

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD BALALLY PARISH

28th January 2024

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Office Open Hours:



Monday to Friday

9.30am 12.30

Tel: 01-2954296



Email: balallyparish@gmail.com

Web: www.balallyparish.ie

Fr Jim Caffrey PP 0861579825

jcaffrey73@gmail.com

Fr Dermot A. Lane Tel: 012956165

Pastoral Centre : 012953095

Email: balallypastoralcentre@gmail.com

Mass Times & Intentions:

Saturday 27th January 6.00pm Mass
Frank Gaynor (Senior) (62nd Annv)/

Sunday 28th January 10.00am Mass
Thomas Doherty (Months Mind) /

Liam Collins (3rd Annv)/ Amy Lalor (7th Annv)/

John Carroll/

Patrick & Barbara Murphy
& their baby daughter Margaret/

Monday 29th January 10:00am Mass
May Birch/ Paddy Seery (23rd Annv)/
James Nolan

Special Intention & Paddy Cahill
Special Intention (Get well)

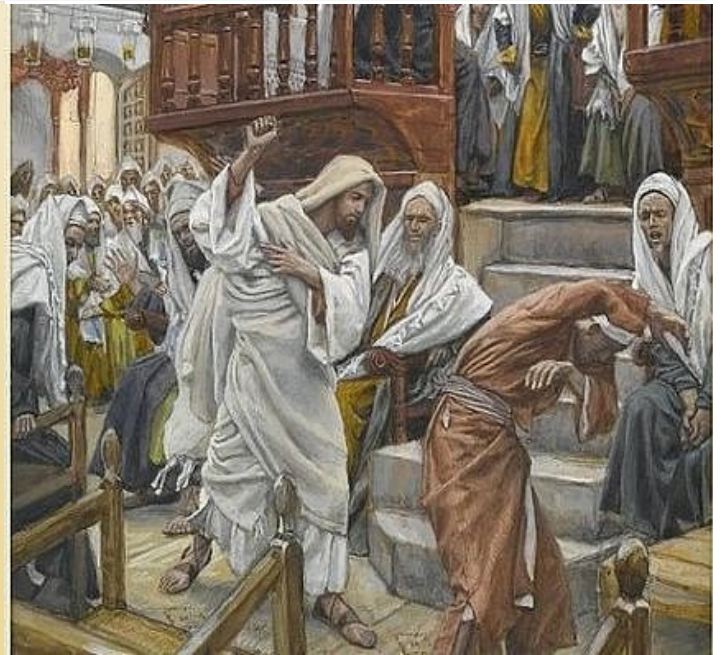
Wednesday 30th January 10.00am Mass
Fr Sergio Arturo Cordova LC (2nd Annv)

Deceased members of the
Sheridan & McGovern Families/

Eddie O' Riordan/ Maureen Keenan/ Anne Diciocci

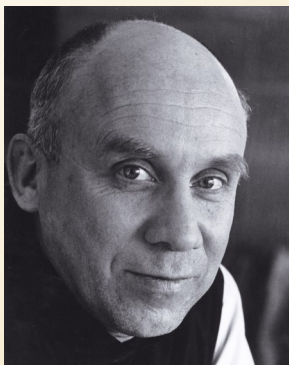
Friday 2nd February 10.00am

Altar List of the Dead



James Tissot

**Jesus Rebukes the Unclean Spirit
in the Synagogue 1886-1894**



Quote

Thomas Merton

“Peace demands the most heroic labour and the most difficult sacrifice. It demands greater heroism than war. It demands greater fidelity to the truth and a much more perfect purity of conscience.”

Reflection by Fr Laurence Freeman

So there are some things we can't speed up. But if we speed it up in our imagination, then we begin to create a virtual reality and I think this contributes to a lot of our problems today, that we have imagined a world that is not a real world. There's virtual reality and it's been fuelled, driven, by our fascination and confidence in technology, that technology can do everything and when we find that this is not how the world actually is, we can see that there's a great disappointment. But the reason I mentioned this is because if there is a contemplative approach to this crisis, I think it is in this sense that a contemplative approach will help to restore us to realism, to enable us to see the distinction between our fantasy, our imagined speed of change and development and the reality of things and to keep these two in relationship. Because otherwise, if we become totally immersed and entrapped with the virtual reality of our imagination, then reality itself will become an enemy and we will find ourselves being oppressed by reality.

