

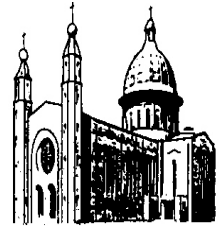
Ballineaspig Parish Bulletin

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Parish Web Site: www.dennehycrossparish.ie

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



**Bulletin 10th
December, 2023
2nd Sunday of
Advent**

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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087-251 9940

Clearing Mist

The Mist of Advent begins to clear. Last week, there was so much waiting, exhausting the chosen people and wondering why they had to wait so long, with so many obstacles. Waiting for anything can be frustrating, even for the most ordinary of things: a parking space, a bus, traffic queue. This weekend we see that this waiting is different, it has to do with a Promise, and this promise is with a face and a voice appears through the mist, in the wilderness. This man, John, has no high office, no official role in society; some people might even have the idea that he was rebel against his own family, his father being a priest of the temple, living an alternative lifestyle. He has a huge following, he is 'more famous than Jesus'. Why was this so?

It appears from the stories of the prophecies that God has been silent. There were in fact no prophets, only an echo of previous voices. People are hungry again for a sign or a sound. They get both from this man; more than this, he is living his own message. Here is no echo but a new voice and a new man, in the clearing of the mist. The message is loud ...'Repent'....the Greek word is Metanoia....change your mind.....and then the key words..' the kingdom of heaven is near'. This answers last week's question Why must we stay awake? Or be ready? The answer, the time is near at hand. And this preparation is new....not beating yourself up over sins...but change your mind... open your heart....come to the water. What we now know as Baptism becomes the new way to the kingdom and the new voice of God. This man John is entrusted with the last of the Prophets' messages, he will, in fact be referred in the future as 'the last and greatest of the Prophets'.

And the people responded; they confessed their sins and resolved to change their minds and their lives. It will be a new beginning for them. Most of all, and very importantly, John will make clear that he is not the One, he is the Voice. The man who was more famous than Jesus will go further and further into the background...'he must increase and I must decrease'.

This voice, this man, breaks through the mist and begins the story of the promise being fulfilled after all the years of silence of God. Perhaps God has been silent for you in your life, maybe you will hear his voice again....change your mind...open your heart...come to the water of life.

Fr. Donal



Collections:
2nd/3rd December
Offertory:
€1881
Shrines:
€305

PARISH NOTICES:

St. Vincent de Paul - Christmas collection:

Christmas church door collection this weekend at all Masses.

Reconciliation Service:

On next Sunday, 17th December, at 5.00pm followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Weekly Collection Envelopes 2024:

Please collect your box, as soon as possible, so that they can be used for the first weekend in January 2024.

Ministers of the Word:

We are seeking new Ministers to proclaim God's Word at the weekend Masses. In particular we are short 2 Ministers for the 6.15pm Vigil and 3 for the 9.00am Mass. Thank you.

Parish APP:

Check out our App - link above—to learn 8 astounding facts about Our Lady of Guadalupe, whose feast day is December 12th.

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.



Mass Intentions for Week 9th to the 16th December, 2023

Saturday, 9th December - 6.15pm - (1)Denis & Derek Kiely, (2) Siobhan Dunne (3) Deirdre O'Donoghue
Sunday, 10th December - 9.00am - (1) Judy Dillon, (2) Tony Canty (3) Jim Irwin
- 11.00am - (1)Hannah & Daniel Jones, (2) Kathleen Newsome
Monday, 11th December - 9.30am - Gerry Newman.
Tuesday, 12th December - 9.30am - (1) Kay O'Shea, (2) Bridie Ranshaw (3) Pad Desmond
Wednesday, 13th December - 9.30am - Pad Joe Murphy
Thursday, 14th December - 9.30am - Mary Kenneally
Friday, 15th December - 9.30am - Mary Kenneally