



BALLINEASPAIG PARISH BULLETIN

* No. 157 *

12th March, 1989

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Joint Day of Prayer for Peace in Northern Ireland

ON THE OCCASION of the feast of the Apostle of Ireland, Catholics in Ireland, England, Wales and Scotland will join together in prayer.

In their St. Patrick's Day 1989 message, the bishops of Ireland remind us that St. Patrick's message was one of forgiveness, peace and reconciliation.

In their appeal, they specifically address their words to the men of violence..."Violence has failed completely to achieve what it purports to achieve. Instead it has led to distrust, suspicion and heartbreak." They present statistics for the twenty years since "the troubles" started in Northern Ireland - 2,700 people killed, nearly ten times as many injured, 50,000 driven from their homes.

"Today we look to St. Patrick as the one who unites all our people."

Message from

+Tomás Cardinal Ó Fiaich
+Desmond Connell
+Joseph Cassidy
+Dermot Clifford.



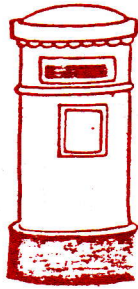
Bible Study

JERUSALEM, THE ROYAL City of David, was the centre of the religious and civil existence of the people of Israel for 1,000 years. Here, in the Temple built by David's son, Solomon, was housed the Ark of the Covenant and the temple was considered a holy place where God was particularly present. Throughout the period of monarchy, the people ignored prophetic threats of Jerusalem's destruction unless they followed God's ways. The Babylonians eventually destroyed it and stripped it of its treasures. Israel in exile was desolate and the prophets' message became one of hope of a Messiah to restore Jerusalem which became the symbol of contact between God and man, the point from which salvation radiates and a sign of God's enduring fidelity.

"Your sun will set no more, nor your moon wane.

Yahweh will be your everlasting light and your days of mourning will be ended." Isaiah 60:20

Bibles that are falling apart are
usually read by people that aren't.



LETTERS

6 Bishopscourt Rd.
Wilton

Dear Fr. Cotter,

I would like to comment on a recent Bulletin item on Baptism.

I think that I would probably be understating the position if I were to say that this view of Original Sin is a completely new approach to fundamental Catholic teaching.

I had always understood Original Sin to have originated with Adam and Eve. Now I find that it is of much more recent origin, credited to St. Augustine.

I take that which has been published to be the contemporary official view and have no difficulty with it - how an all loving and merciful God could have foisted 'Original Sin' on an infant always left me guessing.

What I do take issue with however is the manner of in which these new views of Catholic teaching are 'leaked' to the laity. Why is there an apparent lack of courage in bringing the Good News - lets hear more of it!

Yours sincerely,
K. O'Mahony

P.S. You realize of course that you have knocked the bottom out of the second-hand Catechism market!

K.O'M.

Don't keep the faith - spread it.

28 Church View Est.
Ballincollig

Dear Karisma,

You can't force people to sing. We all know that. But some people would love to join in....if they had the words of the songs!

Fr. Kenny made some chiding remarks last Sunday to both you, the Group, and to the congregation about singing "from the heart". I think there's food for thought in what he said. Perhaps you should review your perception of your mission in the Sunday liturgy. The whole idea behind the "folk group" movement in Church was in reaction to the traditional choirs. People felt they couldn't join in with these "professional" singers - and their hymns seemed a little out of date. The folk group gave those people who wanted to sing the opportunity to sing meaningful songs. It was never meant to become a "performance".

Don't get me wrong - beautiful harmony, excellent musicians and beautiful solos all have their place in church. But the main mission of the folk group must be to encourage people - especially those who want to - to sing God's praise.

Can you just imagine the beautiful sounds of Karisma's singers and musicians being joined by 100 or so people in the congregation? I'm sure the Lord would be pleased.

Keep up the good work and let the people sing.

Yours sincerely,
Francis Kelly

SIGNS OF LIFE

BAPTISM

ITS MEANING, ITS SYMBOLISM.

Jesus himself put his "imprimatur" on the ritual of Baptism by becoming part of it. When Jesus went down into the water of the Jordan he was symbolically going down into the grave. When he emerged from his Baptism the Spirit descended upon Him. In a word, the Baptism of Jesus is a ritual enactment of his death and resurrection. Jesus used the baptismal figure of speech himself. Speaking to James and John, he said, "Have you the strength to drink of the cup I am

to drink of, to be baptised with the baptism I am to be baptised with?" (Mark 10:38).

