

Ballineaspaig Parish Bulletin

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Autumn Dues

It is that time of the year again to invite you to contribute your Autumn Dues.

If you have not received a Dues envelope by post and would like to contribute, dues envelopes are now available at all the Church doors or from the Parish Office (weekdays).

Contributions can be dropped into the Parish Office, the Sacristy, either of the Priest's houses or with the Sunday collections.



These Are the Knees

All who are familiar with the Church of the Holy Spirit at Dennehy's Cross, will recognize the crucifix in the photograph. This carved rosewood crucifix was specially commissioned from a Kenyan artist to remind Ballineaspaig parishioners of our link to our sister parish of Turkwel in the Turkana desert. It was installed in the church sanctuary on Mission Sunday, 19th October, 2014.

It is a striking work which often attracts my gaze when I am at Mass. In particular I am intrigued by the knees of Jesus, which seem to be made from a different material and are of a different colour to the rest of the figure. Contemplating them has inspired the following reflection:

These are the knees Mary kissed better when Jesus tumbled as all children do.

These are the knees that sat at table with the bride and groom at Cana, with Martha, Mary and Lazarus in their Bethany home, with Pharisees, sinners and tax-collectors, with his disciples during their many meals together including their last, and with Mary and Cleopas her husband in Emmaus.

These knees touched the ground when Jesus conversed with the children face to face, washed his disciples' feet, and prayed to his father in Gethsemane.

These knees carried Jesus on foot by boat to synagogue and Temple to Jericho, Jerusalem, and Capernaum.

These knees bent when Jesus sat down - on a mountain or in a synagogue to preach,

In a boat by the lake to speak in parables, opposite the treasury to observe the widow's mite, by the well where the Samaritan woman would give him water.

Before these knees many fell in supplication or thanksgiving: Jairus, Zebedee's wife, The Canaanite mother, And the Samaritan leper.

These knees relaxed in sleep in a storm-tossed boat.

These knees bent to mount and ride a donkey into Jerusalem.

Before these knees the soldiers knelt and mocked, saying, "Hail King of the Jews!"

These are the knees battered and bruised from falls on the Calvary road.

These are the knees his mother touched lovingly, as Jesus was laid in a borrowed tomb.

These are the knees

Rosalie Moloney, Faith in Action Group