

, St. Peter and Paul's Church, Ballymacward.

(Listen to Mass at 101.4 fm)

PARISH WEBSITE: ballymacwardgurteenparish.com

To contact Fr. Raymond Sweeney Ph: (Landline) **090 9687614**. or (M) **086 3868169**

PARISH EMAIL ADDRESS . ballymacwardparish@eircom.net

Saturday 24th. **Vigil Mass @ 8pm. FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER.**
(VOCATION SUNDAY)

Halo Donohoe, Alloon (7th. Anniv)

Christy Byrnes, Attyregan (2nd. Anniv) and his Wife Nora (18th. Anniv)

Kathleen and Joe Keane, Liscuib. (5th. and 54th. Anniv)

Fr. Nicholas Murray, Highpark (11th. Anniv)

Margaret, Pat and John Murray, Highpark .

(23rd., 41st. and 41st. Anniv)

Monday 26th. **Mass at 9am.** Private Intention

Tuesday 27th. **Mass at 9am.** The deceased members of the Killilea and Costello families.

NOTE: NO MORNING MASS ON WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY OR FRIDAY.

Friday 30th. **Mass at 7pm.** Johnny Kenny, Hampstead (2nd. Anniv)

Saturday 1st. **Vigil Mass @ 8pm. FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER.**

Laurence Barrett, Liscune (2nd. Anniv)

Mary and Imelda Noonan, (Anniv)

R.I.P.: Your prayers are requested for Audrey Kindregan, Ballymacward who died during the week.

CANCELLATION OF DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2021.

Sadly, the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes that was scheuled for 17th to 22nd August 2021 has been cancelled. We will let you know as soon as we get dates for the 2022 pilgrimage

Dear Parishioners, in March this year our Bishops announced a new Synodal Pathway for the Catholic Church in Ireland leading to a National Synodal Assembly in the next five years. In preparation they have requested submissions re what is 'your preferred option for engagement in a process about the Synod'. Further information is available at www.catholicbishops.ie/synod. As it is not possible to meet at the moment due to the pandemic restrictions, I would encourage everyone to engage with the process.

PADRAIG PEARSES GAA CLUB. RESULTS OF THE LOTTO DRAW WHICH TOOK PLACE ON MONDAY 19th. APRIL. WINNING No.'s - 7,17,19,26 NO Winner & 1 MATCH 3. BRENDAN HARDIMAN (Snr.) NEXT WEEK'S DRAW TAKES PLACE ON MONDAY NIGHT 26th. APRIL FOR A JACKPOT OF €2,800 IN THE CLUBHOUSE. Play the Lotto @bit.ly/30J9HcT

TROCAIRE: People who have Trocaire Boxes they wish to return, can do so by leaving them between the 2 Doors in the Front Porch of the Priests House, Ballymacward.

Michael Griffin Memorial Church, Gurteen.

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Sunday 25th. **Mass at 10am. FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER.**

The Deceased members of the Burke family, Colemanstown.

Friday 30th. **Mass at 8pm.** John and Mary Keady (Anniv)

Sunday 2nd. **Mass at 10am. FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER.**

Owen Cunniffie, Attymany (Anniv)

Freddie Hardiman, Clough (12th. Anniv)

NOTE TO THE HOUSEBOUND: If you have received your second Covid vaccination, and would like Fr. Sweeney to resume calling on the First Friday's, please let him know.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations On this Good Shepherd Sunday we celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, especially for our diocese. If you are considering such a vocation, speak to your local priest or Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Aidan Costello, email: office@clonfertdiocese, phone no. 091-841212 or email the National Vocations Office: email: info@vocations.ie

Prayer for Vocations in the Diocese of Clonfert:

Lord of the Harvest, bless young people in the Diocese of Clonfert with the gift of courage to respond to your call of service. Open their hearts to great ideals and wonderful things. Inspire all of your disciples to mutual love and giving; for vocations blossom in the rich soil of faithful people. Inspire priests and religious, all our parishioners and families with the confidence and grace to invite our young people to consider the exciting and noble path of life dedicated and consecrated to You. Unite us to Jesus through prayer and sacrament, so that we may cooperate with you in building your kingdom of mercy and truth, of justice and peace. Amen.

