

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

15th December, 2013

Third Sunday of Advent

No: 1198

MASS TIMES

Sunday

9.00, 10.30, 12.15
Saturday Vigil 6.15pm

Weekdays

9.30am only

Eve of Holydays

7.30pm

Holydays

9.00, 10.30 &
7.30pm

God's Word

Readings for Sunday
22nd December

First Reading:
Is 7:10-14

Psalms: 23

Second Reading:
Rm 1: 1-7

Gospel:
Mt 1: 18-24

CONTACT DETAILS

Fr. Bertie O'Mahony,
P.P.,
4346940

Fr. Tom Clancy
4347616

Parish Office
4344452

Emergency Number:
087-251 9940

OUR PRECIOUS PRIVILEGE



Sometimes we almost take the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (V. de P.) for granted. It has been there all our lives. For some the memory is of the blue collection boxes at the Church door every month. For others, the memory may be of the two V. de P. visitors coming weekly to help to put food on the table, fuel in the fire, coats on backs, shoes on feet as well as crisis visits at times of sickness, accident or death. It was and is what V. de P. does on our behalf and with our help and that many like Share and Simon and others do in an ever widening circle of needs and difficulties.

We are assured that Irish people continue to be very generous. It is good to hear. But it can puff us up a little, even giving us a little injection of pride. Giving to the needy is a high risk business for the donors especially. The danger is that when giving we slip into an attitude of superiority over the recipients. Aren't we so good to be so generous!!!

Of course, there is no genuine alternative to giving of our time and wealth unless we want to end up like squirrels who hoard away caches of nuts they may never need and even forget about.

Sharing without a guarantee of return is an essential requirement to grow in love. We can be lulled into forgetfulness that all we ourselves have is freely given by God to us for the benefit of all the family of humankind. We are co-operators with God in the distribution of his largesse. He gives his gifts, and indeed, himself, freely in love respecting each recipient as uniquely precious to him. His giving nurtures self worth and true love.

To be able to imitate our God in sharing oneself and his resources is a divine and precious privilege. Exercise it and enjoy it.

Fr. Tom.

Reminder:

Parish Reconciliation Service next **Sunday, 22nd December** at 5.00pm

Reminder:

"Gift certificates are available in the Parish Office after Masses this weekend and again the weekend of the 21/22nd December.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CHURCH SERVICES

RECONCILIATION SERVICES:

Dennehy's Cross: Sunday 22nd at 5.00pm
 Sacred Heart Church: Monday 16th at 7.30pm
 Curraheen Church: Wednesday 18th at 7.30pm
 S.M.A. Wilton: Tuesday 17th at 7.30pm

CONFESSIONS:

Sat. 21st Dec - 12.00 Noon to 1.00pm
 Tues. 24th Dec. - 12.00-1.00pm & 4.00-5.00pm

MASSES:

Christmas Eve:

Tues. 24th: 9.30am, 6.15pm (Family Mass) AND
12pm MIDNIGHT MASS

Christmas Day:

Wed. 25th: 9.00, 10.30am and 12.15pm

DAILY MASS:

9.30 am

WEEKEND MASSES:

Vigil Mass: 6.15pm (Saturdays)
 Sunday: 9.00, 10.30am and 12.15pm

ADVANCE NOTICE:

6th January—Feast of the Epiphany

Extra Vigil Mass on Sunday, 5th at 6.15pm
 Monday, 6th January—9.00, 10.30am & 7.30pm.



NOTICE BOARD

Donations for flowers for the altar for Christmas would be appreciated. A box will be placed on the altar rails for offerings **during Mass times only**. Thanking you in anticipation.

Children's Mass on Christmas Eve at 6.15pm

On Monday 16th Dec. at 3.00pm there will be a gathering of schoolchildren in the Church for those who wish to take part in the Christmas Eve Mass. For further details contact Fr. Bertie at (087) 2519940

Pastoral Council News

The Pastoral Council wishes to draw your attention to the **Invitation from Pope Francis**. On October the 8th Pope Francis invited us to respond to a survey that will assist all those who will gather for the Extraordinary Synod on Family Life and Marriage in 2014. Pope Francis desires to hear from as many Catholics as is possible.

According to the Code of Canon Law, an "extraordinary general session" of the synod is held to "deal with matters which require a speedy solution." This will be only the third extraordinary synod since Pope Paul VI reinstated synods in 1965. The purpose of the Synod is to elicit a deeper understanding of the human situation and the challenge that the human situation presents to the practice of faith.

The Pastoral Council invites and encourages all parishioners to fill out the questionnaire on the Association of Catholics in Ireland (ACI) website, at the following address: <http://www.acireland.ie/>. There is a link to the Survey Questionnaire on the Home Page. Any individual, who hasn't access to the Internet and any group in the parish that wishes to formulate a composite response can do so through the Parish Office.

The Vatican has issued a 'Preparatory Document' which is also available on the website. Printed copies are also available from the Parish Office.

Christmas Message from the Pastoral Council

Today is the 3rd Sunday of Advent and we look forward to Christmas. As a community we come together to celebrate the birth of Jesus and anxiously await the arrival of Santa Claus. For the New Year we reflect on all the changes and challenges that occurred in the last twelve months and plan for and make resolutions for the year ahead. As a Christian Community we must always be open to change and be ready to support one another in our challenges, mindful of the difficulties many people are experiencing and have faced in the past year.

The Pastoral Council wishes to thank all those people who responded to the changes and challenges of the past year. The parish would be a poorer place without their faith and commitment. We thank Fr. Bertie and Fr. Tom for their leadership, hard work, support and encouragement. We also fondly remember and thank Fr. Kieran who is now in Blackrock and Dean Denis who has gone to God.

Let us resolve to continue to work together in 2014, building on the achievements of the past and passing on our values and beliefs to the future.

*That The Lord may hold us all in the palm of His hand
 this Christmas season and for 2014.*

Weekend
 Psalm

Advent 3 - Year A

Patrick Killeen

