

## Ballineaspaiq Parish Bulletin

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Parish Web Site: [www.dennehyscrossparish.ie](http://www.dennehyscrossparish.ie)

Parish APP: Dennehy's Cross Church—Google and Apple.

Parish Facebook Page: Dennehy's Cross Cork

### CONTACT DETAILS:

Fr. Donal Cotter: (021) 4347815

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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 23rd March, 2025

3rd Sunday of Lent

Offertory: 16/03/25 - €3039

Shrines: 16/03/25 - €515

St. Patricks Day: €1020

**P.S. No 9.30am Mass on Wednesday, 26th due to Confirmation Ceremony for Gaelscoil Ui Riada at 10.30am.**

**Quarterly Diocesan Needs Collection next weekend, 29th/30th March**

### OUR CREATION MATTERS - LENTEN SERIES 2025

Continues with a talk by Fr. James McSweeney on Tuesday, 25th March, 2025 at 7.30pm in the Crypt: ***"Our amazing honeybees - We can learn so much from them - What you can do to help our bees - and let's taste some delicious types of honey"*** All welcome.

Faith in Action Group

### Dennehy's Cross Active Retirement Group

Next meeting on Thursday, 27th March from 10am to 12noon in the Crypt. Presentation from a Chiropractor, Dr. Jessica - topic "Leading a healthier lifestyle through stress reduction and enhanced posture. See you all there.

**Check out our APP and Facebook page (above) for more info about this weeks readings.**

**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 THE WEEK - 22nd March to the 29th March, 2025

Saturday, 22nd March - 6.15pm - Stephen Murphy

Sunday, 23rd March - 11.00am - (1) Teddy Murphy (2) Dermot Daly(3) Anecito Tomanda & family

Monday, 24th March - 9.30am - Graham Murray

Tuesday, 25th March - 9.30am - Jerry Murphy

Friday, 28th March - 9.30am - Ted Lucey

### COVID Memories

This weekend five years ago lockdown was just beginning to take effect. The parades for Saint Patrick had been cancelled and a new regime of containment was established; all public places, apart from grocery shops, closed, and there were silent roads with the famous 5km limit for travel. It was meant to last until Easter; it went further than that. There was initial panic after Cheltenham punters returned home; I know of one man who was banished to a mobile home for a week! We soon began to settle in to a pattern of life which proved to be (almost) comfortable. Government began a hasty search for protective equipment and food deliveries began. Extraordinary acts of kindness became evident; people in the UK began to have that World War blitz feeling again; 'places of worship' were closed completely. Thus began, for most of us, the whole world of live-streaming. I discovered Facebook; I was 'talked through' it over the phone by a former student of mine. For the next six months, and later again in early 2021, for three months more; I offered Mass from my kitchen. I got very comfortable with that too because there was no time limit and I was talking to an audience of people that I began to know by name. Furthermore it opened up new ways of staying in touch as days and weeks followed; we were beginning to lose count; we hardly knew one day from the other.

Christmas of 2020 and January of 2021 proved to be a very sad and difficult time for many. Previously our death rate was from those with previous health conditions; now able bodied men and women were getting sick and dying. The required precautions were terrible for funerals especially; and these, together with the visiting restrictions, are remembered to this day. Pope Francis is remembered for a famous walk he took in an empty and floodlit St Peter's Square praying for the COVID world. He also invoked the name of Saint Joseph, the 'silent man', as the inspired 'voice' of the time. There is a painting by Goya called 'The Death of Joseph'. In it is shown a dying Joseph lying in his bed with an adolescent Jesus figure, no beard, perhaps seventeen years old and Mary holding his hand; just them three, like so many others of this unusual time, together in their loss. This silent man symbolised the volunteering of the silent people of the world who came to our help.

Gradually we emerged from it all; although not everybody did. Perhaps that time will come. In the meantime, we continue our own journey, with most of this behind us.

Fr Donal

