

## Ballineaspig Parish Bulletin

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Parish APP: link <https://app.dennehycrossparish.ie>



Bulletin 16th July  
2023  
15th 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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Fr. Tom Clancy  
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Deacon :

Rev. Frank McKevitt

Parish Office  
(021) 4344452

Emergency Number:  
087-251 9940

### Collections:

8th/9th July

Offertory:

€1672

Shrines:

€380

### 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.



### The Struggle

I used to teach English Literature in Secondary School; Poetry being one of the important elements of that teaching. You should go through the structure, how it is shaped, how it develops, how the language is formed, but you should resist trying to explain the poem. Instead, a teacher is meant to encourage the experience of the student when the poem is read, what it sounds like to you, how it speaks to you. It is possible the teacher might plant an idea in the student; an image, a word...this could then lead to more words or ideas and a sharing might take place. If it seems like a long, complicated poem, you might go a stage further and explore the struggle of the poet to express what he or she is trying to say or how to express a deep feeling from within in the new creation which is this poem. This struggle could be played out in those few words like a play or some drama. And the experience of seeing that struggle gives us an insight into the poet and how the poem can express all this.

This weekend we have the story of the struggle of a seed. The sower goes out with it but it ends up all over the place: in thorns, stony ground, pathways with no moisture. It is almost by chance it lands on fertile ground and yields a harvest beyond all previous records. In the shortened version of the gospel that is read, the story or parable ( a story containing a moral or message) is just read out on its own; the longer version, containing Jesus' explanation is not given. Like the poem at school, we might be asked ourselves what it means to us, what idea is planted in our own minds. Are we like the sower, struggling to do the job of sowing? Are we the soil? What seed are we trying to sow? Is it like our own struggle in life to express ourselves, to form our own thoughts, to make sense of what is within us? Is there a message we can take away from it?

Maybe the answer is to have patience. Maybe the sower is someone who fails over and over again to plant properly, that the thorns, stony ground, pathways are a sign of previous efforts that seem to have failed. But with patience and getting to know yourself and what you are trying to do, you will hit the 'rich soil' in the end, you will find yourself. You might even discover they were not failures at all but part of the struggle of an inner journey of faith and hope and trust will be worth it all. God who sows the seed knows what it means to plant his word in different people in different situations. It all takes time. God will wait for us.

Fr. Donal



### PARISH NOTICES

#### Diocesan Needs:

The last Diocesan Needs Quarterly Collection in April amounted to €51,018 throughout the Diocese, which is much appreciated. The next quarterly collection will take place **this weekend of 15th/16th July**. This quarterly collection allows the Diocese to provide ongoing supports to parishes in many areas. It contributes to the day-to-day running costs of the Diocese. People continue to be very generous to these quarterly collections over the years and your support would be greatly appreciated this weekend.

### Tax Certificates

Many of you have returned the Tax Certificate which was recently issued to you and which must be updated every 4 years in order for the Parish to benefit from the Tax Return Scheme on your offerings. If you have not yet returned the completed Form, we should be very much obliged if you would return same to the Parish Office as soon as possible. Many thanks.

### Mass Intentions for week commencing 15th July to the 22nd July, 2023

Saturday, 15th July	-	6.15pm	-	Noreen Keating
Sunday, 16th July	-	11.00am	-	John Clifford
Monday, 17th July	-	9.30am	-	Michael Murphy
Wednesday, 19th July	-	9.30am	-	Mass of Thanksgiving
Friday, 21st July	-	9.30am	-	Theresa Lyne