

Ballineaspig Parish Bulletin

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Parish Web Site: 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 9th March, 2025

1st Sunday of Lent

Offertory: 02/03/25 - €1756

Shrines: 02/03/25 - €335

Irish Bishops Commissions: Annual collection at all Masses this weekend

SPRING DUES

Very shortly our appeal for the Spring Dues will be sent out. May I take this opportunity, on behalf of Fr. Tom and myself to thank you, our parishioners, for your generosity and kindness to us, both in the Autumn Dues and the Christmas offerings. We will, both of us, offer Holy Mass for your intentions.

Lenten Talks: Our Creation Matters Lenten Series 2025 starts on next Tuesday, 11th March in the Crypt at 7.30pm with a talk by Maria Young. Green spaces for Health "*Nature in our Neighbourhoods, what can we do to support it?*"

Medjugorje Pilgrimage from Cork with Spiritual Director - departing from Cork with Aer Lingus on the 4th June, 2025. Full daily programme and optional tours—4 star Hotel located close to the village centre and St. James Church. Half board: breakfast and dinner each day. For further information contact: Jim Keogh (087) 2678793/021 4885371.

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

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

Saturday, 8th March - 6.15pm - Kathleen O'Sullivan

Sunday, 9th March - 9.00am - Special Intention

-11.00am - (1) Charlie & Mattie Richmond (2) Mary McDonagh

Monday, 10th March - 9.30am - Special Intention

Tuesday, 11th March - 9.30am - Special Intention

Wednesday, 11th March - 9.30am - Kathleen Cotter

Friday, 14th March - 9.30am - Brian O'Muirthile & Aedh McGinn

Conversations in the Spirit

Earlier this week, our four parishes here met in the Crypt to set forth on a journey of prayer and discernment at the invitation of the Bishop. About forty of us gathered to hear a presentation on the Sacrament of Baptism as the gateway of all of us Christians on our journey of faith. As part of this presentation we were invited to have 'conversations in the Spirit'. These conversations are based on what Pope Francis called our engagement with one another, not just in sharing ideas together, but in allowing ourselves to be changed, that we will no longer be the same person at the end of the conversation as we were before; nothing dramatic or earth shattering, but a change of heart perhaps through what we hear. So we started in our group to gather ideas of how Baptism can be a real welcome and a blessing for a family, not just a social event; how it could be celebrated in a more meaningful way, such as during Mass. If during Mass, how best we can convey how important that would be, and how they can be convinced. Then the next step would be how we can bring the newly baptized child and family together on a faith journey; like Sunday School or something like it with children on a Sunday morning. The idea was to show that the Holy Spirit was at work in us even as we were speaking together. We shall see how we can set out from this.

The Sunday Gospels in Lent this year are from Luke, who was regarded as the Evangelist of the Holy Spirit. That Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness, which is regarded as the home of the devil. The previous person who battled against evil in the wilderness was John the Baptist; so also Job battling against despair in the Old Testament. Jesus spent forty days and forty nights in this struggle. The number of forty, whether in days or years, represents preparation time; expectation of some sort for things or events to come. Now, just as we did during Advent, we have left 'ordinary time' to pursue a journey of expectation in Lent. The Gloria and the Alleluia will not be proclaimed until that journey is complete at Easter. The vestment colour is purple, the colour of Hope. Every day will bring different hints, images, and prophecies of what is to come. We will come face to face with a struggling Jesus, having his own 'conversations' in the wilderness; how changed he will be at the end of those forty days.

Like our 'conversation of the spirit' and Jesus' struggle in the wilderness, we too might be changed after our own Lent is over; our own forty days might search inside ourselves and find ways of knowing, loving and serving...so as to be changed forever.

Fr. Donal

