

# Ballineaspig Parish Bulletin

Parish Office: (021) 4344452

Parish E-Mail: [holyspiritparishcork@gmail.com](mailto:holyspiritparishcork@gmail.com)

Parish Web Site: [www.dennehscrossparish.ie](http://www.dennehscrossparish.ie)



Sunday 7th February, 2021

Mark 1: 29-36

## CHALLENGING CHOICES

The ongoing pandemic continues to offer us daily challenging choices as individuals, as families, as pods, as neighbours, as social or political networks or as worshipping communities. The choice is either to protect each other by embracing the restrictions generously or to endanger each other by indulging in self-centred rashness.



In this weekend's gospel, Jesus is faced with a similar choice. Earlier in the day, He had won great acceptance and approval in the prestigious urban synagogue of Capernaum. Later His healing miracles were leading to adulation from the crowd. His four recently arrived disciples were on a high and were thrilled to be the companions of such a high profile celebrity. Jesus had glimpsed that there was much more to His life than miracle working. His destiny was to bring a living presence of God and His love among us. He was to enrich hearts and change attitudes in society. So He slipped away in the early morning to a quiet place to pray to His Father, to allow Himself to be filled with the loving Spirit, reassuring Him that He was the beloved. Graced in this way, He was enabled to do everything the Father asked of Him, no matter what the cost.



In a similar way each of us is invited to allow ourselves to experience and recognise the true greatness God has in store for us, the destiny that awaits us each day if we choose to accept it. There is no limit to what God can achieve through us if we allow His power to blossom in our hearts.

With vaccines on the way, we must not falter now. Rather with a new normal evolving, we must always choose the option that builds up the presence of God's love in our hearts, our work places, our homes, our hospitals and our schools. A new normal of respect and love for all.

- What generous courageous options will God enable me to choose this coming week?
- When will I slip away to Him to allow Him nurture my heart?

**Fr. Tom Clancy**

### Dates for your Diary:

The following talks have been arranged for our Lenten Series 2021:

Tuesday 23rd February: Gerry Forde, *Integral Ecology in Laudato Si*

Tuesday 2nd March: Prof. Emer Rogan, *Whales and Dolphins in Irish Waters*

Tuesday 9th March: Denise Gabuzda, *Looking to the Future with Hope*

Tuesday 16th March: Ann Twomey, *Mary Elmes*

Each talk will take place at 8.00pm on Zoom. Full details in the Parish Bulletins nearer the time.

**Faith in Action Group**

### WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

On World Day of the Sick which is celebrated on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, Bishop Fintan will celebrate Mass in the Mercy University Hospital in prayer and solidarity with the sick and in thanksgiving for healthcare workers in hospitals, residential care facilities and homes throughout the Diocese. He is inviting people to join him virtually in the Mass on **Thursday, 11th February, 2021 at 12 noon.**

Arrangements for the live-streaming of the Mass from the Mercy Hospital will be available on the Diocesan Website and the Facebook page of *Cork and Ross Friends and Family in Faith* soon.