

WEEK OF DIRECTED PRAYER

A FACT-SHEET is available at the C.P. Centre this Sunday morning. Anyone interested should sign on as soon as possible. It is organised in conjunction with Wilton Parish. The dates are - Sunday 20th to Saturday 26th March.

SPIRITUAL READING FOR LENT

SEE our Book Rack for a whole selection of reading material, much of it very relevant to the Lenten Season.

We would especially like to draw your attention to "Everyman's Way of the Cross" and "Lent - a Time to Die, a Time to Rise".

You'll also find books on St. Patrick, First Confession, Confirmation, and on all the sacraments.

PEACE MASS

THE ANNUAL concelebrated Peace Mass will be offered at Saint Francis Church on Sunday March 13th at 3.30 P.M.

The Preacher will be Fr. Gerry Reynolds, a Redemptorist based in Belfast. All are cordially invited.

CRÈCHE

A REMINDER that crèche facilities are available every Sunday during the 11.00 and 12.15 Masses. Tender loving care is assured from Margo and Susan, our faithful helpers!

P.S. - Best wishes for a speedy recovery to crèche helper Anne Moloney. We look forward to having you back with us.

WEEKEND RETREAT FOR LAY PEOPLE

A LENTEN RETREAT will be given by Fr. John O'Mahony, M.S.C., at Myross Wood, from 18th to 20th March. The 6.15 P.M. Goleen bus will be met at Leap. The cost is £ 32. Apply, with a £ 10 deposit, to Rev. Director, Myross Wood House, Skibbereen.

CONTACTS TAKE NOTE

THE FOLLOWING announcement has been received:-

"We are the sub-committee of the Pastoral Council dealing with counselling/bereavement.

This involves care of the bereaved, the housebound, the lonely, the handicapped, and anyone to whom the resources of the parish may be of assistance.

To begin, we have decided to meet the contact people of the Parish. Therefore, a meeting has been called of all contact members for Tuesday, 15th March, at 8 p.m. in the Crypt. We look forward to seeing you then.

Sister Brendan 541376

Pamela Gilligan 542064

Mary Fitzgerald 541899

P.S. If you are unable to attend, please let us know!"

SCRIPTURE COURSE

THIS SUNDAY is the last day for signing on for Fr. Newman's course on the Gospel of Mark.

EMIGRATING ?

WE INVITE you to an Information Night in the Crypt on Monday, March 14th, at 8.00 P.M., led by Br. Sean Murphy OFM (Cork and Ross Chaplain to Emigrants) Parents and young people are welcome.



BALLINEASPAIG PARISH BULLETIN

No. 114

6th March, 1988.

GOODBYE FOREVER TO LEAKING WINDOWS!

WORK will begin shortly on STORM GLAZING the windows on the south side of the church.

Southerly winds and rain have caused serious leaking. This is badly undermining the walls and carpet tiles. Three specifications were sought and it has been decided to give the work to Mr. Pat O'Leary, who submitted the lowest tender - £5,985.

Obscure wire glass will be used. Clear glass would cost £2,000 more. Expense on this scale is regrettable, but unavoidable. We cannot allow our church to deteriorate.



CONGRATULATIONS to Tom Gaffney, who won the "Late Late Show" Postal Quiz lately. Tom is son of Des and Brona, who live in Bishopstown Park, Model Farm Road. They were very touched by his tribute to them.

I read my Bible to know what people ought to do, and my newspaper to know what they are doing.

John Henry Newman

PASTORAL COUNCIL *News*

THE moment of truth has arrived for the Council members! At Monday night's meeting Fr. John finally assembled all ideas and suggestions for sub-committees. These are areas to which we committed ourselves:

Kathleen O'Sullivan will be affiliated to the existing Family Ministry Group.

YOUTH: Fr. John, Mary O'Sullivan, Aine O'Brien, and Betty Golden.

BEREAVEMENT AND COUNSELLING: Sr. Brendan, Sr. Francis, Mary Fitzgerald, and Pamela Gilligan

UNEMPLOYMENT AND EMIGRATION: The Dean, Sr. Francis, and Tim Bowen.

