Ballineaspaig Parish Bulletin

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Bulletin 25th June, 2023 12th Sunday Ordinary time

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil 6.15pm

Sunday 9.00 and 11.00 am

Weekdays:Mon-Fri 9.30am Saturdays: 10 am

Holydays
As announced.

CONTACT DETAILS

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Fear itself

It was Franklin D Roosevelt on his inaugural day in 1933 as President of USA who said that 'the only thing we have to fear, is fear itself - nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyses needed efforts to convert retreat into advance'. It was the middle of the Great Depression, where people's savings were destroyed, industries and agriculture ground to a halt, the stock market collapsed and there was wholesale starvation and unemployment. People were given licence to beg! Fear paralysed the land. So the new president did something extraordinary; he declared a day of national consecration invoking divine guidance. He felt it necessary to consecrate his country to God because of his people's fears. What a moment to do this, what contrast to today's anodyne phrases by world leaders invoking so little. Because, while the 'Great' depression might be gone, so many other depressions have replaced it, so many fears still accompany people through life. There appears to be nobody consecrating any people or country to God; a lot of self-help, yoga, mindfulness, yes, but no sense of lifting an entire group of people or nation to a divine source.

The prophet Jeremiah sensed 'terror from every side'....but 'the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero.' He probes the depths of people's being, he knows every hair on our head. The perfect source to which we could lift up our lives from fear is a deep love which even embraces suffering. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul, so the gospel says; fear can never paralyse us, we are worth much more than all the creatures of the earth which are clothed so wonderfully. The real fear is loss of soul, and our souls. Our souls need nourishing, they need prayer, contemplation, they need purity of heart, language, motive .Our world will not supply this, although it may give temporary sources of satisfaction and enjoyment. Our world will never give us that sense of self-worth or inner contentment that the soul desires.

During the Summer months, many people go in search of that very contentment; a retreat, a day of reflection, a Camino walk. It could be a combination of things that give us peace. We can take little steps to build up our own reserves to give our heads peace and, by doing so, refresh our souls as well. We might also be able to face our fears, put a name on them, and not to be afraid of them. Like that American president, we might begin to see that that there is nothing wrong with being afraid, as long as we know it can never conquer our spirit or overwhelm our souls.



Fr. Donal

Collections:

17th/18th June Offertory:

<u>€1646</u>

Shrines: €350

PARISH BULLETIN

The Parish Bulletin is available weekly on the Parish Website: or can be e-mailed by forwarding your e-mail address to the Parish Office.



PARISH NOTICES

Peter's Pence:

The annual collection for Peter's Pence will be taken up at all Masses this weekend, 24th/25th June, 2023.

St. Vincent de Paul:

July collection will take place on weekend - 8th/9th July

Dennehy's Cross Active Retirement Group - "Reminder"

Summer lunch in the Model Farm on Thursday, 29th June at 12.15pm. <u>This event is now fully booked out.</u> Happy holidays to all!

Considering the Priesthood:

Sunday, 2nd July, 2023 at Mardyke House (T12W8RP) - "Come and See".

Cork Alzheimers Café:

Last Friday of each month from 11am to 12.30pm in St. Finbarrs Hospital Activity Centre, Douglas Rd. Cork.

Mass Intentions for week commencing 24th June to the 1st July, 2023

Saturday, 24th June 6.15pm - Mary & John Draddy Sunday, 25th June 9.00am - Jack & Eily Murphy 11.00am -Breffni O'Sullivan Monday, 26th June 9.30am -Cecilia McKenna Tuesday, 27th June 9.30am -Fr. Kieran Twomey Friday, 30th June 9.30am -Mairead Waldron Saturday, 1st July 10.00am -May Hurley.