common home is falling into serious disrepair'  
(Pope Francis)



What kind of world do we want to leave to future generations?

On **EARTH DAY Monday 22nd April** you are invited to come to the Church at 7.30pm for an hour of **Prayer, Poetry, Reflection and Music** to celebrate the beauty of God's creation and to lament the damage we are doing to the earth, our common home.

The monthly outdoor collection for **Society of St Vincent DePaul** will take place this weekend



The Lay Ministry Collection will take place on the weekend of **April 27th & 28th** and will replace the Share collection

### A Word from Fr Jim

Last Sunday, thanks to Paul Murphy, we had a very moving rendition of a Psalm an American Spiritual from Whit Whittager. This weekend Paul will be speaking at Mass about our "Common Home". I look forward to our celebration of **Earth Day on Monday at 7.30pm.**

Shortly we will be celebrating the Feast of the Ascension, our parish feast. **We have two events that day.**

**Celebrating Service:** An invitation to walk and sponsor Pieta House, that charity beloved of Charlie Bird, in their 'Annual Darkness into Light walk'.

We will meet at Balally Church at **3.45pm** and we will go to Marley Park for the walk together.

**Celebrating Meditation:** Pope Francis has asked all parishes to run a school of prayer. So from **2.00pm - 5.00pm** we will have a little event "**Give Meditation a Go**" which will conclude with ascension compline at **5.00pm.** It is for all beginners, experts and sceptics, give it a go please.

**With My Love & Blessing**  
**Fr Jim**

### Summary 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2024 Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

**Lent & Easter review:** Good attendance at the Lent Poetry Retreat – Aidan Mathews, Sr Una Agnew, John F Deane – very positive feedback.

Holy Week services were well attended

Ecumenical Good Friday Pilgrimage of 7 churches – 40 from Balally attended – good response.

Morning and evening prayer in the Icon Chapel continues as per times on the website.

**Pilgrimage:** Diocesan Pilgrimage to **Knock - Saturday 27th April. €50** per person. David Healy is working the plan with our partnership parishes of Dundrum, Ballinteer and Meadowbrook. All will travel together.

#### **Safeguarding:**

Balally Parish selected for audit. Response from the parish to be submitted to the Diocese by 30th April.

Safeguarding training from the diocese was on Saturday **9th March.** A number of people from local parishes attended including **5** from Balally.

#### **Balally Environmental Group BEG:**

**Earth Day on Monday 22nd April at 7:30pm** – focus is plastic – Orla Davin-Carroll is coordinating the event.

**Return to Nature** project is in preparation with Paul Murphy as the leader. Launch announcement at Mass on **20th and 21st April.**

#### **Balally Community Friendship:**

Pasquale Mellone from PPC will present at Mass on **13th and 14th April on plans for visiting the sick in Simpson's Hospital, Rathdown** for all and letters to Irish prisoners which is an initiative from Archbishop Farrell.

**Parish Feast Day:** The Feast of the Ascension - **12th May 2024 – retreat**

**First World Children's Day on 25 and 26 May** – announced by Pope Francis [https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/bambini/documents/20240302\\_messaggio-bambini.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/bambini/documents/20240302_messaggio-bambini.html)

**Welcome Ministers:** Calling for volunteers to welcome new people to 10am Sunday Mass. **Martina (Chair)**



**Mihai Cucu , writer of Icon of Christ and teacher of Cinzia visits Balally John Main Icon Chapel**



**Martina presents  
Rev Nigel and  
Rev Jane  
with collection for  
Gaza € 5750**







**Wedgewood Residents Clean up ...  
well done Xavier and Committee**



**Whit Whittager  
from  
Kentucky  
sings at  
Sunday Mass**



**Fr Jim returns to  
Meadowbrook  
Good Friday**



**Visit to An Tairseach Centre Wicklow**