

St. Peter and Paul's Church, Ballymacward. **EIRCODE H53 YH60**

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

PARISH WEBSITE: [ballymacwardgurteenparish.com](http://ballymacwardgurteenparish.com) (Listen to Mass at 101.4 fm)

Contact details for Parish Secretary (087)9322127 or email, [kenpatger@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kenpatger@yahoo.co.uk)

**SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup>. MORNING MASS @ 10am.** TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

John and Mary Kelly, Garafine (Anniv)

Julia Murphy, Lisheen.

Larry and Una Reilly, Moyardwood (13<sup>th</sup>. Anniv)

Peter & Mary Ann Conheeney Annagh, and the deceased members of the Conheeney family

**MONDAY 29<sup>th</sup>. Mass at 9am.**

**SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup>. MORNING MASS @ 10am.** TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Eileen Nutley, Gurtyryan (14<sup>th</sup>. Anniv)

Jack and Eva Murphy, Esker (Anniv)

Edward and Bridget Keary, Esker (Anniv)

**HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE: WOODLAWN CHURCH OF IRELAND**

**THIS SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup>. SEPTEMBER @ 5pm. GUEST PREACHER CHURCH of**

**IRELAND DEACON MICHAEL MULQUEEN. EVERYONE IS WELCOME.**

**READER OCT: MARY CARR. SERVERS: EVAN HILLARY, SHANE BRODERICK**

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR OCTOBER;**

**MILLIE KELLY & TERESA EGAN (5<sup>th</sup>. & 12<sup>th</sup>.)**

**MARY CARR & TOMAS HILLARY (19<sup>th</sup>. & 26<sup>th</sup>.)**

**SOCIAL CLUB: THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup>. OCTOBER, BINGO**

**BALLYMACWARDGURTEEN PARISH COUNCIL:**

**Date for the Diary:** SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup>. OCTOBER SPECIAL CELEBRATION

MASS FOR THE YEAR OF HOPE, IN ST. PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH

BALLYMACWARD @ 6pm, FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS IN THE HALL,

AND A DANCE TO FINISH OF THE EVENING WITH MUSIC BY STEVE

REILLY. WE HOPE TO MAKE THIS AN OCCASION TO REMEMBER FOR ALL

**PARISH PROJECT'S RECENTLY COMPLETED:**

**(A)** NEW WHEELCHAIR ACCESSABLE TOILET IN BALLYMACWARD,  
INCL. UPGRADE OF EXISTING TOILET, AND NEW VANITY UNIT AND  
TILING OF THE SACRISTY TOILET. TOTAL COST OF ABOVE **€23,420.00**

**(B)** REPAIRS TO GUTTERING, ROOF SLATES AND LEAD VALLEYS, ETC.,  
IN GURTEEN CHURCH. TOTAL COST **€20,046.47** GRANT AID OF  
€10,000.00 IS APPROVED FOR THIS PROJECT, AND WE HOPE TO  
RECEIVE IT BY THE END OF THE YEAR. THANKS TO ALL INVOLVED  
FOR THERE GREAT WORK ON THE ABOVE PROJECTS.

**BALLYMACWARD N.S. FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE:** *The School has now got the  
Re-turn Bin for Re-turn Logo drinks containers at the school to help the parents  
association raise much needed funds for the children. It's a simple way to raise  
funds, and protect the environment at the same time. The children can drop the  
Cans/Bottles in the Bin inside the School Gate. All funds raised go to the school.*

**A 1st Class Relic of St. Carlos Acutis** will be visiting Emmanuel House of Providence,  
Clonfert for two days on **4th and 5th October**. We are also blessed to have a **1st Class relic of  
St. Oliver Plunkett** for one day on **4th October**. Mass will be celebrated at **3 pm** both days.

St. Michael's. / Fr. Michael Griffin Memorial Church, Gurteen.

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

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**SATURDAY 27<sup>th</sup>. VIGIL MASS 7pm.** TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR.

