

## 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

**Holydays:** As Announced

**Bulletin 8th February, 2026**

**Fifth Sunday Ordinary Time**

**1st Feb: Collection: €1751**

**Shrines: €405**

### PARISH NOTICES

**Annual Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund:** Collection at all Masses *this* weekend 7th/8th February.

**Faith in Action:** To celebrate *Fairbruary 2026* you are all invited to join us in the Crypt after the 11.00am Mass *today* for free Fairtrade refreshments. All welcome. Faith in Action Group.

**Maranatha Announcement:** Maranatha is a full day faith based high energy music event for young people from parishes across the diocese attending post-primary schools. Students from over half of our post-primary schools have been preparing for Maranatha 2026. This culminates in a concert in Cork City Hall on **Thursday, 26th February** with over 500 young people singing together. It was created to bring young people together to celebrate their faith through music and have fun at the same time. Please support our young people by coming to this event. Tickets are €15 (plus booking fee) and are available to book on eventbrite.ie search *Maranatha*. Doors open at 7pm with concert beginning at 7.30pm.

**Bishopstown Community Association AGM:** Meeting to take place on Wednesday, *25th February, 2026* at 7.30pm in Wilton Park House, Wilton. You are cordially invited to attend. Light refreshments served.

**Totus Tuus 2026 Fatima Pilgrimage:** Taking place from 28th August to the 4th September. Cost €915 which includes flights, half board accommodation, airport transfers, several day trips. Places available to fly from Cork Airport and also Dublin airport. Limited places available. Further information contact Damien on (087) 2049048.

**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 : 7th February, 2026 to 14th February, 2026

**Sat. 7th Feb.** - 6.15pm - (1)Michael & Martin Studdert, (2)Mary Fahy (3)John Cronin (U.S.A.)

**Sun. 8th Feb.** - 9.00am - Pat Buttimer

11.00am - (1)Kathleen O'Sullivan (2)Delia Dillon (3)Ann Powell (4)Jim Keating

**Thurs. 12th Feb** - 9.30am - Evelyn Kelliher

### Salt and Light

They used to mine for salt in County Donegal and they still mine for it in Carrickfergus, County Antrim. There are tours of the famous salt mine in Sopot, near Krakow in Poland. There is even salt therapy in Balbriggan in Dublin. In times past, long before refrigeration, salt was used to preserve food, drawing out its natural flavours when cooking, and to purify water. Salt heals and it also stings. So when you are told 'you are the salt of the earth', you are much more than a taste. You are precious. Furthermore, it's not about you. It is really about following Christ. The sting, as Saint Paul discovered for himself and reminds us now, is that ultimately to follow him was only as the Christ Crucified. The sting is in the struggle of the human heart to follow the gospel while living in comfort. The sting is the reminders of our present world that we may need to speak out and witness to a proper faith against injustice and evil. Christians, and other faiths too, have taken to streets in different parts of the world, sometimes in freezing temperatures, in order to speak out.

And then there's Light: 'you are the light of the world'. That first Reading today is about sharing. So is Light. Light is not a private power or energy. It is a social thing. It is meant to be seen. It is meant to be shared. To be a follower of Christ is not a private experience. It is to help others and give glory to God. Again, it's not about us. The light also reminds us about sin; sin loves the dark, the unknown and the unknowing. The light has shone in recent weeks on some disturbing Files that have been released, the private behaviour, attitudes and world of powerful people. Interesting, and perhaps equally disturbing, that the only person convicted and in prison at this time, in this world of powerful men, is a woman.

The message of this weekend is never stop witnessing, otherwise we will be like flat salt that is tasteless or a lamp hidden under a tub.

**Fr. Donal**



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