FUNERALS: Thankfully, from Monday 26th April, the number of mourners permitted to attend a funeral will be raised from 10 to 25. I would urge you to adhere to this directive. Added distress is caused to families who are compliant and then hear of funerals taking place where the said number was not adhered to. Moreover, non-adherence causes added difficulty to clergy who are trying to comply with the norms.

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REMEMBERING LOVED ONES: ((Memorial SlideShow)

In the last year or so many of us have lost a loved one or may know someone who has and we want to help.

All the restrictions have made it very difficult to express our feelings of love & loss in a traditional way so we wanted to offer to create a Memorial Slideshow to try and help our customers and/or their family of friends.

This service is free of charge, all you have to do is send us a few photos (Up about 25 images maximum) via Google Drive, Email or Whats App as well as the name of the person who has passed away and the date of birth and death and we will do the rest. We will create and send you a lovely slideshow, yours to keep and share as you wish. All the best, Brad Anderson ([087\)9868466](tel:0879868466)

Care Homes Community Focus

Community is about reaching out with compassion, staying connected and sending love to each other. That's why at An Post, you can now send love to communities living in care homes across Ireland with free postage.

Recognising the increased restrictions in nursing homes across the country and to bring a little joy, An Post will ensure free delivery of all card and letter mail posted to and from residents of Nursing and Care homes in the State until May 31st 2021.

By writing FREEPOST where the stamp would normally be affixed, An Post will carry cards, letters large envelopes and packets weighing up to 2KG without a postage stamp.

Customers can send these items through the Post Office network and post boxes across Ireland.

SAINT KERRILL'S ABBEY:

Gurteen Community Council is intending to apply for grant funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage under the Community Monuments Fund for the conservation of St. Kerrill's Abbey. If successful, the grant would provide 100% funding for the employment of a team of qualified archaeologists, conservation architects, engineers and ecologists to prepare a plan for the long term conservation and preservation of the Abbey. It is intended that the Conservation Management Plan would provide a roadmap for the undertaking of necessary works to protect the Abbey and to prevent it's further deterioration over the coming years. The Community Council has set up a sub-committee to manage the grant application (St. Kerrill's Heritage Committee). This sub-committee has undertaken extensive consultation with Galway County Council and is confident that a strong application can be made. If you would like to find out more about this project or have any questions, please contact the St. Kerrill's Heritage Committee via [Pat Roberts on 0876167704](tel:0876167704).

“With a Father’s Heart”: Clonfert Diocesan Novena to St. Joseph

From Friday 23rd April to Saturday 1st May in the Year of St. Joseph 2021

For full text of prayer supports visit www.clonfertdiocese.ie . Prayer cards will be available from your local church from Thursday 22nd April.

Novena Daily Prayer

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

- Day 1 April 23rd St Joseph, Open to God
Day 2 April 24th St Joseph, Man of Faith
Day 3 April 25th St Joseph, Husband of Mary
Day 4 April 26th St Joseph, Foster-Father of Jesus
Day 5 April 27th St Joseph, Refugee
Day 6 April 28th St Joseph, Patron of the Family
Day 7 April 29th St Joseph, Friend of the Dying
Day 8 April 30th St Joseph, Patron of the Church
Day 9 May 1st St Joseph, the Worker (Solemnity)

Pause for a moment of reflection

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust;

with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil.

In silence call to mind your needs

Our Father ...

Hail Mary ...

Glory be ...

St Joseph, Man of Faith, Friend of God, Husband of Mary, Guardian of Jesus. Pray to God for us!

The Lord bless us and keep us; The Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us; The Lord turn his face toward us and give us his peace both now and forever. Amen

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen