Ballineaspaig Parish Bulletin

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Bulletin 05/12/2021 Second Sunday of Advent

Feast of the Immaculate Conception - Wednesday 8th December, 2021

Mass Times: Vigil on the 7th December at 7.30pm

Feast Day: 8th December at 9.00am, 10.30am and 7.30pm

MASS TIMES

Sunday

9.00, 10.30, 12.15 Saturday Vigil 6.15pm

Weekdays

9.30am

Eve of Holydays

7.30pm

Holydays

9.00, 10.30 & 7.30pm

CONTACT DETAILS

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Parish Office

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Emergency Number: 087-251 9940

Active Retirement Group



Next meeting scheduled for the 9th December is now cancelled.

Hope to see ye all in the New Year.



In preparation for Christmas, a short Service "Waiting in Hope" will take place in our Church on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>12th December</u>, <u>2021 at 5.00pm</u>, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The Service will be live-streamed on Webcam.

The Green School – a report from Mount Mercy College



Theresa Sebastian and Dania Salim, Green School Committee

Mount Mercy College has a long tradition of being actively engaged in Green Schools. We have achieved Six Green School Flags to date. These include the Litter and Waste, Energy, Water, Travel, Biodiversity and Global Citizenship Litter and Waste Flags. We have done a lot of hard work throughout the past few years. These are just a few examples:

In September 2018 we updated labels on bins in each classroom. Laminated labels with appropriate information regarding what can be put in each bin were stuck onto the recycling and waste bin. This was a small project but was very effective as students often are unsure of what to put in which bin. In February 2020 TY students created a YouTube video explaining clearly what goes into each classroom bin. This was shown to the whole school community, which was a really effective way of communicating how small actions can make big differences to our environment. A marked improvement in segregating waste across the school was noted following this campaign.

In September 2019 a ban on plastic bottles was introduced. A study showed that students were happy to come on board with the ban and are bringing their own sustainable bottles to school. Members of the Green School voiced concerns that the school vending machines still stocked plastic bottles. They suggested that cans of water should be used instead and investment in more water fountains would be more sustainable. These suggestions resulted in water bottles being replaced with cans and more water fountains were installed.

Last year the Biodiversity Patch was re-sown with wide flowers and transition year students' creativity painted the surrounding wall so it now stands out for everyone to see.

In May 2020 we were delighted to not just achieve the 6th flag for "Global Citizenship Litter and Waste" but also to be awarded the Regional winner as well. This is an achievement we are very proud of.

We were unable to commence many meetings last year due to restrictions but hope to recommence meetings in the coming months. My own TY class is doing a module of Environmental Social Studies. We recently completed posters in groups of three on the factors that affect climate change, for example how transportation of goods affects the climate.

We hope that during the coming months we can continue to raise awareness of how small actions can make a positive difference to the environment.

I write this on behalf of my peers in the Green School Committee and hope this gives an insight to what Mount Mercy is doing and has done for the Green School.

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Kind Regards Zahra Baig