

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 22nd March, 2026
5th Sunday of Lent

15th March : Collection: €2156
Shrines: €380

Diocesan Needs Collection at all Masses next weekend
28th/29th March.

PARISH NOTICES

March 24th— The Crypt. Fr. Sylvester is a Scripture Scholar and will give a talk on the Scriptures in Lent. Ministers of the Word and many of you might be interested in coming along that evening **at 7.30pm.**

Dennehy's Cross Active Retirement Group: We will be taking a trip to MTU on **next Wednesday, 25th March at 12.30pm** to be served lunch by the "Culinary Arts Students". What a great facility on our doorstep !.

Divine Mercy Sunday: This will be celebrated on Sunday 12th April 2026 in the Church of the Real Presence, Curraheen, Cork. The day commences at 2pm and includes Rosary, several Priests hearing confessions, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Stations of the Cross. Mass will be celebrated at 3.30pm.

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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 for more info about this weeks readings.

Mass Intentions 21st March, 2026 to the 28th March, 2026

Sunday, 22nd March - 9.00am - Mary Moynihan

11.00am - (1) Ena Kelleher (2) Eileen Collins (3) Ray & Rita O'Brien

Monday, 23rd March - 9.30am - Andrew Heffernan

Tuesday, 24th March - 9.30am - Des McCarthy

Wednesday, 25th March - 9.30am - Jerry Murphy

Thursday, 26th March - 9.30am - Pat Bullman

Friday, 27th March - 9.30am - Anne Cronin

I am the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:1-45)

This Sunday's Gospel, the raising of Lazarus from the dead, is the third story from John's Gospel, chosen to cast light on the meaning of baptism.

First, at the well in Samaria, Jesus offered a sinful woman a living water which would quench many forms of thirst: her lonely thirst for a lasting relationship, her thirst for mercy, and her confused soul's thirst for worship.

Then, last Sunday, in the healing of a man born blind, Jesus was revealed as the light of the world. He gave physical light to a blind man and he also bestowed the spiritual sight of faith. The raising of Lazarus tells us how the death and resurrection of Jesus is related to the new life of baptism.

Jesus was divine and human

John's Gospel differs from the other three in his emphasis on the divinity of Christ as well as his humanity. The Preface in today's Mass celebrates his humanity, his divinity, and his relationship with us this day.

"For as true man he wept for Lazarus his friend" (human feeling):

"and as eternal God raised him from the tomb" (divine action):

just as, taking pity on the human race, he leads us (present tense) by sacred mysteries to new life."

What are the sacred mysteries leading to new life? The sacraments of initiation, namely baptism, confirmation and eucharist. Nowadays baptism is administered with a little water poured on the head. But in the early days, the catechumens, having completed the scrutinies, entered a pool of water, then emerged and put on a white garment as a symbol of new life. These actions recall sharing in the death and resurrection of Christ.

Death and Rising of Lazarus

Let us return now to the story of Lazarus. Jesus had told the Apostles that the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death but in God's glory. He waited until Lazarus was four days in the tomb before restoring him to life. In the medical practice of those days, after three days it was beyond doubt that the person had died. As Martha, a sister of Lazarus, said, *"By now he will smell!"* So, when it was beyond doubt that Lazarus was dead, Jesus brought him back to life. He prayed and called out in a loud voice, *"Lazarus, here! Come out!"* And people were told to unbind him and set him free.

Bulletin piece by Fr. Sylvester who will speak this Tuesday night in the Crypt at 7.30pm