

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 23rd August, 2026
21st Sunday Ordinary time

16th August : Collection: €1949
Shrines: €390

PARISH NOTICES

Lourdes Pilgrimage Petitions : The annual Cork and Ross Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from the 18th to the 23rd September, with approximately 450 people travelling from the diocese. If you have a prayer intention you would like remembered in Lourdes, please complete a petition sheet, available in the special envelopes in the church. Your petition will be brought to Lourdes and placed at the Grotto on your behalf.

Please return the completed petitions to the designated box or place in your parish before **Sunday, 30th August**. For any queries in relation to the Lourdes Pilgrimage, email Lourdes@corkandross.org

Dennehy's Cross Bridge Club: We will re-open on **Monday, 31st August** in the Crypt from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. All are welcome. Bridie Tobin.

Mass Intentions 22nd August to the 29th August, 2026

Saturday, 22nd August - 6.15pm - (1) Eddie Kenny (2) Kathleen McLoughlin

Sunday, 23rd August - 9.00am - Cathal Bredin

11.00am - Cornelius Murphy & Michael Delaney

Tuesday, 25th August - 9.30am - Joseph G. Healy

Letter from America

It is 10.30 on Tuesday morning here, eight hours later than you at home, and already it is 27 degrees. It will reach a high of 34 today. It is very manageable heat, dry, like a hairdryer that is constantly on. The air conditioning works, and the nights are cooler. The city of Pasadena is roughly the same size as Cork city, one of a series of cities in Los Angeles, usually all accessed by the freeway. West of here is Glendale, east of here is Covina, south of here is Alhambra and downtown, north of here is Altadena, scene of the fires of January 2025. They are slowly rebuilding, including people I know there who lost their homes. This coming weekend I will be attending a blessing of one such house site that is rebuilding. The area is known as the San Gabriel Valley and is surrounded by mountains. The church here, St Andrew's, was built in 1927, right in the middle of the Great Depression, and is just next to the 210 freeway. At any time of the day this freeway is like a moving car park, constant gridlock.

We have morning Mass in English at 8.15 and evening Mass at 6.30 in Spanish. The daily attendance is roughly the same as at home. The weekend attendance is very different. Sunday Mass is every ninety minutes and fully attended, whether in English or Spanish. Times start at 6.30am and end with 5.00pm, last Mass. We have Confessions every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday evenings; with three of us priests for more than an hour. Once upon a time, Irish priests made up nearly 30 percent of the clergy here; not anymore. The youngest priest here ordained in Ireland is just over 60. Not one of the three regular priests here was born in the US: one in Cuba, another in Mexico, the third in India. When I came first in 1980 here, the Archbishop was from Ballingearry, the Parish Priest was from Dunmanway, the Senior Curate was from Tipperary. All is changed, everywhere, including at home of course.

There are no travel adventures this time, those days are over. I go to the Hollywood Bowl on Thursday evening for Mozart under the stars, that is it. On Sunday I go to Mijares for their famous Brunch; Mijares is the oldest Mexican restaurant in the Los Angeles area, celebrating 100 years back in 2022; this is an annual event for me. I will write again next weekend and will be back in the parish for the last weekend in August.

Every good wish and blessing to you all.

Fr .Donal