COLLECTIONS

Thank you for your very generous response to last Sundays collections
1st Collection € 745 Second Collection €445



Balally Parish 400 Club

January draw takes place on the 28th

If you would like to Subscribe
Please contact Parish Office 012954296



Sacrament of Baptism

We Welcome Baby
Lucas Connolly

Who was baptised into the Christian Community
In this Church **14th January 2024**



Fr Peter McVerry would like to thank Balally Parish for their very generous donation of **€1,010.00**. They very much appreciate your generosity and support. This will ensure that they can continue to support even more people who are impacted by homelessness and can continue to provide vital services and homes to those in need.

Naomh Olaf Club Notes

Ciaran Foley and Donal Leavy,
Naomh Olaf Played in all three games in the Walsh Cup Senior Hurling competition in 2024. They had victories over Westmeath and Antrim and were defeated in the semi - final of the competition by Galway Sunday last



Visit of distinguished Scripture Scholar Dr Thomas Morris and wife Una to Balally



Central wall in John Main Icon Chapel



A Word from Fr Jim

Last week, Archbishop Farrell visited Corduff Parish and spoke prophetic words.

I would like to share the parts of his homily which spoke of refugees. They are well worth reflecting on.

These are inspiring words, but what do they mean? To what are we called? In the first instance, it is to recognise our common humanity with the refugees and asylum seekers who have arrived in our midst. They are entitled to make their case within the framework that society has created to regulate admission to the country. While doing so, they are not to be targeted or penalised, abused or frightened.

As followers of Christ, we are called to speak up for their rights and dignity. We are called to speak up when individuals are targeted, victimised or stigmatised, or used as pawns in disputes which are really about politics and resources.

We are called to speak up for the truth about migration and population change, not to deny that it is a serious challenge, but to rebut the misinformation that is spread to stir up suspicion and hatred.

The heart of our faith is compassion. Remember the Samaritan! **(Luke 10:25–37)** We are called to solidarity with our least fortunate brothers and sisters, to use our creativity, energy and resources to make life better. But we are also called to solidarity with those who are asked to accept into their community those who need shelter. It is right that the practical consequences for communities be recognised and addressed. Parish communities have been to the fore in this regard, but it is also a matter for the public authorities: we are all called to play our part, so society as a whole must give practical support to host communities in proportion to the scale of the responsibility they are asked to assume.

Our world is changing, and we find ourselves in a new era of migration. It challenges us in all the dimensions of our life together as a community. History will judge how we respond.

God's word brings home to us that we are all brothers and sisters. Our God-given gifts will help us put into practice what this means. The call is urgent.

There was a naivety about the disciples in their initial enthusiastic response to Jesus. That said, they are true disciples as they do follow him, and eventually, by his faithfulness to them, His word, his life makes a home in them, and eventually they follow him to the cross, to their own crosses.

Truth be told, almost all disciples are initially naïve: we all fail to appreciate our own weakness. Does the same not hold for marriage? and yet we begin, we have to begin.

If we don't, we go nowhere.

My friends, my sisters and brothers, on the long road of discipleship, it is where the journey goes that is important.

Let us entrust ourselves to the Lord's living word: "anyone who wants to be a disciple of mine ..." **(Mark 8:34)**

Let us entrust ourselves to his faithfulness to the little ones, to people in their weakness. Let us take a step on the road *after him* ... "if anyone wants to be first of all, they must be last of all and servant of all." **(Mark 9:35)**, "Whoever *welcomes* one

such child in my name *welcomes* me and whoever *welcomes* me welcomes, not me, but the one who sent me." **(Mark 9:37)**. That child is at our door—the stranger in our communities. Can we take Christ at his word?

Can we welcome him? Or, will we be like Jonah, led by fear, and turn away?

With My Love & Blessing
Fr Jim



Balally Parish



CELEBRATING ST. BRIDGET



THURSDAY 1ST FEBRUARY

ECUMENICAL PRAYER IN KILDARE
CATHEDRAL
LEAVING BALALLY CHURCH 9:45AM.



COMPLINE IN BALALLY CHURCH
8PM.
LED BY SARAH AND MR. DAVID

MONDAY 5TH FEBRUARY

ST. BRIDGET CAMINO WALK
(3 MILE WALK IN KILDARE)
LEAVE BALALLY CHURCH 8:45AM.



MASS IN BALALLY CHURCH
6PM.
LITURGY OF THE WORD
LED BY
SFJ SISTERS/MEDITATION/PROCESSION

Ballally contingent with Rev Stephen at Methodist , Dundrum



Fr Fintan (Paddy) sends greetings from Glenstal



Prayer for Christian Unity, Dundrum Methodist Church

