

Anniversaries

Margaret Hickey, Ballyhooleen.
Phil Quinlan, Kilbrittain.
Biddy O'Meara, Ballyleigh.
Marion McCarthy, Goggins Hill.
Paddy & Kitty O'Sullivan, Killountain.

Saturday 31st:- Vigil

Ballyheada 7.00pm

Mass Intentions:-
David O'Sullivan, Rigsdale.
(Months Mind)
Mary Murphy, Skehanagh.
William Deasy, Bawnleigh.
Dan Walsh, Drumcondra & Knocklucy.

Sunday 1st:-

Ballygarvan 10.30am

Mass Intentions:-
Madge O'Sullivan, Fivemile Bridge.
Daniel O'Sullivan, Fivemile Bridge.
Ellen Moore, Myrtle Hill.
Mary Twomey, Ballygarvan.
Patrick Hurley, Ballyguinnane.
Cornelius Hurley, Ballyguinnane.



Goggins Hill 11.30am

Mass Intentions:-
Josephine Cullinane, Ballynoe.
(1st Anniversary)
Dermot O'Mahony, Goggins Hill.
Timmy Murphy, Bandon Rd. &
Ballyhooleen.



*Trust in the Lord forever, for in the
Lord God you have an everlasting rock.
(Is. 26:4)*

2026 Ballinhassig Parish Newsletter

Notices for inclusion should be received not later than 2.00pm on Wednesday

by Mary O'Halloran (021 4885 062, 021 4885 257)

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Parish Priest:- Fr. Danny Pyburn 087 2412 186

MASS TIMES Next Week:-

Wednesday 4th:-

Goggins Hill 9.30am

Thursday 5th:-

Ballyheada 9.30am

Friday 6th:-

Ballygarvan 9.30am

Adoration after Mass

Ballyheada:-

Holy Hour 7.00pm-8.00pm

Saturday 7th:-

Ballyheada 7.00pm

*First Saturday Prayers
6.25pm before 7.00pm Mass.*

Sunday 8th:-

Ballygarvan 10.30am

Goggins Hill 11.30pm

We Remember

**Finbarr O'Sullivan, Gurranabrehar;
Eileen Manning (née Cahalan)
Newcestown & Lissarda** who died
during the week.

*We pray for their families,
neighbours, friends and carers.*



In death Life is changed not ended.

Ballinhassig Parish

Newsletter

for Ballygarvan, Ballyheada and Goggins Hill

Vol. 34 No. 21 Sunday: February 1st, 2026 (Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time)

Mary O'H
writes...

Lá Fhéile Bríde February 1st

St. Brigid. ‘*The Mary of the Gael’s* as she has been known to generations of Irish people celebrates her **Feast Day on February 1st**.

She is remembered for her hospitality and hard work, as a woman of God and a woman of the people. Her powerful personality appealed to all, from those on high to the humble beggar.



She chose a life of prayer, service to God and to the poor. She became the first nun in Ireland, forming the first religious community for women in Ireland in Ardagh, but Brigid later moved to what is now Kildare, her most famous where she founded a double monastery with the assistance of Bishop Conleth. Brigid and seven others completed their novitiate there and went to make their final vows to St. Mel, Bishop of Armagh and nephew of St. Patrick.

Her convent grew and she travelled all over Ireland, she tended the sick, built schools, made vestments etc. She was so loved by Bishops, priests, chieftains that she became known as ‘*The Mary of the Gaels*’ She died A.D. 525 shortly after her 70th birthday, her sisters kept a fire burning in an enclosure at her Kildare convent for centuries.

Saint Brigid is the patroness of cattle; infants; midwives; blacksmiths; poets, nuns & students and is depicted in art as a nun with a Cross woven from rushes, a crozier, fire (candle, lamp or bowl of fire) or a cow.



Prayer to Saint Brigid. You were a woman of peace. You brought harmony where there was conflict. You brought light to the darkness. You brought hope to the downcast. May the mantle of your peace cover those who are troubled and anxious, and may peace be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our world. Amen.

St. Brigid's Cross

How to make a Saint Brigid Cross?

Get at least 12 pieces of reed or straw (16 is better) take the shortest one and hold it upright.



Take a **second** straw and fold it in the middle. Wrap the second straw around the first one at the centre so that it opens to your right. Pull it tight. Rotate 90 degrees counter clockwise, holding it at the centre where the straws come together.

