



**THE PARISH OF
BALLIVOR & KILDALKEY**
The Parish Office is closed to the public

Contact should be made ONLY by
Phone: 046 9546 488 or
Email: bkparishoffice@gmail.com



**SUNDAY 3RD MAY 2020
VOCATIONS SUNDAY**

Our Parish Churches will remain open for private prayer each day

In these difficult and uncertain times, people find strength, consolation and hope in prayer and lighting a candle

Religious Services on RTÉ

Each morning, at 10.30am from Monday to Friday, RTÉ News Now is **broadcasting Mass** from the Cathedral of Saints Eunan & Columba in Letterkenny, Co Donegal, Diocese of Raphoe. Following the broadcast of Mass, a religious message from representatives of Ireland's other faith communities and Christian denominations is also aired.

RTÉ News Now can be received on Saorview channel 21; Virgin Media 200; Sky 588; Eir 500 and on the RTÉ News Now App

Vocations Sunday

Bishop Tom encourages us to pray for Vocations this weekend. There are currently 2 students for the priesthood in the diocese of Meath. Norman Allred will be ordained a priest for the diocese on September 20th, his ordination having been postponed from June because of the travel restrictions. Please keep them in your prayers.

“The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice.”

On this Good Shepherd Sunday, we celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life, especially for our diocese, that God will raise up good shepherds in our midst. Do you hear the voice of the Lord, the Good Shepherd calling you to a particular way of life? If you think God is calling you to serve the Church as a priest or in the consecrated life, contact the National Vocations Office, email: info@vocations.ie or your local Diocesan Vocations Director.

In your prayers please remember....



James Cleary, Sandymount
May he rest in God's eternal peace

'The Voice of Prayer is Never Silent'

Resources for prayer in homes of the Diocese of Meath
Prayer leaflets are available in Church porches
www.dioceseofmeath.ie

Please support your Parish - Collections and Offerings ...

I want to begin by acknowledging that everyone is struggling in these difficult times for us, including the parish and staff.

We are entering the 8th week without your generous donations and offerings from our weekend Masses.

Our parish insurance renewal is now due. It amounts to almost €12,000 and among other things this covers public liability which is essential to keep our church open for ceremonies including funerals of which there have been 4 the last few weeks.

**I am making a special appeal to you to donate to the parish this week if you can.
A sincere thanks to those who have already answered my appeal!!**

Please drop an envelope into the Parochial House Ballivor. A cheque must be made payable to Ballivor / Kildalkey Parish or online banking using the IBAN:

IE07 BOFI 9035 2580 8914 39

Thank You...

Accord's New Helpline Helps identify problems and offers advice to couples during pandemic restrictions. Conscious of those who are experiencing difficulties in their relationships and family lives during the COVID-19 pandemic, Accord has set up a support line where callers can talk to experienced couples and relationship counsellors. Accord's free and confidential 'Relationships Support Phone Line' for marriages, families and relationships offers support to those experiencing extra pressure due to social restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The number is **Accord CLG – 01 531 3331**

Calls to Accord counsellors are 45 to 60 minutes in duration, with the following issues being highlighted:

1) Causes of conflict 2) 'Pressure cooker' environment 3) Effects on children 4) Vulnerable relationships

Accord counsellors offer the following key tips to people at home at this time:

For individuals living in fear at home, Accord counsellors are trained in identify and handling domestic abuse. In such situations the priority is the safety of the fearful person and their children. Accord can support an individual to develop a safety plan and can advise them of specialist crisis support contact numbers.

In general, try and keep the lines of communication open with your spouse/partner

Be conscious of how you raise issues with your partner. There are productive ways and unproductive ways of raising issues.

Talk from your own feelings first and express what is difficult for you and what you feel you need rather than blaming and being critical of your partner. Criticism usually begets defensive, stonewalling or disproportionate responses.

Be willing to look at yourself and your behaviour in addition to your partner's shortcomings. 'What is it like to be in relationship and to live with me?' is a good question to ask ourselves.

Self-management is a very good skill to hone in these pressurised and worrying times. It might be better to raise an issue at another time so that your partner can hear the cause of concern in a calmer context and to avoid an experience of perceived criticism or attack.

Advice re bereavement/serious illness Insofar as issues such as bereavement or serious illness impact the couple relationship, callers can discuss these issues with a counsellor on the Support Line. If the issue is about a specific personal bereavement and/or health issue, then referral to a specialist may be required.

Advice/guidance on financial difficulty If the issue relates to how the household finances are being managed or mismanaged that may be discussed by the caller. However, Accord does not offer financial advice, but counsellors have relevant details of national support services which address personal finance problems.

Resources Accord provides resources on its website www.accord.ie, on its Facebook page and on its Twitter account based on feedback from counsellors who have dealt with relationship and family difficulties experienced during these confined times.