The strong biblical theme here is of Water and the Spirit. Water carried the double image of death and life. We recall such images as tidal waves, floods - waters of chaos, signifying death. The prophet Ezekiel supplied the life image: "I will sprinkle water upon you.... and you shall be my people and I shall be your God".

The New Testament frequently refers to Baptism and its meaning: "A new birth"(John 3:5).

"Baptism enlightens" (Hebrews 6:4) Here we see the significance of the lighted candle.

"Baptism makes a person a sharer in Christ." (1 Peter 2)

Baptism then is a real commitment, one which would be understood better in the context of adult Baptism - next week's subject.

Elsie Harris

Alternative **SLANTS**

WHAT A RELIEF to see the Euro Environment Ministers "acting on Impulse" (and all the other products containing CFCs)! At long last! One way we can all help is by banishing spray-cans from our homes.

THE ARRIVAL of the film "The Accused" opens a can of worms that has been tightly sealed for too long in this country.

The crime of rape needs to be recognised for what it is: a most violent crime against women and children. Rape Crisis Centres struggle on paltry grants to provide counselling and legal aid to victims.

Why is fighting this crime such an uphill battle? Could the

powers-that-be STILL hold the Victorian view, that if a woman is raped, she's "asking for it"?

WITH THE MOCK Inter and Leavings under way, it's a suitable time to consider the question of grinds. It's easy to understand why parents would want the best for their offspring, but where's it all going to end?

Aren't schoolbooks dear enough? What about all those who simply can't afford grinds? It's time parents demanded a better deal from the system.

We could make a start in this parish by not advertising grinds in our bulletins and directories. Free education, how are ye?

RUTH

Our monthly Book Review is being held over until our Parish Library opens (very soon, we hope!)



NOTICE BOARD

BALLINEASPAIG PARISH BULLETIN

* Important Notice

GREY EVALUATION SHEETS on our Parish Mission were given out on Friday night.

You can still pick one up today at the doors of the Church or in the C.P. Centre.

We ask you to be completely honest about the Mission, for you. Your reactions will decide our next Mission!

Please return the questionnaire as soon as possible - ideally today. A summary of those returned by Tuesday will be published in next week's Bulletin.

Holy Week Begins...

SUNDAY NEXT 19th March, is Palm Sunday. The three principal Masses on that day will be specially Solemn (ie. the 7.30p.m. 11.00 and 12.15).

Palms will be blessed at the doors of the Church, and the Gospel of Christ's entry into Jerusalem read. Then the priest and representatives of the people will process up the Church with palms, re-enacting the event of the day.

Also, several speakers will participate in the Gospel at those three Masses, which will describe the Passion according to St. Luke.

Joseph Steps Aside

BECAUSE PALM SUNDAY is such a special day, the feast of St. Joseph is moved to Saturday 18th March for this year only. Masses at 9.00 and 10.00a.m.

Day Of Prayer

THE POOR CLARES invite all their friends (ie. all parishioners!) to join them in prayer, this Sunday. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament all day, from after 10 Mass to 5.00 P.M.

* Remembering St. Patrick

FRIDAY NEXT, 17th March, our National Patron's Day, will be a Holyday of Obligation. Mass on Thursday at 7.30p.m. and on Friday morning at 9, 10, 11 and 12.15.

Since, like Christmas Day, the feast will be a public holiday, there will be no evening Mass.

* Bulletins to the Homes

SUNDAY NEXT is the third Sunday of March. Accordingly, we ask your help in distributing the Bulletins to the homes. As with March 1988, the Easter Dues envelopes will be sent out at the same time.

Dos na Gaeilgeoirí...

BEIDH AN AIFREANN i nGailge agus Béarla an Domhnach seo chugainn ar a naoi a chlog.

Cork Parkinsons Support Group

NEXT MEETING Sunday 12th March at the Sacred Heart Hall, Western Rd. at 3.30 p.m.

Ministers of the Word

Ministers participating in the Holy Week ceremonies (including Palm Sunday) are asked to collect their special Easter rotas on the altar rails after Mass.

Support the Scouts!

S.S. PETER AND PAULS Unit Scouts - Fashion Show Imperial Hotel on Tuesday 14th March, admission £5 in aid of tents for annual camp. Tickets from B. Murphy (317168) and J. Hurley (965331).

Fifth Week of Lent

MASSES from Monday to Thursday this week will be at 7.30a.m., 9.00a.m. 10.00a.m. and 7.30p.m.