

Ballineaspaig Parish Bulletin

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2nd Sunday Year B

17th January, 2021

Gospel John 1: 35:42

GOODWILL IN ACTION

In the midst of pandemic fears, loneliness, sickness, death and bereavements, new enriching relationships of respect, kindness, generosity, care and friendship have taken root and have begun to blossom and indeed, bear fruit.

In neighbourhoods, barriers of conventional politeness and imagined privacy have crumbled as we realise more and more that our independence is not nearly as crucial to our wellbeing as our interdependence, locally and globally. The reservoir of goodwill friendship must be continually topped up by fresh respondents putting their shoulders to the wheels of need each day. Each of us must listen and be alert to the opportunities to help that come our way as well as praying God's blessing on our creative goodwill leaders.

In the workplace, some long embedded restrictive work practices have yielded to the pressure of goodwill among work colleagues in the face of Covid 19 challenges. Critical working relationships are being enhanced now and for the future hopefully. This hope is underpinned by the realisation that our true nature is to share as sisters and brothers in life-giving relationship with one another, appreciating each one's God given uniqueness with its skills, talents, dedication and needs. Such an attitude of heart brings lifelong happiness even in times of difficulty and distress.

Each of us must be alert to our own attitudes and be sensitive to the daily invitations to service that comes our way. In Sunday's gospel, Peter's life call begins through his younger brother's invitation "**come and see.**"

Will I be willing to risk responding to God's call to me to live through love in His presence, no matter how the call comes?

Will my goodwill blossom into action?



Fr. Tom Clancy

