

Lent is on the way out!

NEXT SUNDAY is Palm Sunday, and the principal Masses will be preceded by a Procession of Palms, recalling Jesus' triumphant entry to Jerusalem. Why not bring your own greenery to Mass, to join in the festivity!

A Time To Repent

CONFESSIONS here at Dennehy's Cross are on Saturdays from 12 to 1, and from 7 to 8.30 P.M. Also on Wednesdays and on the Eve of First Fridays at 8 P.M.

Coming Up...

TWO VERY special Bulletins will be published in the fortnight. The Palm Sunday Bulletin will contain all the details of the Holy Week ceremonies. And on Easter Sunday, there'll be a special 8-page edition. So be sure to collect your copy!

A Special Guest

ALL PARISHIONERS are welcome to the Celebration of Confirmation on Thursday morning next at 10.30 A.M. (There'll be no 10.00 Mass). Bishop Buckley will preside over the celebration.

Times for Certs

BAPTISMAL CERTS can be got at the Sacristy between 8.30 and 11.00 A.M. and 7.00 - 8.00 P.M. any weekday except Wednesday.

Two Other Notices...

THE LOUGH Flower & Garden Club will feature BONSAI gardening at Greenmount Boys School on 22nd March at 8.00 P.M.

AND Bishopstown Boy Scouts have a Fashion Show at the GAA Club on 23rd March at 8.00 P.M.

"SOBERING THOUGHTS" - no pun intended - are what the Bishops of Ireland have for us in their Lenten Pastoral on TEMPERANCE. As usual with such documents, the whole document is much too long to publish in full; instead, here are a few points:

1. Concern:

THERE IS GROWING CONCERN at the widespread abuse of alcohol - a concern we actively share.

2. Positive Attitude to Drink

ALCOHOL IS A GIFT from God, and perfectly good in itself. To share a drink with friends is a normal and human part of our social life. The Christian life is meant to be strong on celebration and hospitality.

3. Consequences of Excessive Drinking

MODERATE DRINKING is one thing. Excessive consumption of alcohol is another - it is one of the great social evils of our country.

4. Parish Effort

WHAT CAN BE DONE ? We ask for a concerted effort in every Parish not just to eliminate excessive and underage drinking, but to provide healthy leisure activities for people of all ages.

5. Call to Temperance

TEMPERANCE, meaning balance and moderation, is an essential element in the Christian life. It means freedom from excess or addiction to live life to the full. May the Holy Spirit help us to get life into perspective.



BALLINEASPAIG PARISH BULLETIN

No. 116

20th March, 1988.

THIS IS YOUR COUNCIL!



ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE of Ballineaspig Parish, the first-ever Parish Pastoral Council has been meeting since October, 1987. The Council includes the five Parish Team members, one member elected from each of twelve areas, and two co-opted members.

The Chairperson and Secretary of the Council are both elected by Council members, every two months. Currently, Rosarie Murphy occupies the Chair, while Elsie Harris is Secretary.

PHOTO INCLUDES *BACK, left to right: Aine O'Brien (co-opted to represent the 18-25 age-group), Tim Bowen (Wilton Gardens), Fr. John Newman C.C., Claire Bradley (co-opted from previous Pastoral Group), Pamela Gilligan (Bishopscourt area), Dan Coughlan (Magazine Rd. area), Sister Frances, Benny Collins (Glasheen Rd. area), Mary Fitzgerald (Model Farm Rd.), Kathleen O'Sullivan (Parkway), Betty Golden (Kenley), Fr. Bernard Cotter C.C.

*FRONT, left to right: Mary O'Sullivan (Leesdale), Sister Brendan, Dean O'Connor P.P., Elsie Harris (Farranlea), Rosarie Murphy (Wilton Road), Mary Tobin (Laburnum), Pat Keane (Bishopstown Ave)

Emigrating?

BROTHER SEÁN MURPHY, OFM, our Diocesan Chaplain on Emigration, shared his thoughts with us on Monday last. A summary.....

What we Learned!

THAT THOSE who decide to emigrate need to be well informed about difficulties and opportunities - and should acquire skills and qualifications before going.

