

Parish Masses / Anniversaries / Other Events:

St. Mary's, Carrigallen (Week commencing Sun. 14th Dec. 2025):

Sun. 14th Dec. – 11.15am: Kevin Mc Manus, Church Street (**1st Anniv. Mass**).
Dec'd members of the Grimes family, Beaghmore.

Mon. 15th Dec. – 10.00 am: Missa Pro Populo.

Tues. 16th Dec. – 7.30 pm: Mass of the Day.

Wed. 17th Dec. – : No Mass.

Fri. 19th Dec. – 7.30 pm: Mass of the Day.

Sun. 21st Dec. – 11.15 am: Mons. John A. Young, Carrigallen.
Tommy Mc Guckian, Killahurk. Bridget Ledwith, Portlongfield.

Eucharistic Adoration: Tues. 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm & Wed. 10.30 am to 11.30 am.

St. Mary's, Drumeela (Week commencing Sun. 14th Dec. 2025):

Sun. 14th Dec. – 10.00 am: Seán Brady, London and Drumanure & D.F.M's.

Sat. 20th Dec. – 12 noon: Patrick & Margaret Kelleher, Drumhaldry & D.F.M's.

Sun. 21st Dec. – 10.00 am: Missa Pro Populo.

St. Mary's, Drumreilly (Week commencing Sat. 13th Dec. 2025):

Sat. 13th Dec. – 8.00 pm: John, Mary & Tommy Kiernan, Aghalough.

Thurs. 18th Dec. 7.30pm: Mass of the Day.

Sat. 20th Dec. – 8.00 pm: Jim Mc Cabe, Corrawaleen & D.F.M's.

Eucharistic Adoration: Tuesdays from 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

CHURCH AREA	OFFERTORY COLLECTION - 06 th / 07 th DEC.	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
Carrigallen	€1,035	€340
Drumeela	€274	NO MASS
Drumreilly	€339	€176

THOUGHT FOR ADVENT

Our whole lives can be seen as an Advent, a continuous journey of waiting, preparing and living in the hope that light will overcome darkness.

PARISH ENVELOPES FOR 2026 are now available for collection from the Churches and should not be used until the weekend of **3rd /4th Jan. 2026**. Please also deliver envelopes to any of your neighbours who attend Mass in other Parishes. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION SERVICE with individual Confessions in St. Patrick's Church, Ballinamore on next **Sunday 21st December at 6.00 pm**.

AN EVENING OF CHRISTMAS SONG WITH JAMES KILBANE and the combined Church choirs of Ballyconnell and Kildallan in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Ballyconnell on **Thursday 18th December at 7.30 pm**. Tickets available from the Parish Office on 049-9526291 or from Anna on 086-7386650. Proceeds in aid of St. Brigid's Old Church.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT will take place in Knock Basilica on **Sunday 21st Dec. at 8.00 pm**. This joyous evening of festive music and well-known Christmas carols is the perfect way to begin your Christmas celebrations this year. Set in the candlelit surroundings of Knock Basilica, the evening will feature Schola Cantorum Basilicae and Knock Youth Choir. Musical accompaniment will be by the Con Tempo string quartet and pianist Mark Keane. The event is free of charge. No booking required. Watch online on www.knockshrine.ie

KILMORE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2026: It will take place from **5th – 10th May** flying from Knock. Book with Cavan Travel, Main St. Cavan on 049-4361222 & for Assisted Pilgrims with Fr. Tom Mannion, Pilgrimage Director, Ballinaglera on 087-9170879.

FOURTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT —'Christmas at the Mill' in the Corn Mill Theatre—**Fri. 19th Dec. at 8.00 pm**. A night of Festive Music & Song with mulled wine served! Top local Singers and Musicians performing Christmas songs and modern up-to-date songs. The proceeds are in aid of Cuan Cancer Support Charity and Dogs for the Disabled. Your support is appreciated. Booking: 087-2570363 and email: bookings@cornmilltheatre.com

LEITRIM GUARDIAN available locally in all shops. Many Carrigallen Writers and Poets. Two of the top awards have been won by Dave Kelly (*Literary Award*) and Frank Murray (*Poetry Award*) and. Top stories and poems from Kevin Mc Manus, Gerry Mangan and Kevin Patrick. Maura Williamson & Becky Thomas both have articles on Margaret of New Orleans. Aisling Rawle and Andy Mel Mc Govern featured. Liam Fahy on photos. You can also receive it by post at 071-9643035 or online at www.leitrimguardian.ie

VEHICLE RUN: Carrigallen Macra Club are holding their Annual Vehicle Run on **Sunday 28th December 2025**. This year it is run to honour the memory of Dessie O'Kelly R.I.P. Registration takes place at Carrigallen Mart from **10.00 am to 11.45 am** with the run commencing from the Mart Car Park at **12 noon**. All proceeds going to Community Funds. €20 per vehicle. Draw prior to departure. Your support will be very much appreciated.

DRUMREILLY ACTIVE AGE GROUP: We meet on **Wed's at 8.30 pm** in the Community Centre. Many activities, outings etc... Refreshments served. New members very welcome.

PARISH BINGO in Drumreilly Community Centre on **Friday nights** and in Carrigallen Hall on **Sunday nights at 8.30 pm sharp** in both venues. Usual prizes and raffles. Please support.

COFFEE CONNECT CONVERSATION - Everyone welcome. It happens in Margaret's Corner C.C., Carrigallen on a **Thursday from 11am -12 noon** -This a FREE of charge event.

MEN'S WALK & TALK GROUP meet on **Friday evenings at 7.30 pm** in Carrigallen G.A.A. Park. Lovely easy social walks at a slow pace whilst getting in some exercise.

