

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 2nd August, 2026
18th Sunday Ordinary time

25th July : Collection: €1491
Shrines: €360

PARISH NOTICES

Bank Holiday: Monday, 3rd August is a Bank Holiday - please note morning Mass time **10.00am**

First Friday: Next Friday, 7th August, is the first Friday of the month. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the 9.30am Mass until 11.00am. All very welcome. **Please note that there will be no home visits this month.**

Saturday Confessions: There will be **NO** 12 o'clock confessions on Saturdays for the month of August.

Saturday, 8th August: Fr. Prasad will celebrate a 9.30am Mass on next Saturday for the Indian Community.

Feast of the Assumption Saturday, 15th August: No 9.30am Mass on Friday 14th but there will be a Vigil Mass at 6.15pm. Mass times on Saturday 15th August - 10.00am.

Padre Pio Ceremonies: Next Sunday, 9th August, 2026 here in Dennehy's Cross Church. Mass celebrated by Fr. Marius O'Reilly. Confessions from 1.30pm, Rosary 2.30pm and Holy Mass at 3.00pm.

Mass Intentions 1st August to the 8th August, 2026

Saturday, 1st August - 6.15pm - (1) Denis Buckley (2) Tom Gleeson

Sunday, 2nd August - 11.00am - (1) Beryl, Joe & John Lennon

(2) Mgt. & Paddy O'Keeffe

(3) Kevin O'Sullivan

Tuesday, 4th August - 9.30am - Decd. Members of Nelligan Family

Friday, 7th August - 9.30am - John Foley

Loneliness, Hunger of the Heart

Today's Gospel (Matt 14:13-21) throws light on loneliness which is another name for the hunger of the heart. A popular film years ago was called "The Heart is a Lonely Hunter." One form of loneliness is the grief experienced after the death of a loved one. On hearing of the death of his cousin John the Baptist, Jesus withdrew to a lonely place to attend to his grief. A person who is grieving needs time and space. Different people deal with grief in different ways. In the weeks after the funeral, people grieving will be very tired physically, emotionally and spiritually. One may not have the emotional energy to pray. It is important to let them know that you are praying for them. Pray for the discernment to know when to accompany the person grieving and when to let the person have time alone.

A lonely place

The quietness that Jesus sought did not last for long. People soon found out where he was. Out of pity for them he set aside his own need and attended to their needs. Hours slipped by and the disciples were concerned because the people had not brought food. It is interesting that the apostles did not say to Jesus that this is a hungry place but that this is a lonely place. They had touched on the inner hunger of the heart, loneliness.

Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta was shocked when her Sisters of Charity went to serve in a poor area of New York. In Calcutta, they had ministered to the dying and fed hundreds of hungry people every day. But in New York she was confronted by the loneliness of the old people deserted by their family. This is how Mother Teresa described it: *"The worst disease is not leprosy; it is being unwanted, being left out, being forgotten. The greatest scourge is to forget the next person, to be so suffocated with the things we have that we have no time for the lonely Jesus – even a person in our own family who needs us."*

In today's Second Reading Saint Paul writes: *"Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked."*

This is a lonely place, a world filled with lonely people. Jesus said, *"Give them something to eat yourselves."* He counts on us to help others. The apostles had very little to give, but they gave all they had. And then, God did the multiplying. We might not have much to give. Give it anyway and let God do the multiplying.

Fr. Sylvester O'Flynn OFM