



BALLINEASPAIG PARISH BULLETIN

* No. 175 *

24th September, 1989 *



Mercy

24th September is Mercy Day

MERCY DAY is a very special occasion for all Mercy Sisters, and we extend our sincere congratulations to all our parishioners who are Mercy Sisters; to their Superior General, Sister Immaculata, at the Mercy Generalate, and the Sisters of St. Columba's, on Bishopstown Avenue West, and to all at St. Catherine's, Highfield Lawn.

The community in St. Catherine's have seen some changes in the past year: Sister Vincent Mullin went home to heaven, and Sister Vincent McCormick went back to Bantry. And Sr. Assumpta Hayes, the former principal at St. Catherine's N.S., came home from the Phillipines.

On their special day, they will be thinking of all their absent friends: Sr. Catherine Whooley, who is involved in Retreat work in England, Sr. Frances Cummins, who is working with emigrants in London, Sr. Clare O'Sullivan, who is caring for AIDS sufferers in Dublin, and, of course, our Parish Sister, Sr. Brendan, who has been in the Regional Hospital since her car crash in August: All in our thoughts and prayers, on this Mercy Day, 1989.

PRAYER FOR MERCY DAY

O God,
your Mercy is without limit;
grant that we,
following the example and
through the prayers of
the Blessed Virgin Mary,
may be
the messengers
and the servants
of your Mercy among your people,
and especially among the poor.
May we all live
according to your will,
and one day arrive at
rejoicing together in your
presence.
We ask this through Christ Our
Lord.
Amen.



"AT THE last Pastoral Council election, we had a higher turnout than the General Election!" - so claimed our Pastor as he greeted the Election Agents at their first meeting, on Monday last.

A large number of agents came, which was remarkable, considering it was also the night 'Sam' was coming home to Leaside!

And with great enthusiasm the agents set to work, estimating the number of Nomination Forms each would need, and setting out on their first Election visit.

We thank sincerely all those who are helping in this way; no doubt those to whom they call will be equally grateful, and welcoming!



From Death to New Life

HERE IS A record of our parishioners who died in August; may they Rest in Peace.

DORIS McCARTHY died in the Bon Secours Hospital. She had been in indifferent health for some time. Her acceptance and cheerful disposition made her an example for all of us.

PADDY O'SULLIVAN, Farranlea Park, died after a short illness. He is remembered with affection as a caring man at home and at work. Our sincere sympathy to his wife Mary, son and daughter.

EDITH MARTIN with her husband, James came to live in Highfield Lawn from Belfast over forty years ago. While Jim worked long hours as manager of the "Oyster" Edith worked quietly, caring for her husband Jim and family.

PEGGY FORD, Lime Lawn, died peacefully at home in the loving care of Mary, Nora, and her family. Peggy's love of children and friendly disposition endeared her to many neighbours and friends. Her patient endurance of suffering was an inspiration to all.

ANN(NANCY) QUIRKE, Wilton Road, eventually lost her long battle for life at the Mercy Hospital. A quiet lovable person she is missed by her friends on the road.

CON MURPHY, Farranlea Park, died unexpectedly while working in his garden. Con devoted himself in a quiet and loving way to the care of his family and home. Our sincerest sympathy to Noreen, his wife and four sons.

CHARLIE BEALE, Wilton Road, was an Architect by profession, he was a gentleman in personality. Refind and quietly spoken he is missed by his sisters, relatives and neighbours.

New Venture

"THIS PAPER will appeal to all intelligent, curious, thinking Christians."

So says Carolyn O'Doherty, the Distribution Manager of the new fortnightly paper, 'Alpha'.

The paper includes views and opinions on church affairs, the Third World, social issues in Britain and Ireland, and a comprehensive arts section.

Carolyn asks if we would like to sell the paper at the C.P. Centre. She sent us a sample copy, which is available for perusal at the C.P. Centre.

If YOU would like to order a copy, give in your name at the C.P. Centre by Sunday next



WHO DOESN'T REMEMBER Pope John Paul's visit to Ireland ten years ago? About two and a half million people in all made their way, setting out before dawn, often on foot, to one or other of the venues where he spoke. Just about every person over the age of sixteen has vivid memories of where they were and what they were thinking and doing during that warm September weekend in 1979.

He was the first Pope ever to come to Ireland. His visit was a special event and it burned itself deeply into the consciousness of the Irish people.

To mark the 10th Anniversary of the visit, RTE plan to show a special documentary, called "The Whole World In His Hands". Through archive footage, personal stories and commentaries it will recreate the tension, excitement and uniqueness of the occasion; it will be shown on RTE 1, Friday, 29th September, at 7.30 p.m.

question box

IF DIVORCE IS SO WRONG, WHY WAS IT OK FOR ST. JOSEPH TO THINK OF DIVORCING MARY WHEN HE FOUND OUT SHE WAS PREGNANT ?
AND WEREN'T THEY ONLY ENGAGED - WHY THE NEED FOR DIVORCE ?

