

## 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 9th February, 2025**

**5th Sunday Ordinary Time**

**Offertory**: 02/02/25 - €2371

**Shrines**: 02/02/25 - €550

### Lourdes Pilgrimage Annual collection:

**At all Masses this weekend, 8th/9th February, 2025**

### Confirmation 2025

Next Tuesday, **11th February**, the girls from St. Catherine's School will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from Emeritus Bishop John Buckley at 10.30am. Please note that **there will be no 9.30am Mass that morning.**

### FAIRBRUARY 2025

To celebrate FAIRBRUARY 2025, you are invited for free Fairtrade refreshments (teas, coffees, cakes and bakes) in the Crypt after the 11.00am Mass today, Sunday

### Children's St. Valentine's Day Party

On Saturday, 15th February, from 1pm to 3pm in the Sacred Heart Church Hall. Join us for crafts, games, sweets and more ! Mass at 12 noon followed by Adoration in the Sacred Heart church. RSVP by email to: [wolfamanda96@gmail.com](mailto:wolfamanda96@gmail.com). Children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian at all times.

Mass for the sick with anointing - Sunday 23rd February at 3.00pm in the Sacred Heart Hall to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes (World Day of the Sick).

**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.

**Check the Parish App for the prophet Isaiah.**

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK - 8th February to the 15th February, 2025

**Saturday, 8th February - 6.15pm - (1)Kathleen O'Sullivan (2)Michael & Martin Studdert (3)Billy Looney (4)Jim Keating (5) Sean Herrick**

**Sunday, 9th February - 9.00am - Pat Buttimer**

**11.00am - (1) Eileen Moore (2)Delia Dillon (3)Jerry & Ml.O'Driscoll**

**Monday, 10th February - 9.30am - Joan O'Shea**

**Wednesday, 12th February - 9.30am - Timothy O'Riordan**

**Thursday, 13th February - 9.30am - Dolores O'Regan**

### Boats

For an island nation we Irish have a complicated history with boats and the sea. It's only in fairly recent years that we have a flourishing fishing industry; we have only a modest merchant and defence navy. During the Potato Famine the worst hit places were by the coast, with absolutely no evidence that fishing came to the rescue of a starving population. When I was stationed in Skibbereen and Baltimore historians there will tell you that there was no sense of enterprise among the native population, no boats of any kind; and the only people who fished were from the planted population, originally from Wales. Add to that the fact that the boat or ship symbolised the negative : carrying thousands of our people emigrating from our shores. We did not seem to have the confidence of a seafaring nation.

Lacking confidence of a different kind is Simon in this weekend's gospel. Fishing is in his blood in this Galilee, teeming with life and enterprise, a crossroads of people travelling all about. Simon and his companions are surprised by Jesus when he climbs into their boat for an unusual reason, to teach from it. He surprises them even more by asking Simon to put out into the deep and lower his nets for a catch. There is a miraculous result. Why is this?

It has always been the case with Jesus that only faith can make a miracle; a healing might take place but it won't be a miracle. A miracle needs an act of trust in the power, it needs a change of heart and spirit in the person. The faith that is present this weekend is in Simon; whatever Jesus said could be trusted: so much so that they left everything and followed him. There will be many more times that his faith will be tested, very often in that same water.

The Bishop recently published a Prayer from the Boat, entrusting our diocese into the same power that drew Simon and his companions, seeking new ways of being a seafaring faith; asking for the confidence to set forth on new horizons together.

**Fr. Donal**

