

Ballineaspaig Parish Bulletin

Parish Office: (021) 4344452

Parish E-Mail: holyspiritparishcork@gmail.com

Parish Web Site: www.dennehycrossparish.ie

5th Sunday Easter (B)

2nd May 2021

Gospel John 15: 1-8

Reopening; Hope; Seeds; Harvest.

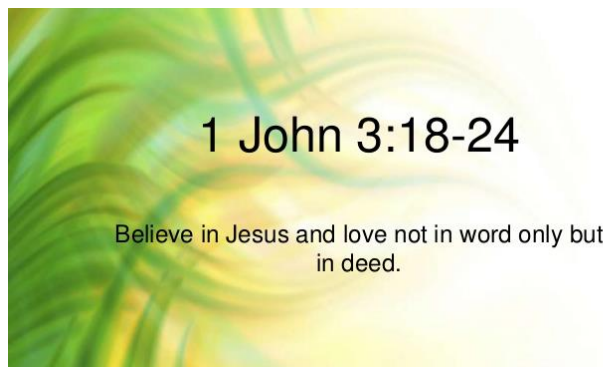
Seed planting is always a sign of hope. The hope is for germination, nurturing, maturing and then, harvesting. The beautiful weather coupled with the phased reopening of some facilities, underpins a rising wave of optimism that accompanies our planting surge. Optimism is the goodwill feeling that almost everything will be getting better. Such optimism is an essential component of human happiness. Another component is hope. Hope brings with it an extra determination to play a personal part in creating a new normal.

The COVID experience is changing each of us for better or worse. It may be consolidating our debilitating fears and our destructive selfishness. Or maybe, it is awakening us to the creative spirit of love that God has planted in each of our hearts.

“Our love is not to be just words or mere talk but something real and active” (2nd Reading)

COVID continues to release torrents of dedicated generosity and caring self-sacrifice. These unexpected experiences of love have sustained many families and communities during dark times. People have been surprised at the wells of goodness that they never realised they had within themselves nor even knew how fruitful their care initiatives could be when harnessed.

Such wonderful human resources must not be dissipated by trying to restore the old normal with its protection of our privileges. It is an exciting time to be alive when everyone has an opportunity to enhance the life of the whole community and that of the Church. Now is God's gift to each of us.



REOPEN your heart to goodness wherever you meet it.

PLANT your seeds of kindness wherever you go.

NURTURE your efforts through a daily prayer link with Jesus.

PRUNE the branches of your life that bear no lasting fruit for others or for yourself.

SHARE the harvest with those in need especially the homeless.

KEEP hope alive for the vulnerable, the crushed, the betrayed.

RISK loving generously and accept being loved tenderly and God will be with you. God is love.

Fr. Tom Clancy



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Seeds of Change

Growing your own fruit and vegetables, apart from the pleasure and satisfaction of producing fresh foods yourself, makes an important contribution to mitigating climate change by reducing air miles and energy consumption; while planting flowers and trees increases biodiversity, and encourages pollinators.

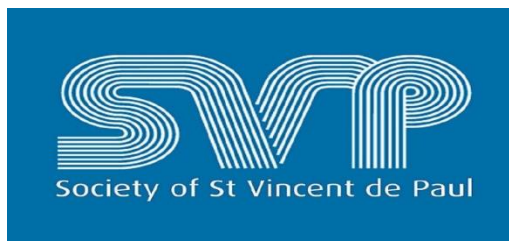
To promote local planting, in past years we distributed free, easy to grow seeds after the weekend Masses in early May. As this is not possible this year due to Covid, we urge you to combine instead with your family and/or neighbours and friends and each buy at least one packet of flower, vegetable or herb seeds which you can then swop amongst yourselves. (Most bought seed packets contain far more seeds than you need).

And bear in mind that we hope to hold our annual Harvest Festival again this September, and some of your produce will be welcome!

Here are some other ideas to increase biodiversity in your garden:

- Allow a section of your garden to grow wild or grow wildflowers.
- Let a range of native trees, hedges and shrubs thrive.
- Choose an assortment of plants that flower and fruit throughout the year.
- Provide a pile of rocks or logs to make a perfect home for insects.
- Hang a bird feeder.
- Include a pond, bird bath, or even just a container of water.
- Put up a nesting box.

Faith in Action Group



HELLO EVERYONE

SVP VAN IS COMING YOUR WAY

FRIDAY MAY 7TH FROM 7.30AM TO 3.30PM

DON'T MISS THE CHANCE TO DONATE TO SVP AND HELP US TO SUPPORT SOMEONE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

LOCATION: WILTON SHOPPING CENTRE (LIBRARY CARPARK)