

# Ballineaspig Parish Bulletin



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## PARISH BULLETIN

The Parish Bulletin is available weekly on the Parish Website, or can be emailed by forwarding your email address to the Parish Office.



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## GOD'S WORD

### Readings for Sunday

1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Is 25: 6-10

Psalm 22

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

Phil 4: 12-14, 19-20

Gospel Mt: 22 1-10



## The Experience of Togetherness

We live in challenging and rapidly changing times. Present uncertainties have awakened a deeper awareness within us of how interdependent we are, not only for our safety and security but also for our everyday fulfilment. Indeed, a huge loss just now is our inability to have real communal celebrations at life changing moments like births, birthdays, weddings and deaths. At such heart wrenching times we need each other practically and emotionally. On such occasions even our simplest gestures of individual or communal support enable us to experience the reassurance that we will never walk alone, hopefully.

This weekend's psalm 22 "**The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want**" echoes that reassurance that God's loving care is always there for us. Of course this loving care from the Father comes to us through each other. We are the donors and the recipients of this treasured gift.

Receiving God's care ourselves through the kindness of others reassures us that we are all God's children and binds us together as brothers and sisters in hope.

Bringing God's care to our sisters and brothers is a privileged invitation that may need sensitivity, generosity and courage. It brings its own reward. It is an invitation whose rejection brings its own loss (Sunday's Gospel).

You're  
Invited

However, such life giving togetherness is endangered by the lone ranger streak that can surface among us in the most unexpected situations. Alone or with some kindred spirits, like Frank Sinatra, we want "**To do it my way**". Just now, the consequences of such an approach can fuel a pandemic out of control.

A lone ranger may be the most talented, most famous, most powerful person around but is losing out on what makes us precious to each other and to God. To miss out on the experience of genuine caring togetherness is to be impoverished forever.

*The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want ...*

*He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.*

*If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. ...*

*You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort.*

*Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.*

Psalm 22

Fr. Tom Clancy