

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD BALALLY PARISH

1st June 2025

The Ascension of the Lord

Parish Office Open Hours:

Monday to Friday

9.30am 12.30

Tel: 01-2954296

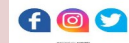


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Fr Dermot A. Lane

Pastoral Centre
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Mass Times & Intentions:

Saturday 31st May 6.00pm Mass

Gertrude Gaynor (61st Annv)/ Paddy Doyle (50th Annv)

Sunday 1st June 10.00am Mass

*Eddie Buckley (2nd Annv)/ John O' Mahony/
Special Intention (for Sallynoggin Parish)*

Monday 2nd June 10.00am Mass

Special Intention

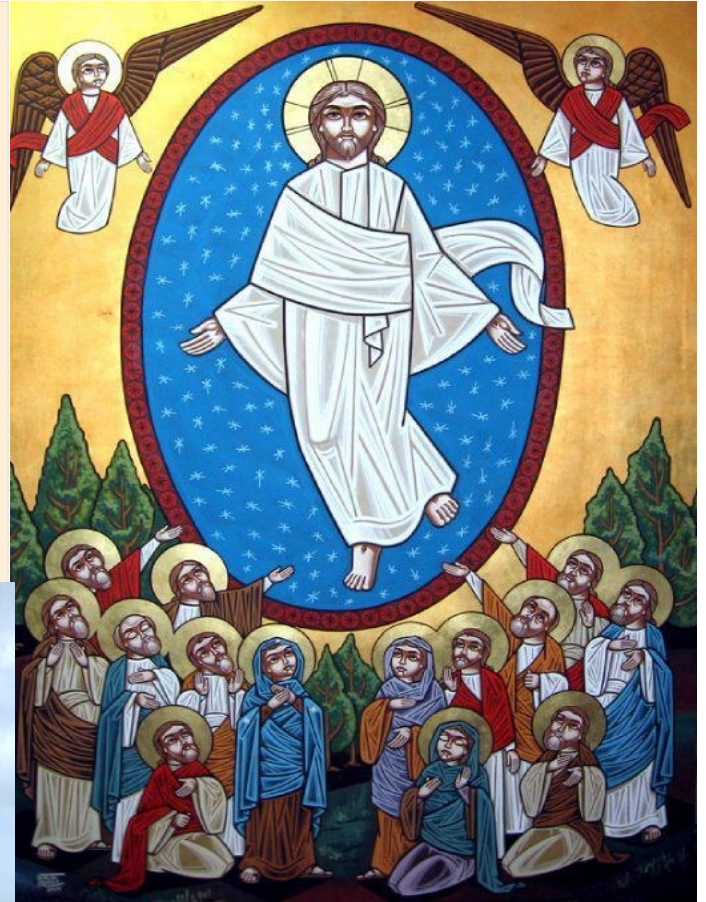
(Birthday Remembrance for (Graham Elmes)

Wednesday 4th June 10.00am Mass

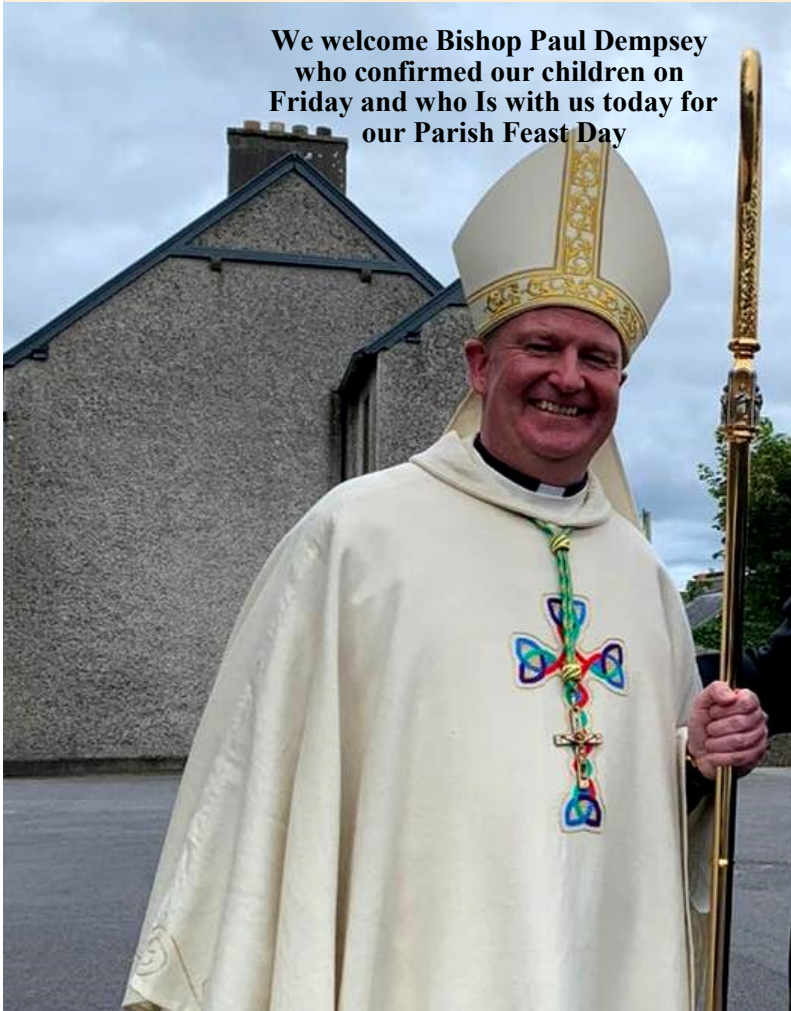
*Oliver Seery & Billy Jordan/ Denise Hunter/
June Deane/ Joe Doyle*