Mary Teresa Greally, Clough (3<sup>rd</sup>. Anniv)

Pat Greally, Athenry/Clough (2<sup>nd</sup>.Anniv) and the deceased members of the Greally Family.

**FRIDAY 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mass at 8pm. FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH.**

Joe Cogavin, Gurteen (Anniv) and the deceased members of the Cogavin Family.

**SATURDAY 4<sup>th</sup>. VIGIL MASS 7pm.** TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR.

Margaret Duffy, Tample (Anniv)

Margaret Molloy, Clough (3<sup>rd</sup>. Anniv)

William Molloy, Faha (Anniv) and the deceased members of the Molloy Family.

The deceased members of the Fahy Family, Colemanstown.

**BINGO:** FAMILY BINGO IN BALLYMAC HALL @ 7pm. "SHARP" THIS SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup>. SEPTEMBER. LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL, AND THE BEST OF LUCK TO EVERYONE.

**COOKING:** Cooking Demonstration with Thermomix Ireland at Menlough Hall on Friday, October 10th at 7:00 PM! Discover how the Thermomix can simplify your cooking by combining over 20 kitchen appliances in one. Booking essential and get to sample the delicious food on the Night! To reserve contact Nadine on 085 754 0064.

**PADRAIG PEARSES GAA CLUB LOTTO:** RESULTS OF THE LOTTO DRAW WHICH TOOK PLACE ON MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup>. SEPTEMBER. WINNING No.'s 2,13,22,26. NO WINNER, & 1 MATCH 3. MICHELLE LAHEEN. NEXT WEEK'S DRAW ON MONDAY 29<sup>th</sup>. SEPTEMBER. IN "RUANE'S BAR", GLENTANE, FOR A JACKPOT OF €3,900. Thanks for your continuing support.  
**CHURCH COLLECTIONS: BALLYMAC/GURTEEN. WEEK ENDING 20/21 – 09/25**

|                |         |                  |         |
|----------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| Envelopes.     | €377.50 | W/Envelopes      | €215.50 |
| Loose Plate    | € 41.15 | Loose Plate      | € 62.00 |
| PRIESTS SUMMER | €100.00 | PRIESTS EAST/SUM | €175.00 |
| POPES          | € 35.00 | POPES            | € 45.00 |

**Breast Cancer Awareness Month takes place October 1st-31st.**

**For further information, please log onto [www.breastcancerireland.com](http://www.breastcancerireland.com)."**

**Together We Can Concert:** for Children in Cambodia (BFT) on Saturday 11th October at the Dean Crowe Theatre, Athlone. Artists appearing are: Shaskeen, MegaTrad/Trish Reilly & Sarah Clogher Dancers. Doors open 7 pm Concert starts 8pm.

**ACTIVE RETIREMENT:** The OCTOBER meeting of Mountbellew & District Active Retirement will be held in the Pastoral Centre, Mountbellew on Monday 6<sup>th</sup>. OCTOBER @ 8pm. New members welcome.

**Family Life Education** Our Hope for the Future Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October in Knock House Hotel and by Zoom. Register now [naturalfamilyplanningireland.ie](http://naturalfamilyplanningireland.ie)

**Abide in His Love Women's Conference** happening for a second year – November 21-23 A beautiful event for women exploring the beauty and gift of their feminine identity in Christ. Check out Eventbrite link for tickets and more information  
- <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/abide-in-his-love-womens-conference-2025-tickets-1283997654549?aff=ebdssbcategorybrowse>

**Network – Male Advice Line** Domestic abuse doesn't discriminate. If you're a man facing abuse, you're not alone. We're here to help.

Call our Male Advice Line: 1800 816 588 Visit: <https://mensnetwork.ie/> Our confidential service provides support, advice, and a listening ear to male victims of domestic abuse. Seeking help is a sign of strength, and we're here to guide you every step of the way.

**HopeSpace CLG** provides a free one-to-one listening service for children and young people (4-17 years old) who are impacted by grief caused by bereavement. See [hopespace.ie](https://hopespace.ie), contact Áine at [support@hopespace.ie](mailto:support@hopespace.ie) or call 091 342566/087 4667506 for more details.'

