

Ballineaspig Parish Bulletin

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Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil: 6.15pm : **Sunday:** 9.00am & 11.00am **Weekdays:** Mon- Fri. 9.30

Holydays: As Announced

Bulletin 29th March, 2026
Palm Sunday

22nd March : Collection: €1846
Shrines: €630

Diocesan Needs Collection THIS weekend 28th/29th March.

Reconciliation Service TODAY (Palm Sunday) at 5.00pm in Sacred Heart Church.

Holy Week - Stations of the Cross

We will pray the Stations on Mon, Tues & Wed at 9.00am before the Rosary and 9.30am Mass.

An Easter Card with full details of all the Easter Ceremonies is available in the Church. Please take one home.

PARISH NOTICES

Chrism Mass: Bishop Fintan invites all parishioners to the Chrism Mass on Holy Thursday April, 2nd at **10.00am** in the Cathedral of St. Mary & St. Anne. This special celebration of the diocesan family of faith includes the blessing of oils and renewal of priestly promises. There will be refreshments afterwards in the Cathedral Visitors' Centre. All welcome.

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.

Mass Intentions 28th March, 2026 to the 1st April, 2026

Saturday, 28th March - 6.15pm (1) Jerry & Una O'Mahony & decd members O'Mahony family (2) Jack & Rita Alcock and decd members of Alcock family

Sunday, 29th March - 9.00am - John Bermingham

11.00am - (1) Jack Kelleher (2) Bill, Angela & Paul Shanahan

Monday, 30th March - 9.30am - Special Intention

Tues. 31st March - 9.30am - Bridget Holmes

Wed. 1st April, 2026 - 9.30am - Dolores and John O'Regan

The Donkey and Jesus

This weekend we will encounter one of my favourite animals. While I have some time for cats and dogs (when they are outside), I find donkeys have a certain peace and humility. Apparently they can also be a bit stubborn because they are anxious about their self preservation. An aunt of mine once called me a 'pure donkey', when I was being a bit obstinate; so I have loved them all the more! Because they are a beast of burden they have not always been treated properly and they are an easy target at times; thus the need for donkey sanctuaries. Every small farm in west Cork of my youth had a donkey and car, for shopping or transferring goods from the train to shops. They were a familiar sight.

And of course, according to tradition, a donkey brought the pregnant Mary with Joseph from their home in Nazareth to Bethlehem for the census before the birth of the baby Jesus. You could say it was his first journey. And now, this weekend, on his final journey, the Master, as he is described, arranges for a donkey and its colt to carry him. It is significant that the colt had never been ridden, Jesus was the first to be on the donkey's back as king entering his city. There they go, adoring crowds into a city full for the celebration of Passover; those same crowds without a clue that here was the final Passover, the one Lamb of God that no longer required the sacrifice of lambs from their flocks. It was also a fulfilling of the prophet Zechariah's story of the entry of the Messiah into his city, on the back of a beast of burden.

There is a story told that the donkey followed Jesus to Calvary, faithful to the end, and as he saw the dying Jesus in agony, turns away in grief, and as he does so, the shadow of the Cross comes on his back, and ever since all donkeys bear this mark.

All this, leading us into the week to come.



Fr . Donal

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