Ballineaspaig Parish Bulletin

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Weekend Masses will resume this weekend — 5th/6th December, 2020 . Vigil Mass - Sat. 5th at 6.15pm , Sunday: 9.00am, 10.30am and 12.15pm As before social distancing and restriction on numbers and the wearing of face masks will apply.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception - 8th December, 2020 - Mass Times
Vigil Mass—Mon. 7th December - 7.30pm
Feast Day - Tues. 8th December - 9.00am, 10.30am and 7.30pm

ST VINCENT DE PAUL - CHRISTMAS COLLECTION - At all Masses on the Weekend 12th / 13th December.

Diocesan Advent/Christmas Carol Service 2020

2020 continues to be a very challenging time in the pastoral life of parishes and a very difficult year for parish choirs and those involved in music ministry. At this time of the year, parishes would be preparing their own carol services during the season of Advent. However, this year these carol services will not be taking place due to ongoing restrictions and will be greatly missed by people and parishes and especially by choirs and their members. It is so important to keep our parishes and choirs connected through music and singing and in this context a Diocesan Advent/ Christmas Carol Service will take place on Sunday 13th December, 2020 at 7.30pm from the Cathedral of St. Mary and St. Anne. With the help of Church Services who have installed webcams in a number of churches in the Diocese, a small number of people drawn from the parish choirs throughout the Diocese will participate via their church webcam which will then be streamed into the Cathedral as part of the Carol Service. People throughout the Diocese, especially choir members, will be able to gather with their families to take part in the Carol Service from their own home. The order of service and words of the carols will be available for download from the Diocesan Website in advance.

2nd Sunday of Advent

6th December, 2010

Mark 1: 1-8

CO - DONORS WITH THE LORD

Parents are co—donors with the Lord in giving life. Together they cooperate in sharing this precious gift and through this sharing, the most basic relationships for living are forged. When we come to health and health care, the network of co-donors is much more widespread. In fact, during this pandemic, each one of us, individually and collectively, is given the opportunity to provide a protective guard to each other by embracing fully the prescribed guidelines. For some, the wearing of a mask is seen only as a burdensome restriction or at best a self protective barrier.

But it is much more. It can alert us again and again to our interdependence in God's plan for us. He not only loves us, but privileges us to be co-workers with Him in bringing His loving care to all who share this planet. Awareness of this privilege and living accordingly, not only enhances the living conditions of others, but brings us ever deepening inner peace. God never intends us to be self sufficient lone rangers, even successful ones. He wishes us to be active members of a network of vibrant little love communities that mirror the shared life of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in the Trinity.

Advent is a time to tune ourselves to the wonder of Jesus' coming among us as our brother, binding us together as one family. Strong voices like John the Baptist challenge our complacency in case we let the opportunity of this day slip by unnoticed.

The pending arrival of the welcome vaccines may shift the focus of our interdependence, but the homeless poor, the exiled refugees will still await respect and care from each of us. Let us not be found wanting.

Fr. Tom Clancy.