

Ballineaspaig Parish Bulletin



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**Bulletin 3rd
December, 2023
First 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

Fr. Donal Cotter

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Parish Office

(021) 4344452

Emergency Number:

087-251 9940

Collections:

25th/26th

November

Offertory:

€1861

Shrines:

€425

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.



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Down all the Years

Shane Mac Gowen, who died this weekend, had a sad life in many ways, especially affecting his health, but he was a great poet and songwriter. One of his best songs was A Rainy Night in Soho, with these opening lines:

*I've been loving you a long time
Down all the years, down all the days
And I've cried for all your troubles
Smiled at your funny little ways.*

It is, like many songs, about a relationship. The first Reading from Isaiah is about a relationship with funny and not so funny little ways. It is exhausting, frustrating, lost at times...with God who seems very far away. The people are waiting for a sign but they cannot find it...a sign even to say 'God is here', the effort to find themselves is wearing them out, every time they look the sign is lost in the mist. What helps them to cope is they begin to remember things, down all the days, all the years, everything they had failed to do, every misery that they endured:

'You hid your face from us'

But then they remembered something else:

'you are our Father; we are the clay, you the potter, we are the work of your hand'

God was not far away at all, all the time perhaps smiling at their funny little ways

Advent is like a mist gradually revealing a voice, a face, a smile from all the loving that we have a long time down all the days, all the years.

Until next week.

Fr. Donal



St. Vincent de Paul - Christmas Collection

Please note that the Christmas Church Door collection will take place on the weekend of the **9th/10th December, 2024**.

PARISH NOTICES:

Weekly Collection Envelopes 2024:

The 2024 weekly collection envelopes are now available for collection from the Sacristy before and after all the daily Masses and weekend Masses. **Please collect your box**, as soon as possible, so that they can be used for the first weekend in January 2024. (Knowing your box number would be a great help to the distributors !!).

Mass Intentions for Week 2nd to the 9th December, 2023

Saturday, 2nd December	- 6.15pm	- Edward Quinn
Sunday, 3rd December	- 9.00am	- Frank Moloney
	- 11.00am	- (1)Michael Sheehan, (2) Maria Jose Alonso Fiano (3) Maureen & Jack Riordan
Monday, 4th December	- 9.30am	- Special Intention.
Wednesday, 6th December	- 9.30am	- Jimmy Cotter
Thursday, 7th December	- 9.30am	- Jane O'Higgins
Friday, 8th December	- 9.30am	- Mary McCarthy
	- 11.00am	- Axson Family