

Ballineaspig Parish Bulletin

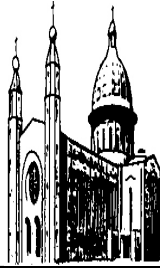
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CONTACT DETAILS:

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Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil: 6.15pm : **Sunday:** 9.00am & 11.00am **Weekdays:** Mon- Fri. 9.30

Saturdays: 10.00am **Holydays:** As Announced

Bulletin 21st April, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Collection: 13th/14th April, 2024

Offertory: €1861 **Shrines:** €365

Diocesan Needs collection at all Masses this weekend April 20th/21st

First Holy Communion

Next Saturday, **27th April**, the girls from St. Catherine's School will receive their First Holy Communion at 11.00am here in the Church. Please note that **there will be no 10.00am Mass that morning.**

Creation Matters - "Seed Sunday" 2024

After Masses next weekend, 27th/28th April, we invite you to take home **free** seeds of easy to grow vegetables, herbs and native Irish wildflowers. You will be invited to bring some of your home-grown produce to a special Harvest Thanksgiving Mass and Bring and Buy even in September. **Faith in Action Group**

Earth Day - Monday 22nd April, 2024

Earth day is celebrated on the 22nd April each year across the world as a day of education and reflection about environmental issues. This year, as our environmental crisis deepens, we invite you to mark the day by lighting a candle at noon and reciting Pope Francis' Prayer for our Earth (Laudato Si, page 121). You can access the prayer on our parish website www.dennehyscrossparish.ie or on <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/prayer-resources/prayer-for-our-earth>. Faith in Action Group

Dennehy's Cross Active Retirement Group

Next meeting on next **Thursday, 25th April** in the Crypt from 10.00am to 12 noon.

Check the Parish App above for "The Acts of the Apostles"

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK 20th to the 27th April, 2024

Saturday, 20th April - 6.15pm - (1) Connie, Kitty & Claire Healy, Carmel & Tony Hurley
(2) Ted O'Donnell

Sunday, 21st April - 11.00am - (1) Dan Joe O'Driscoll, (2) Fr Sank & Mgt. Buttimer
(3) Beryl Lennon

Monday, 22nd April - 9.30am - Anecito Tomanda Snr., Ramon & Marceline Tomanda

Tuesday, 23rd April - 9.30am - Liam O'Driscoll

Wednesday, 24th April - 9.30am - Frances Hegarty

Thursday, 25th April - 9.30am - Alice & Tim Kelliher

Friday, 26th April - 9.30am - Richard Buckley

What we are to be in the future

The Second Reading from the First Letter of John says:

"We are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed. All we know is, we shall be like him for we shall see him as He really is".

Today, in the middle of Easter, we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday, and we are asked to think of our priesthood. We hardly know our Church in the last few years, and we are not sure of the future. It is all in the mind of God.

One of the most popular images of caring and protecting is of the shepherd; wandering with the flocks, sometimes in thousands, wherever they went. The strange thing was; sheep have very poor eyesight, yet the shepherd kept following. They are very focussed, these wandering figures, anxious for their care to the point they almost surrender their lives to keep them safe. They are outsiders and people were occasionally hostile to them because they wandered into private land according as the seasons changed. It seemed their own lives mattered less than the sheep.

When Jesus used this image to identify himself, there was already a tradition of shepherding. It was while he was out in the fields that the young boy David, almost forgotten, was chosen to be King. In the Book of Samuel, David himself describes how he had to fight away wild animals from taking his flock. Much later on, we note Patrick tended sheep in the Mourne Mountains, although not by choice. Interestingly he says it was the place he discovered his own faith. In his life and death, Jesus sought out the lost and the forgotten: the story of the one lost sheep. He searches until a find has been made.

Perhaps this might serve as a sign for now, with our 'lost' vocations to the priesthood. These vocations are probably there but 'lost' in the present moment of life. Jesus the Good Shepherd will search with us until a find has been made. There are two other losses we might ourselves help to restore: the loss of the language of faith and Godly things in the conversations of life; and the loss of community of support for those who might be open to a calling as a new shepherd. What are to be in the future may depend on this.



Fr .Donal

Thinking about the Diocesan Priesthood

There is a special "Come and See" afternoon for men aged between 18 and 40 who may be thinking about Priesthood for the Diocese of Cork and Ross from 2pm to 5pm on **Sunday April 28th** in Mardyke House, Cork (T12W8RP). For more information email: vocations@corkandross.org