Friday 6th June 10.00am Mass

Altar List of the Dead



We welcome Bishop Paul Dempsey who confirmed our children on Friday and who is with us today for our Parish Feast Day



Reflection by Fr Laurence Freeman

How do we understand the problems of egoism? All these hindrances, all these faults can even get into our spiritual life. But if we look at Jesus, what we see, I think, is a man who certainly had an ego, who could say "I" and who had a will, who could give up his ego and his will at the end of his life: "not as I will but as you will". So we see a man who had an ego and clearly a strong ego, but a man who did not sin, because he never identified himself with his ego. He never said "I am my ego." That was the great temptation that he went through in the desert, to identify himself with the tendencies of egoism. He was tempted. The ego clearly manifested its tendencies in him, but he never identified his real self with the ego. We who have sinned have the work of detaching ourselves from that identification, breaking that identification, simply waking up, in other words, to the fact that we have an ego, and it is a useful thing as long as it is there, but it is not who I am. The ego is not my true and deepest identity.

COLLECTIONS

Thank you for your very generous response to last Sundays collections
1st Collection €830 2nd Collection €535



Parish Partnership name

The diocese recently asked each partnership to decide on a name.

The Parish Pastoral Councils in our partnership parishes of Balally, Ballinteer, Dundrum and Meadowbrook agreed on the name

Columba Marmion Partnership.



Balally Parish 400 Club

Congratulations to our May Winners

1st Prize €1,000: Tony Hyland

2nd Prize €300: Una O' Mahony

3rd Prize €200: Marie O' Carroll

4th Prize €100: Tom O' Connor

5th Prize €100: Sarah Lane

If you would like to Subscribe

Please contact the Parish Office 012954296



Naomh Olaf Club Notes



Here is a date for the diary of all Naomh Olaf Club members.

The Annual Mass for deceased members of our Club will be celebrated in the Church of the Ascension of the Lord, Balally on Sunday the 24th November, 2025. This Mass has been celebrated annually since 1999. Every year since the Club was founded in 1981 regrettably a number of members have died. Since the Mass for our deceased members was celebrated last November ten of our members have already died including two of the Club's founder members Bill O'Brien and Flan McCarthy. This is usually a sad but lovely occasion. It is the one day in the year when we gather for their prayerful remembrance. If even one member of all of the many families who have been bereaved since 1981 would attend there would be a respectful remembrance. All Club members were delighted to see Dublin Senior football team defeat All-Ireland Senior Football Championship favourites Galway last Saturday. David Byne Naomh Olaf played a great game and as a result was named on the independent G.A.A football team of the week.

HOSPITALITY GROUP

Will resume on the 4th June.

We Look forward to welcoming you all back to the newly decorated Francis Café



A Word from Fr Jim

Please put these dates in your diary.

Sunday 8th June: Pentecost Sunday

Come in. National costume/ dress, GAA Colours.

Sunday 15th June: Silent Sabbath

Sunday 22nd June: Corpus Christi

Appreciation Sunday

Sunday June 29th

St. Peter's Pence & Corpus Christi Procession

With My Love & Blessing

Fr Jim

Dearest Friends,

Over the past eighteen months I have been deeply moved and encouraged by many of your messages of prayer and good wishes. They formed a teaching in themselves: whatever the different circumstances between us, our essential unity in sickness and in health, in joy and sorrow, is the one great truth never to be forgotten or undervalued.

With this in mind, I would like to pass on the good news my doctor gave me earlier this week. He told me that the treatment I have received has achieved its goals. No further treatment is necessary. Good news takes time to process too, but believe me, life feels lighter with it. I will now take time to get back into the holistic rhythm of prayer, work and reading which has sustained me for many years but is much harder to maintain during illness and medical treatment.

I feel thankful to so many sisters and brothers in the community and beyond for coming to this new starting point in life with potential new depth of meaning and commitment. There are many who have made generous and selfless gifts of self, of time and resources: like my friends the Murdaya family; my doctor friends Barry White and Gene Bebeau who shared their medical wisdom with me; Anne and Tom Singley who shared their home in Houston with me during most of my treatment here; Fr Jim Caffrey, Cinzia Angius and the inspirational parish of Balally as it puts contemplative teaching into practice; my assistant Helen Lodge; Kevin Wittcock from Bonnevaux and the community there itself; my co-workers in the leadership of the community; and not least my own family to whom I have been able to grow closer during this long journey.

I cannot name all who have helped me but included are those whose names I never knew but with whom I exchanged that anonymous look of empathy that happens between fellow travellers on their journey through the medical system in waiting rooms and corridors and through the human touch of treatment from nursing and general staff.

Gratitude leads into the unbounded mystery of reality.

This is why it is good to share it. Tracing it to its source teaches me how our ultimate thankfulness is for the gift of life itself. Then we see how the giver and gift are one.

This reality awakens the vitalising paradox of oneness.

It manifests through the contradictions of life – of good and bad news. St Paul says we rejoice with those who rejoice and mourn with those who mourn. He doesn't say *pretend* to do this but let it be real, let it happen. We can do so if we stop trying too hard and act spontaneously. Union happens when we let joy and empathy arise freely in the presence of whoever we are present to, in the moment we are together.

Laurence Freeman OSB