The Situation in Britain:

- BRITAIN TOO has job problems.
- Accommodation in London is very expensive (£60 weekly)
- Social benefits are difficult to claim.
- Workers are often exploited.
- Hostels can't cope with the numbers arriving.
- The Terrorism Act poses new problems for Irish Emigrants.

Identification is Essential
Passport (even for Britain)
Birth Certificate
C.V.

References from priest, garda, former employer.

Basic Checklist

1. Consider staying at home.
2. Arrange a place to stay BEFORE you go.
3. Bring telephone numbers of contacts.
4. Bring identification.
5. You will need at least £ 300

BROTHER SEÁN is based at the Franciscan Friary, Liberty St., where he is available from Monday to Thursday from 3 to 8 p.m. (Phone 274555). He is at the

Family Centre on Paul St. from 5 to 8 p.m. on Fridays, and from 10 - 1, 2 - 8p.m. on Saturdays.

At Parish Level

Emigration and Unemployment are the concerns of one sub-committee of the Pastoral Council, comprising Dean O'Connor, Sister Frances and Tim Bowen. A Parish Advice group is envisaged. More details in future weeks.

CINEMA

CRYING, wailing, deprivation, poverty, pain - these are some of the words that sum up the film "CRY FREEDOM", for me.

Set in South Africa, the film re-tells the story of Steve Biko, whose death while in detention sparked off widespread opposition to the whole Apartheid system.

I felt wary about this film, having been told by a resident of South Africa that Steve Biko was an A.N.C terrorist. By the end of the film my mind was changed - how could a man so gentle and kind be called a terrorist.

It was very sad to see how some people could just shoot and beat and hurt people because of their colour. One wonders how the whites in South Africa can be so cruel.

I am glad I went to see this film. It helped me understand a little better the plight of black people in South Africa.

FIONA FLAVIN

Fifth Year, Mount Mercy.

"CRY FREEDOM" can be seen at the Capitol Cinema, all this week.

Number One Priority

YOUR PRIESTS ARE absolutely committed to house-to-house visitation, and try to get around as often as possible.

The Dean has been visiting in Bishopstown Avenue and The Ridgeway, and will be continuing through Laburnum.

Fr. Bernard has completed visitation of Kenley, and is now visiting in the Bishops-court area, for his second time.

Fr. John has a very heavy workload from numerous commitments in the educational area. Nevertheless, he is spending as much time as he can, visiting around Wilton Gardens.

Mark It On The Clevy!

A RED-LETTER day for our Parish will be April 19th, the day of our annual Parish Social. We hope to have even more than last year at our Parish hooley!

The venue is the same as last year - Jury's, and we have booked the Circles Showband once again. And we hope to be able to hold the ticket price down to £ 5. So mark in that date in your diary - we'll see you there!

With Grateful Thanks

THE PRIESTS of the Parish are deeply grateful for all the hard work done by the Dues Collectors. We rely on you..!

An important note to those who prefer to drop the envelope in themselves: If you're delivering to either of the Curates' houses (1 or 2 Woodlawn), be sure to leave your envelope inside the inner door. Thanks!

MEDIA COMMENT

ONE MORE VICTORY for the men of evil. One more blow against democracy. one more ghoulish attack on the sacredness of human life in that most sacred of places, the final resting haven of the dead.

In God's name, are we becoming a totally depraved nation? Does the desire for a United Ireland justify the taking of even one human life? Does the maintenance of the Union with Britain give carte blanche for murder?

The time for hypocrisy is surely over. The hypocrisy of so many politicians talking, talking endlessly. The hypocrisy of pseudo-politicians covertly and overtly condoning violence. The hypocrisy of violent, evil men masquerading as patriots.

It is surely time for the voices of the decent, moral people of Ireland to be heard. To be listened to. To have their right to live in peace in all corners of this land respected.

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HOW IRONIC that all this should be taking place during PEACE WEEK and during a week when we celebrate the saint who brought Christianity to Ireland. Poor Patrick! Poor, poor Ireland. BUT, as Christians, let us pray and let us have hope!