

Advent in Balally

- You are all invited to attend Masses and Offices in the church and Icon Chapel
- **Advent Book:** Rev. Richard Carter
- **Advent Carols:** Taney - Sunday 29th November 7pm.
- **Balally to Bethlehem:** Christmas Tree Festival 4th - 5th - 6th December
- **Desert Day:** Tuesday 8th December
- **Reflection gathering** on Rev. Richard Carter book: Saturday 19th December 5pm.
- **Christmas Carols:** Taney - Sunday 20th December 7pm.

Confessions
Sunday 20th December after 10am Mass

Masses
Christmas Eve 6pm - 8pm. - 10pm.
Christmas Day 11am
St Stephen's Day 6pm.

Balally Contemplative Parish



Balally Contemplative Parish
28TH - 29TH NOVEMBER 2026

BALALLY CONTEMPLATIVE PARISH
NEWSLETTER
1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Parish Office Opening Hours:
Monday to Friday
9.30am - 12.30pm

01-2954296
www.balallyparish.ie

P.P. Fr. Jim Caffrey
jcaffrey73@gmail.com

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 28th November 2026 6.00pm Mass
SEAMUS COUGHLAN 6TH ANNV
JOHN CLARKE (A)
JIM, BRIDIE, & KEVIN BURKE (A)

Sunday 29th November 2026 10am Mass
ST OLAF'S GAA MASS
BERNADETTE CAMPBELL
(2ND ANNIVERSARY

Monday 30th 2026 10am - Lay Led
COMMUNION SERVICE

Wednesday 2nd December 2026 10am Mass
MYRIAM O' SULLIVAN &
RAPHAEL BYRNE (RD)
SPECIAL INTENTION (GET WELL)

Friday 4th December 2026 10am Mass
ALTAR LIST OF THE DEAD
MARGARET & MICHAEL KEOGH
15TH ANNIVERSARY



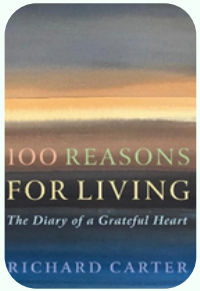
In the still, in the quiet
you will find him
He is there in the silence
of your heart.
No words are needed in
the stillness, in the silence
He is there and he loves
the person that you are.

Gospel Reflection

Today Mark's Gospel presented us with the end of Jesus' final address to his disciples, which can be summed up in two words: "Be watchful!" The Lord repeats these words four times in five verses (cf. Mk 13:33-35.37). It is important to remain watchful, because one great mistake in life is to get absorbed in a thousand things and not to notice God. Saint Augustine said: "Timeo Iesum transeuntem" (Sermons, 88, 14, 13), "I fear that Jesus will pass by me unnoticed". Caught up in our own daily concerns (how well we know this!), and distracted by so many vain things, we risk losing sight of what is essential. That is why today the Lord repeats: "To all, I say: be watchful!" (Mk 13:37). Be watchful, attentive. Having to be watchful, however, means it is now night. We are not living in broad daylight, but awaiting the dawn, amid darkness and weariness. The light of day will come when we shall be with the Lord. Let us not lose heart: the light of day will come, the shadows of night will be dispelled, and the Lord, who died for us on the cross, will arise to be our judge. Being watchful in expectation of his coming means not letting ourselves be overcome by discouragement. It is to live in hope. Just as before our birth, our loved ones expectantly awaited our coming into the world, so now Love in person awaits us. If we are awaited in Heaven, why should we be caught up with earthly concerns? All these things pass away. Be watchful, the Lord tells us.

(Pope Francis, Homily, Basilica of Saint Peter, 29 November 2020)





ADVENT BOOK

RICHARD CARTER OFFERS ONE HUNDRED POWERFUL STORIES GATHERED FROM HIS TWO DECADES OF COMMUNITY MINISTRY - HIDDEN EVERYDAY STORIES FROM HIS LIFE AND THE LIVES OF OTHERS, MANY ON THE EDGES OF SOCIETY, OF HARDSHIP AND HOPE, PAIN AND UNEXPECTED GRACE.

Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of the Finance Committee, I would like to inform all parishioners who have been involved in, or have supported, the 400 Club draw that this draw is now coming to an end.

We would like to sincerely thanking everyone who has taken part in, supported, and helped organise the 400 Club over the years. and which has helped sustain the parish finances.

Unfortunately, despite the generous support of many members over time, the 400 Club has been operating at a financial loss. The prize fund of three prizes totalliing €1,700 per month is not now matched by the monthly receipts. After careful consideration, the Finance Committee has concluded that we are unable to continue running the draw in its current format. As a result, there will be no 400 Club draw for November or December.

We understand that this news may be disappointing, particularly for those who have faithfully supported the 400 Club and enjoyed taking part in the monthly draw.

We are currently exploring the possibility of introducing a new fundraising initiative for the Parish next year. Further details will be communicated to parishioners in due course. We hope that any new initiative will be sustainable, enjoyable, and of benefit to the Parish and to the community.

For those who have already paid for the November and December draws and/or multiple months ahead you may choose one of the following options:

- Have your payment refunded in full.
- Leave the funds in place, to be carried forward and used towards the new draw or lotto next year after consultation with you.

If you would prefer a refund, please contact the parish office Monday-Friday 9:30am-12:30pm - 01-2954296.
Or Cinzia 0830165382 – cinziaangius@balallyparish.ie

With kind regards,
Padraic White
Chair, Finance Committee

Rathdown for All Cookery Afternoon








Living the Rule Together
Pilgrimage to Bolton Abbey, Moone