CARRIGALLEN GAA CLUB LOTTO DRAW: Regular weekly Draw is held on Sundays in the Clubrooms. This week's Jackpot is **€3,300**. 4 lucky dip prizes of **€50** if not won. Extra prize for holders of "weekly recurring tickets". Click on "Automatically Renew Purchase" at checkout. **Tickets from local vendors or <https://member.clubspot.app/c.../carrigallen-gaa/fundraisers>** We also now have a Monthly 50/50 Draw. Next Draw will be held on **Sunday 28th December** in the Kilbracken Arms Hotel at 8.00 pm. See our social media pages for details.

CARRIGALLEN VOCATIONAL SCHOOL have a vacancy for a School Transport Escort. Application form and further details available on www.msletb.ie

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL APPEAL FOR CARRIGALLEN/DRUMEELA/AUGHAVAS:

At this time of year the Saint Vincent De Paul volunteers are busy responding to calls especially now with the high cost of food & fuel. The SVP Christmas appeal for funds has now begun so that people in need of help can be visited before Christmas. You can contribute to Saint Vincent de Paul by placing your donation in one of the SVP envelopes available in any of the churches from **this weekend** & then put it into the steel box in the front porch. If your household budget won't see you through Christmas, don't suffer in silence; please call us on the number below, we are there to help. If you don't live locally & would like to help financially, please contact our confidential number 087-6024223. Thank you.

POSITIVE AND PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR CARERS of family members with dementia at The Landmark Hotel, Carrick-on-Shannon every **Tuesday until 16th Dec. from 7.00 - 9.30 pm**. For queries e-mail: familycarertraining@alzheimer.ie or call 1800-341-341.

THE COMMUNITY CONNECT PROJECT SURVEY aims to gain a deeper understanding of how local communities and groups are experiencing and responding to new arrivals, including those in the International Protection system and individuals with refugee status. Identify the challenges, opportunities, and supports needed to help communities remain inclusive and connected. Gather insights that will guide future supports, resources, and training for community groups across the county. The survey takes approximately 10–15 minutes to complete. All responses are confidential and will be used solely for community development and planning. You can take part in one of two ways: Online: Leitrim Development Co., or by post: Leitrim Development Co. Church St, Drumshanbo. Your feedback is very valuable & will help shape future supports and initiatives for Leitrim communities. For more information, please contact: Ckavanagh@ldco.ie

Feast Days / Memorials during the Coming Week (15th Dec. – 20th Dec.)

- Mon.** – St. Maria di Rosa. 19th Century Italian nun. Founded the Handmaids of Charity.
- Tue.** – St. Adelaide of Burgundy. 10th Century Roman Empress and Monastery founder.
- Wed.** – St. Begga of Ardenne. 7th Century Belgian Nun and Monastic Leader.
- Thurs.** – St. Flannan of Killaloe. 7th Century Monk. Known as an outstanding preacher.
- Fri.** – St. Fausta of Serbia. 3rd Century Martyr. Mother of St. Anastacia.
- Sat.** – St. Fachanan of Kilfenora. 6th Century Monastery founder.

Phone Numbers: Fr. John Mc Mahon [433 9610](tel:4339610) / *Mob.* [086-2126582](tel:0862126582).

Parish Cluster: Fr. Seán Mawn, Ballinamore [071-9644039](tel:0719644039) or [087-6869040](tel:0876869040); Fr. Malachy Moses C.C. Ballinamore [087-4904380](tel:0874904380); Fr. Andrew Tully, Killeshandra [049-4334179](tel:0494334179) or [086-8050526](tel:0868050526); Fr. Peter Tiernan, Cloone/Aughavas [071-9636016](tel:0719636016) or [086-3500114](tel:0863500114).

Parish Website: www.carrigallenparish.ie The Parish Newsletter is uploaded to the site each weekend & you will also find a link to the daily livestreamed Masses from Carrigallen.

FACEBOOK: Parish of Carrigallen, Drumeela and Drumreilly.

Parish Newsletter: It promotes Church & Community events. Articles must state author's name & phone number & can be written into one of the church diaries before **5.00 pm on Wed.** or emailed to carrigallen@kilmorediocese.ie by **12 noon on Fri.** Editors reserve the right to omit or amend articles.

Parish Newsletter

St. Mary's Parish

Carrigallen – Drumeela – Drumreilly

14th Dec. 2025 – Third Sunday of Advent - Year A

(GAUDETE SUNDAY / BAMBINELLI SUNDAY)

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In today's Gospel (Matt. 11: 2-11) we hear that John the Baptist is in prison and he sends his disciples to ask Jesus, "**Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else ?**" This is the same John who witnessed the Spirit descend on Jesus. Yet now in a prison cell feeling isolated and disappointed, he wrestles with uncertainty. His doubt does *not* disqualify his faith; it reveals it.

Doubt is often not the absence of belief but the search for clarity from within hardship. Jesus tells John's disciples: "**Go and tell John what you hear and see.**" The blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised and the poor receive good news.

Jesus honours John even in his weakness by turning to the crowd and praising him by saying that John was more than a prophet. He was a messenger preparing the way and no one yet born was greater than him. John is great not because of power or status, he has neither, but because of faithfulness to his calling.

Jesus teaches that even the "least" in the kingdom shares in a reality greater than John's prophetic role. God lifts the humble, honours the overlooked and measures greatness differently from the world.

Prayer for the Week: *Lord Jesus, like John, we sometimes struggle to understand Your ways. When we face our own prisons of fear, confusion, or disappointment, help us bring our questions to You. Open our eyes to the quiet miracles around us and shape our hearts to receive Your kingdom with humility and hope. Amen.*