**ACCORD Ballinasloe** are committed to providing a professional counselling service for individuals and couples who are experiencing difficulties in their marriage and relationships. This confidential service is available and affordable. CONTACT 090 9643573 for appointment or E-mail [ballinasloeaccord@eircom.net](mailto:ballinasloeaccord@eircom.net)

**JUBILEE YEAR:** The Ordinary Jubilee Year takes place every twenty five years. It is a special time of reconciliation with God and with one another. During the Jubilee Year 2025, the Cathedral of Our Lady Assumed into Heaven and St Nicholas, Galway and the Cathedral of St Brendan, Loughrea, have been dedicated as special places of pilgrimage where the Holy Year Indulgence may be obtained. [www.galwaydiocese.ie](http://www.galwaydiocese.ie) / [www.clonfertdiocese.ie](http://www.clonfertdiocese.ie)

**Gaza: “Words are not enough!” – Irish Bishops call for solidarity at parish level**

“In Gaza people are starving and adequate aid is being denied; it seems clear that famine is being used as a weapon of war. Already over 600,000 Palestinians have been displaced. The evidence points to a staged strategy of ethnic cleansing aimed at removing the Palestinian people from their homes and their homeland. It is becoming increasingly clear to people on the ground that these are genocidal actions sanctioned by the Government of Israel.

“What is happening in Gaza – and the West Bank – is the death of tens of thousands of noncombatants, many of them women and children. This is unconscionable and disproportionate. It is immoral for world leaders to stand by inactively in the face of this outrageous tragedy for humanity.

“Words are not enough! There is an urgent need for the international community to intervene, cut off arms supplies and bring the carnage to an end. This will call for courage on the part of leaders. Examples of courage are being given every day by heroic doctors, nurses and aid workers risking their lives in service of the wounded and those who have been displaced.”

As noted already, bishops offered prayers for the people of Gaza and Ukraine as well as other troubled places in the world. In relation to the deteriorating situation in Gaza they noted that as of early June 2025, the humanitarian crisis there has intensified dramatically. To date, almost 55,000 people have been killed in Gaza and the West Bank, since the horrific events of 7 October 2023.

Bishops welcomed the response to their call in their statement of 26 May for a 'Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace' in Gaza on Friday last, 6 June. The entire month of June, the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, should be a time of special prayer for peace. All parishes are asked to give expression to their solidarity with the suffering people of Gaza during June.

Bishops continued, "People in parishes across the country are horrified by what they are witnessing. They may feel helpless. But they can show their solidarity in different ways by lobbying their political representatives, by supporting humanitarian aid and, above all, by continuing to pray for an end to the conflict now and the resumption of peace, including the return of all hostages and prisoners."

Bishops listened again to the recent words of Pope Leo XIV and resonated with them: "In the Gaza Strip, the cry of mothers, of fathers who clutch the lifeless bodies of children and who are continually forced to move in search of a little food and safer shelter from bombing, rises ever more intensely to the sky. I renew my appeal to the leaders: cease-fire, release all hostages, fully respect humanitarian law. Mary Queen of Peace, pray for us.' (General Audience, 28 May 2025). For media contact the Catholic Communications Office, Maynooth: Martin Long +353 (0) 86 172 7678, Chah Garde +353 (0) 86 818 9780

### **Pilgrims of Hope 2025**

Loving Father, we come before you,  
in this Jubilee Year. Our hearts are full of longing.  
Now is the time to lay the past to rest.  
Today is the day for a new beginning.  
Breathe on us Spirit of God.  
Inspire us. Strengthen us.  
Help us to follow ever more closely the example of Jesus, your Son.  
Help us to love you with all our heart.  
Help us to care for one another.  
In a world upset by war and discord,  
we beg for the gift of lasting peace.  
With Mother Mary by our side, may we journey together  
as pilgrims of hope on the road of life.  
We ask this of you, O loving Father, through Christ Our Lord. Amen