EDUCATION: Rosarie Murphy, Aine O'Brien, Mary Tobin and Claire Bradley.

COMMUNICATION: Fr. Bernard, Benny Collins, Dan Coughlan, and Elsie Harris.

COLLECTORS: Pat Keane.

This is only the beginning! Each of these groups will need members from outside the Council. The whole aim of the Council is to be of service to the community and also to involve the community in the running of our parish.

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PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS
(Continued from Page 1)

The question "Should we have altar girls?" came up. A significant majority, 13 out of 15 members present, said "Yes"! So, the motion was passed. To quote the Dean: "Boys and girls are equal before God".

«PARISH FACES»



AINE O'BRIEN represents the 18-25 age group on the Council. She lives on the Wilton Road. Aine teaches in Queen of the Angels School, and also has a diploma in speech and drama.



CLAIRE BRADLEY is the Council representative for the original pastoral group. Claire is a teacher in Scoil Spioraid Naoimh Girls' School.

BAPTISED

CONGRATULATIONS to our two newest parishioners:
LOUISE ANDREA QUINN, daughter of Eddie and Mary, 30 Leesdale,
ELAINE MARGARET REA, daughter of Willie and Marie, 7 Kenley Close. Rath De orthu!



We send warm greetings to TERESA DART O'FLYNN, of Farranlea Grove, who was married to Dave O'Donnell (of Ballinhassig) on Saturday, 27th January.

Letters



DEAR Fr. Cotter,

I have a comment to make on the "Peace be with you" handshake at Mass. It is a good gesture. People who were bashful or diffident seem to be happy now to shake hands.

Many Sunday mornings it cheers me up when someone smiles and wishes me peace. On other days I feel that my words seem to brighten someone's countenance. The point then is - why Sunday only? Could it not be automatic that we would be invited to "wish each other peace" at every Mass?

I will be interested in other people's response to my comment.

"Peacemaker",

Farranlea Park.

(Name and full address with Editor)

MEDIA COMMENT

Focus On.....

The Poor Clares

WHY DID THE POOR CLARE ORDER CHOOSE TO REMAIN ENCLOSED?

THE Poor Clares see the meaning of enclosure as a safeguard against distraction and interruption. It provides the most necessary condition for prayer - silence and recollection, and also a sharing of the solitude of Christ in His passion. Renouncing all one holds dear must be a reason. Jesus is the reason! This is the heart of a Poor Clare vocation.

After Vatican II some orders of nuns decided to leave the enclosure. The Poor Clare Order still remains strictly enclosed in the spirit of its founder and the contemplative tradition.

The Church gives guidelines for such orders of nuns when it says: "Monasteries of enclosed nuns who are wholly devoted to the contemplative life must observe Papal Enclosure in accordance with the norms given by the Apostolic See".

Papal Enclosure is the strictest form of enclosure recognised and sanctioned by the Church. The Poor Clares observe this by making a fourth vow of enclosure. This is what is most characteristic of Poor Clares. It is what makes the people who depend on their prayers 100% sure that the Poor Clares are always "in there" - praying!

IT WAS A DEPRESSING week in the Media, reflecting sad events: the death of John Guinness, the continuing strife in the Middle-East, escalating violence in Panama, un-Christian behaviour here at home.

THE HEADLINES relating to the Northern 'troubles' continued to dominate the news all week.

Twenty years on lives continue to be lost, families are torn apart and there is no end in sight to the madness.

Are we all too apathetic, too frustrated, too busy to care? We wring our hands when the slaughter that was the Holocaust is mentioned. We do nothing while the slaughter in our own land continues unabated.

How will history judge us?

ECUMENISM, SOUTH AFRICA-STYLE was seen in a march led by churchmen in Cape Town. In an anti-apartheid protest, several of them were arrested. Catholic Archbishop Stephen Naidoo commented: 'You can kill the dreamer, but you cannot kill the dream. The dream is freedom'.

We do not need to march - but we are free to remember them, perhaps in our prayers, perhaps in a letter of solidarity?