Ballineaspaig Parish Bulletin Parish Office: (021) 4344452 Parish E-Mail: holyspiritparishcork@gmail.com Parish Web Site: www.dennehyscrossparish.ie



MASS TIMES

Sunday 9.00, 10.30, 12.15 Saturday Vigil 6.15pm Weekdays 9.30am Eve of Holydays 7.30pm Holydays 9.00, 10.30 & 7.30pm

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God's Word

Readings for **Sunday 5th April , 2020 First Reading:** Is 50: 4-7 **Psalm:** 21 **Second Reading:** Phil 2: 6-11 **Gospel:** Mt 26: 14-27: 66

PARISH BULLETIN

The Parish Bulletin is available <u>weekly</u> on the Parish Website: _or can be e-mailed by forwarding your e-mail address to the Parish Office.



PLEASE NOTE NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS holyspiritparishcork@gmail.com

5th Sunday Lent Bulletin No: 1436

Sorry, due to the Coronavirus restrictions, there will be no Masses until further notice. Thank you.

In light of the present situation, Mass will be available from our Church at <u>10.30am on Sunday, 29th March, 2020</u> via the following link.

https://servicestream.ie/dennehys-cross/

In Jerusalem, the occupying Roman administration together with the Jewish religious establishment regarded Jesus a dangerous rabble rouser who needed to be removed from the scene. So Jesus was really a man on the run. So like many other such men, he needed a safe house when he came up to town from Galilee. His friend Lazarus, together with Martha and Mary provided such a haven where he could rest and be restored in body and spirit and in safety. So, when Lazarus got seriously ill, the frightened sisters sent for their friend Jesus to come urgently. He did not come immediately.



Martha was furious and told Jesus so when he did come after the brother's death. In her book Jesus had failed the basic test of friendship to respond when needed. Despite this failure, the friendship was vibrant enough to facilitate Martha's growth in faith.

Friendship was never more important and powerful than today. As news bulletins permutate our daily routine, fear ebbs and flows. Many find the uncertainty unnerving. While some fears are necessary for our own protection, other fears are disturbing and irrational. Fear can be like a virus that seeps into our hearts, a virus that can undermine our emotional well being. There is no vaccine to prevent fear, but there is an antidote to reduce its power and even eliminate it temporarily, at least. That antidote is friendship.

The seed of friendship is often sown almost accidentally between schoolmates, teammates, neighbours, colleagues, even casual acquaintances. This seed is attractive goodness in one person reaching out to another and evoking a positive response. It grows into a relationship that blossoms through the expression of shared values, of care, contact, appreciation, forgiveness and lifestyle. Friendship is experienced, nurtured and enjoyed rather than explained and evaluated.

The shared friendship of Jesus and the trio at Bethany stood the four of them well. Human friendship is a key strand in our friendship with God. He comes to us through one another. Both friendships are invaluable to each of us at this time. Treasure, enjoy and nurture them both now.

Fr. Tom Clancy

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