

Ballineaspig Parish Bulletin

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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 18th May, 2025

5th Sunday of Easter

Offertory: 4/5/2025 - €1951

Shrines: €360

Mission & Ministry - €1350

Congratulations to the girls from St. Catherine's Primary School who received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion last Saturday, 10th May, here in our Church.

May God bless them and keep them in His care.

Thinking about the Diocesan Priesthood?

There is a "Come and See" afternoon for men aged between 18 and 40 years who may be thinking about Priesthood for the Diocese of Cork and Ross. It will take place from 2 to 5pm on **Sunday 25th May** in Mardyke House, Cork (T12W8RP). The afternoon will include time for prayer, reflection, discussion and a social dimension. For more information email vocations@corkandross.org

Dennehy's Cross - Active Retirement Group

Many thanks to all who supported and donated to our recent Coffee Morning for Cork City First Responders. €540 was raised on the day which was very much appreciated. A big thank you also for the demonstration they gave and information given to the gathering. We would also like to thank the home bakers, Tesco Express for the beautiful cakes, which were delicious.

Anchorage Concert Chorus from Alaska, U.S.A.

Coming to Ireland for the first time, presenting Choral Classic, Folk and Contemporary Works in our Church of the Descent of the Holy Spirit on **Friday, 30th May at 7.30pm. Free Entrance.** All welcome.

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 - 17th May, 2025 to the 24th May, 2025

Sunday, 18th May, 2025 - 9.00am - Jack and Eily Murphy

11.00am - (1)Noel Dillon (2)Helen & Terry Coakley(3)John Mullins

Monday, 19th May, 2025 - 9.30am - Kathleen O'Brien

Tuesday, 20th May, 2025 - 9.30am - Eugene Murphy

Wednesday, 21st May, 2025 - 9.30am - Eileen Lehane

Friday, 23rd May, 2025 - 9.30am - Eilish Kenneally

Fresh Heart

Sad story you may read about this week: a sixty eight year old man finally released from prison after serving sentence imposed in 1987 for an horrific murder he never committed. He had always protested his innocence which made it impossible for him to get parole. DNA was the key factor that brought the slow wheels of justice to reach his innocence after thirty eight years. During that time, this quiet, simple and uneducated man endured suffering as a "Beast of Birkenhead"; you can imagine the headlines. He seems to have been taken advantage of, serious questions arising about his 'confession'. Yet the first words from this man come directly from the Gospel of John : 'the truth shall set you free'. There is no bitterness, neither from him or his brother and sister, only sorrow for the family of the murdered girl who now face their sorrow again. He seems like a man at peace with himself as if a higher power reminded him of his dignity as a person. I hope he met a kindly person, either in the prison or as a visitor who helped him and put fresh heart into him.

Such a kindly person is in today's First Reading: Barnabas. You would normally think when you see the combination of Paul and Barnabas, that Paul was the leader of the two. Not so; Paul was not at peace with himself. He had persecuted the followers of Jesus and was now a follower himself. Barnabas sought out Paul to help him, he encouraged him in his new life as a Christian in Antioch, where the name Christian itself was first used to describe the followers of Jesus. They travelled together and 'put fresh heart into the disciples encouraging them to persevere in the faith'. It is he who brings out the best in Paul, a true encourager, as the meaning of his name suggests. He stayed with him all those times, when he needed him most.

You get the feeling that our new Holy Father, Leo XIV, successor of St. Peter, is also at peace with himself, waiting to bring out the best in us as Pope Francis also did, encouraging us on our own journeys, and even, unknown to himself, the innocent man whose own 'fresh heart' only spoke out of love.

Fr. Donal



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