

Ballinhassig Parish Assembly

Our Parish Assembly works with and for the people of Ballygarvan, Ballyheada and Goggins Hill church areas. Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine! We are shielded from the sun by each other, we rely on each other for shelter!

Members Of The 8th Ballinhassig Parish Assembly Founded in 1993

Máire Uí Shé,
Ballygarvan, Chairperson, 087-2802958;
Arthur O'Shea,
Ballyheada, Deputy Chairperson 086-3748925;
Mary Brady, Goggins Hill, Secretary 087-6524716
Fr. Christy Fitzgerald PP, Helen O'Mahony,
Aoife O'Hea, John O'Leary, Denis O'Connor,
Mary O'Donovan, Jennifer Dunne, Sheila Lynch,
Breeda Murphy, Mary Keigher, Helen O'Donovan,
Mary Watkins, Helen Deasy, Mary O'Halloran,
Anne Marie Casey, Audrey O'Leary.

Mission Statement

As members of the faith community, we are deeply aware of God's presence. We are committed to reaching out in an open, vibrant, friendly and loving way. We encourage the involvement of all in a community of neighbours and we promote and nurture a spirit of co-operation.

Men's Shed



**"Men don't talk face to face;
They talk shoulder to
shoulder"**
menssheds.ie

Our assembly facilitated a Public Information Meeting in the Marian Hall on 26th January 2016 in order to set up a Men's Shed in the parish. John O'Sullivan, an advocate of the Irish Men's Sheds Association gave an excellent presentation on the night. The shed is now up and running in the Community Centre, Ballygarvan. It is one of 365 in the country. It is a dedicated, friendly and welcoming meeting place where men come together and undertake a variety of mutually agreed activities. New members are always welcome. Donations of DIY equipment, tools, timber and other useful items would be greatly appreciated. Contact 086-0645848.

Fr. Kieron Farewell/Thanksgiving Night

If you are brave enough to say goodbye, Life will reward you with a new Hello!

The Assembly worked with Henrietta, Mary, Noreen and Ann to organise a very fitting Farewell/ Thanksgiving Night for Fr. Kieron on 22nd October. We will all be forever grateful to Fr. Kieron for the enormous contribution he made to all our lives during his time in our community. His Farewell/Thanksgiving night was a resounding success. Frank Lehane was an excellent MC. A large crowd eager to be associated with this wonderful celebration filled the Marian Hall. Such was the generosity of parishioners that the assembly were happily able to give a very welcome gift of delicious cakes and sandwiches to Penny Dinners after the event.



Fr. Christy, Céad Míle Fáilte Romhat!

In this our first Newsletter we are delighted to extend a special welcome to Fr. Christy who has been working very hard in our parish since his arrival. Guímid gach dea-rath air inár measc!

Glenstal Abbey



A group of parishioners and friends enjoyed a day trip, organised by the Assembly, to Glenstal Abbey on the 8th October. They experienced the hospitality of the Benedictine Community and were able to revel in the peace and harmony of the Abbey. A key highlight on the day was a guided walk with Fr. Anthony Keane. - The Mystagogy of the Forest.

Dawn Mass on Easter Sunday



The Easter Sunday Dawn Mass, celebrating the rising sun and the Light of Christ, the reason for our hope echoed the inspirational campaign associated with Pieta House known as “Darkness into Light”. This campaign is a movement against suicide. Many parishioners celebrated their journey of darkness into light at the Dawn Mass. Fr. Christy invited all present to take a candle home and light it to symbolise turning darkness into light in our lives. Thanks to Con Cottrell and the Assembly refreshments were enjoyed by all in the Marian Hall.

Cork International Choral Festival A First for Ballinhassig and a First for the Macedonian Choir!



In collaboration with the Choral Festival the Assembly successfully involved our parish in the Church Choir Interchange for the first time. Great credit is due to Henrietta O’ Meara who co-ordinated and conducted a combined choir from Ballygarvan, Ballyheada and Goggins Hill. Ably supported by accompanist, Mary Coleman, instrumentalists, Gerard Murphy and Eamon Long, the choir sung beautifully in Holy Cross Church, Mahon on the 23rd April. On the same day, we were privileged to have the Choir of St Michael’s Church, Blackrock sing in Goggins Hill. The Female Chamber Choir SV. Zlata Meglenska from Macedonia enthralled us with their magnificent singing on Sunday, April 30th. In keeping with the best Irish tradition the Assembly hosted a reception in the Marian Hall after the mass for our international visitors and our Ballinhassig Parish Choir. Our visitors thoroughly enjoyed their visit!

Down Syndrome Ireland HB Ice Cream Sunday



The Assembly hosted a HB Ice Cream Sunday on Saturday/ Sunday May 20th/21st in aid of Down Syndrome Ireland. Much to the delight of young and old the Assembly, with the assistance of terrific helpers, distributed HB ice cream after all masses. Thanks once again to the tremendous generosity of our parishioners a total of €1455.14 was raised.

Special Celebrations

Two special celebrations of the Eucharist were organised. The annual Mass for the Bereaved was held in Ballyheada Church on November 15th. The Mass for the Sick, Healing & Light was organised in the Marian Hall on May 22nd.

Other Community Activities



On a chilly April night the Ballinhassig Village Association were, as they often are, hard at work cleaning up the village.



Ballygarvan Vintage Club organised their annual fun run in April to raise funds for Ballygarvan Community Centre and Ballygarvan Tiny Tots Playschool. The 5 Mile and District Vintage Club and the Halfway Vintage Club also organise fun runs for local charities.

Ballygarvan Agricultural Show, Saturday 26th August
Ballinhassig GAA Cúl Camps, 21st-25th August
Ballygarvan GAA Cúl Camps 17th-21st July
Fleadh Cheoil na Mumhan, Cork City 18th -23rd July

Declan Crowley Camogie Blitz, Saturday 26th August
Parish Teen Summer Camp 28th-30th July
Ballinhassig Summer Scheme 3rd-6th July
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