At the time, engagement or betrothal was the commitment. And divorce was quite acceptable then. It was Jesus who ruled it out:-
"Moses allowed you to divorce your wives.....but I say to you: whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery.."
(See Matthew 19: 3-9)

IT SAID IN THE BULLETIN LATELY THAT EVERY PERSON IN THE PARISH IS AS IMPORTANT TO THE PARISH AS THE PARISH PRIEST. SURELY THIS MUST BE A MISPRINT ?

It all depends on your vision of the Church. For many years, up to the Vatican Council, the Pope, Bishops and priests were the only people who mattered in the Church - people thought of the Church as a pyramid, with the laity at the bottom.

Since the Council, the Church seems more like a circle, centred on Christ. And everyone in that circle is as important and valuable. Priesthood is one Ministry among many.

WHY DO OUR MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST NOT WASH THEIR HANDS BEFORE DISTRIBUTING HOLY COMMUNION ?

They do wash their hands - at home before they set out for Mass, as everyone else does. That is enough - we don't want to turn them into incessant handwashers!

Besides, handwashing would interrupt the flow of the Liturgy.

CHALLENGE

WE ARE concerned, on the Bulletin team, that there is a credibility gap between the Church in Ballineaspaig and the young people who are part of that Church.

We feel challenged - and we challenge you too - to do something about reducing that gap.

We think we know some of your problems. But unless we hear from you, we won't know for sure.

SUPPOSE we were to suggest the following sample, would you agree?
"I get nothing from the Mass; I find it boring." Or, "Sermons say nothing to me." "My parents don't understand me." "This Country is a dead loss; nobody cares about young people."

FOR A START we Do care. We care very much because you are our future - our Parish's future, our Church's future, our Country's future.

Yes, many priests neglect to prepare a meaningful homily and this is sad. In many instances the Mass liturgy is ill-prepared and this, too, is sad

But can I (and can you) say honestly that we always prepare well for the Sunday Eucharist? We too, are called by God in our vocation as Christians. We are all 'church'.

AS ADULTS concerned about our role in the Parish, we extend an invitation to young people to formulate for us their hopes, their grievances and aspirations. We envisage a monthly column, at least to start with. We invite you to participate fully. Don't treat it as an agony column but as something forward-looking and vibrant.

LET'S HEAR FROM YOU ! PLEASE



**This
Week**

Remember Your Emigrants!
SUNDAY NEXT, 1st October, is Emigrant Sunday. We will mark it with a special Bulletin, and special prayers at all Masses.

You can honour the day, too; the Bishops' Commission for Emigrants has brought our two lovely postcards for sending to those who have left us.

The cards cost 50p (including postage) and are widely available locally - through schools, post offices etc.

Readers



For Readers

MINISTERS OF the Word are asked to take their new rotas from the altar rails after Mass.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
THE USUAL monthly collection in aid of the Society will take place at the gates of the Church on Sunday next October 1st.

10 - Mile Sponsored Walk
ROGER COUGHLAN, the Youth Chairman of Bishopstown GAA, tells me that they're having a 10-mile walk around Bishopstown this Sunday, in aid of the Youth Section. He tells me they cater for about 400 boys and girls (aged 6 to 16) free of charge, in that Section. Obviously a worthy cause!

CONGRATULATIONS

AND WHILE we're on the GAA, wasn't the match last Sunday wonderful? It made us so proud of Cork! With all, we say - WELCOME HOME, SAM! (And well done to our own Team member - BARRY COFFEY of Wilton Gardens: we're proud of you!)

The Election This Week

WE EXPECT all our Election Agents at the meeting at the Crypt this Monday evening at 8.00 P.M. The meeting will be over in less than an hour.

At the meeting, the Nomination Boxes will be opened and sorted. Agents will note the names of those nominated in the street or park they call to.

Then, on Tuesday or Wednesday they will call to those nominated, and ask if they are willing to have their names go forward for election.

Those who agree to this will have their names included in the Voting Papers, to be published next weekend. More about that in next week's Bulletin!



Reminder

SIOL RETREATANTS are reminded that their Taize hour at the Crypt on Friday night begins at 8.00 p.m.

Learn your Church History!

THE UNIVERSE series on the history of the Church begins this Sunday. Why not order your copy, at the C.P. Centre (Saturday nights) or at the Legion Stall (Sundays)?

Praising and Praying

MRS CLAIRE O'HALLORAN has just produced a cassette of poetry reading with the subtitle 'Praising and Praying'. The poets selected include Herbert, Francis Thompson, Thomas Moore, Pope John Paul II and from Cork, Fr. Jerome Kiely and Tony McNamara. Side one evokes the life of Our Lady and the themes of side two include The Creator, Peace and Eternal Life. Available from Claire O'Halloran, Pinewood, Shanakiel. Price £5.