

Ballineaspig Parish Bulletin

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LIVE STREAM MASSES ARE NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH CHURCH SERVICES.

To locate our Church, enter Dennehy's on the "Find a Church Button".

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

Diocesan Advent/Christmas Carol Service 2020

A Diocesan Advent - Christmas Carol Service will be streamed from the Cathedral of St. Mary and St. Anne on **today Sunday 13th December at 7.30pm**. People from throughout the Diocese of Cork and Ross are invited to join in the Carol Service via the Cathedral webcam <https://www.corkcathedral.ie/live-stream/>. The words of the carols and full order of service can be downloaded from the Diocesan website www.corkandross.org beforehand.



3rd Sunday of Advent (A)

13th December, 2010

John 1:6-8,19-29

OPPORTUNE GIFTS

Gift giving has long been a prominent feature of Christmas celebrations. It mirrors what the core of Christmas is about when we are remembering the gift of Jesus from the Father to all of us, all members of His family.

Genuine gifts enrich friendships and nurture love. A gift can embody the memories, the sorrows and joys of the past, the care, gratitude and good wishes of the present, the hopes and the trust in the future. Gifts given to those who cannot return the kindness, like our homeless and our refugee orphaned children, are especially powerful. Your gift of a maternity Unit to our sister parish in Turkwel is an early Christmas blessing to the 14 babies already born there. Thanks again.

Christmas 2020 focuses our hearts and minds on potent gifts. Faithful mask wearing can gift protection to all we love and whose lives we touch. It can also be a witness of the respect we have for each other.

Our gifts can prepare a way for the Lord. They can attune our hearts to a deepening awareness of the treasure of love, human and divine. Kept simple, they can be bubbles of joyful goodness in a lonely grey world. They can enable us to realise our potential as witnesses to our generous God in whose image we are made. The perfect gift for the One who has everything is to give Him the love of each of our hearts. Am I ready to give such a gift?

A blessed Christmas to you and your loved ones.

Fr. Tom Clancy.

