

news

Referendum Report

NEXT THURSDAY IS Referendum Day. Our Bishop asks that each person takes very seriously his/her obligation in conscience to get out and vote, having carefully and prayerfully considered the issue at stake.

THOSE WHO WANT to make a last-ditch effort to inform themselves are invited to a re-showing of the video "DIVORCE-IS IT THE SOLUTION TO MARRIAGE BREAKDOWN ?"

It will be shown on Tuesday night at 8.00 P.M. in the Crypt. Admission will again be free.

YOU ARE ALSO invited to inform your consciences at the Parish Book-rack at the side door of the Church. There you will find an interesting variety of booklets, related to the issues raised by the Referendum.

A Guarantee from the Editor

THIS CONCLUDES our coverage of the Referendum. Whatever the outcome, you will not hear another word about it. And that's a promise !

Our Penultimate Edition

NEXT WEEK SEES THE LAST Parish Bulletin until after the Summer holidays. It will contain a summary of the results of the questionnaire enclosed with the Easter Dues Envelope, along with our response to them. So it would be useful if the few remaining Dues Envelopes were returned before then. Thank you.

notices

Feasts of the Week

MONDAY IS St. John's Eve, because on Tuesday we celebrate the birth of St. John the Baptist, which is an important feast. Saturday next we remember St. Irenaeus.

AND NEXT SUNDAY is the Solemn Feast of Saints Peter and Paul. There will be special readings for that day, so readers are invited to collect the missalette in the Sacristy.

For Your Information

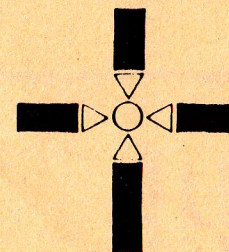
OFFERTORY COLLECTION, Sunday last, 15th June...£ 965 The Peter's Pence Collection will be taken up next Sunday. That's our local church's contribution towards the running costs of the central bureaucracy in Rome.

You May Have Noticed

OUR PARISH OFFICE-TO-BE looks as if it is ready to open. It has been nicely finished off on the outside. It has been painted inside, and the timberwork is being installed.

But there has been one major hold-up. No electric power. The E.S.B. have not yet seen fit to connect us up! Please say a prayer that they will link us up soon. Because we're looking forward to having the place blessed and open and at your service. Can anyone help ???

Ballineaspaig Parish Bulletin



No. 42

● SUNDAY 22ND JUNE, '86. ●

Church of the Holy Spirit
Dennehy's Cross, Cork.

PASTORAL TEAM

PRIESTS:

REV. DENIS O'CONNOR P.P.... 42972
REV. TADHG O MATHUNA S.C.... 41372
REV. BERNARD COTTER C.C.... 41814
EMERGENCY NUMBER.....362906

SISTERS:

REV. SISTER FRANCES..... 41376
REV. SISTER BRENDAN..... 41376

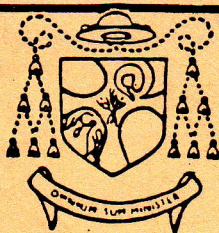
THE REFERENDUM

At the moment divorce is banned in Ireland by Article 41.3.2 of the Constitution. The Government proposes to change this by deleting Article 41.3.2.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Make sure that you, your family and friends get out to the polls and vote. This referendum is an opportunity for the Irish people to have a say in the kind of society we want in this country. Use it.

An Oifig Dheoiseach
Tigh an Easpaig,
Bóthar Rí na hÁoine
Corcaigh



Diocesan Office
Bishop's House
Redemption Road,
Cork

My Dear People,

NEXT THURSDAY, each one of us is being asked to decide whether divorce should be enshrined in our Constitution. I have no wish to dictate to you how you should vote, but, as your Bishop, I feel bound to clarify some points which this debate may have clouded.

1. WHATEVER CIVIL LAW MAY DECIDE, for Catholics marriage is to one person and forever. Civil divorce cannot change that solemn commitment before God.

THOSE WHO GET A CIVIL DIVORCE CANNOT RE-MARRY IN CHURCH. If I did not point this out to you, I would be deceiving you, and disloyal to the teaching of Christ.

2. I AM WELL AWARE that some marriages do break down. Such cases deserve genuine concern and compassion, which can be shown in many practical ways. In the proposed Amendment, divorce is being put forward as the only adequate solution.

HAVING LIVED AND WORKED IN AMERICA, where divorce is freely available, I AM CONVINCED THAT IT IS A FALSE SOLUTION. I have seen, at first hand, how it gives rise to even greater suffering and pain, especially for women and children.

3. I HAVE NOTICED THAT IN THIS DEBATE, little mention has been made of the effect of divorce on the children.

AS THE INNOCENT VICTIMS, THEY ARE DESERVING OF COMPASSION. They have no say in the outcome of this Referendum, yet, it is their lives and their futures which are especially at stake.

4. THIS REFERENDUM HAS BEEN PLAYED UP, politically, as a confrontation of Church and State.

I TRUST YOU WILL NOT SEE IT IN THAT LIGHT. I trust you will consider very seriously the damage which divorce would certainly do to families, to children and to the whole of society.

I AM CONVINCED THAT THIS AMENDMENT WOULD WEAKEN rather than strengthen MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY. It would damage, rather than protect, the genuine rights and well-being of both spouses and children.

I AM CONFIDENT that you, as responsible people, will bear in mind that how you vote on Thursday will affect not only you, but your children and your children's children.

I AM CONFIDENT that you will take very seriously your obligation in conscience to get out and vote, that you will consider carefully and prayerfully the issue at stake, and that your decision will earn you the gratitude of future generations.

FINALLY, I ASK YOU TO PRAY that the Holy Spirit may guide all voters in the choice they are being called on to make in this Referendum.

Michael

+ Michael,

Bishop of Cork & Ross