Take a **third** and wrap it around the second so that it opens to your right. Pull it tight. Rotate 90 degrees counter clockwise, holding it at the centre where the straws come together.

Take a **fourth** and wrap it around the third so that it opens to your right. Pull it tight. Rotate 90 degrees counter clockwise, holding it at the centre where the straws come together.

You will always be adding a straw at the top so it opens to your right, then turning the entire assemblage 90 degrees counter clockwise, and repeating (*add to the right, turn to the left*)



World Day for Consecrated Life

In 1997, Pope John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life.

This celebration is attached to the *Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd*.

This Feast is also known as *Candlemas Day*; the day on which candles are blessed symbolising Christ who is the light of the world.

So too those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples.

St. Brigid Crosses

Bring your own St. Brigid crosses if you would like to have them blessed at Mass this week end.

Saint Brigid's Customs

In olden times a *Saint Brigid's Cross* was made in every home every year. When made they were blessed with Holy Water hung up in the home and left in place until next year to be burned and replaced with a new one.

People also hang a cloth or ribbon out on a bush or tree on the eve of her Feast



Day believing that if *St. Brigid* touches it, it would have curative powers.

These cloths are called

"St. Brigid's Mantle"

Maybe this year we could begin to revive the tradition of making a St. Brigid's Cross at home.

Blessing of Candles

Monday February 2nd: *Feast of the Presentation of the Lord.* This feast is a combined remembrance of the Son & the Mother and celebrated as *World Day for Consecrated Life*, in the Church calendar. *It is known as Candlemas Day.* On this day candles are blessed for use throughout the year.

The Flame symbolises Christ's Divinity; The wick symbolises Christ's soul and the wax symbolises Christ's body.

Blessing of Throats

Tuesday February 3rd:- *Feast of St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr.* Since the eighth century he is the Patron for sore throats & sick cattle.

Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund

Next week end **February 7th/8th** the second collection is the annual collection for the **Diocesan Sick/Assisted Lourdes**



Pilgrimage Fund. Cork & Ross Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026 will take place from September 18th to 23rd. People are encouraged to join the pilgrimage as helpers, nurses and doctors to assist pilgrims while in Lourdes. Thank you for your continued support and generosity to this annual collection.

Further information on the Pilgrimage contact: email: lourdes@corkandross.org 085 2525 040. All welcome.

Social & Active Retirement Club

Ballinhassig Parish Social & Active Retirement Club:- First **Monthly Social** of 2026 in the Marian Hall, Ballinhassig on Thursday

February 12th from 2.30pm-4.30pm.

Music by Dave Rea, chat & cuppa.

All welcome.

(Socials are held on the second Thursday of each month. No age limit upper or lower)

All welcome.



Grants For The Elderly

Grants available for those over 66 years of age to replace old windows and doors. Incomes up to 75,000Euro may qualify. Further details from:-

Clr Ben Dalton O'Sullivan 089 4690



Spring's Arrival February 1st

I didn't hear a bugle blow when spring arrived today, instead I heard the thrilling sound of song birds everywhere. Nor did I see a festive feast to mark this gladsome day. Instead I saw rebirth of life, a world of blossoming. Oh, yes, **I saw the power of God in this first day of Spring.**



Readings February 8th

Is 58:7-10. Ps 111:4-9, R/ v 4.

1 Cor 2:1-5.

Mt 5:13-16.



Social Dance - Marian Hall

Social Dancing in the Marian Hall next Friday:-

February 6th at 9.00pm.

Music by *C. & M. Sound* Admission 10.00Euro. Refreshments served.

All welcome.



Céili - Marian Hall

Céili in the Marian Hall this Friday:-

January 30th at 9.00pm.

Music by *Jerry McCarthy*. Admission 10.00Euro. Refreshments served.

All welcome.

Carer Available

Lady with over twenty years experience of caring for the elderly, disabled, incapacitated in their own homes available as a *Live In Carer*. References available, own transport, confidentiality in all matters. Further information contact **021 4885 062**.

Balance Classes

Balance Classes Older Adults. Classes commencing on Friday

February 13th in Ballygarvan Community Centre (Old School) at 10.00am & 11.00am.

80Euro for 10 classes or Pay As You Go 10.00Euro. Details and booking:-

087 3997 565. All welcome.