



BALLINEASPAIG PARISH BULLETIN

* No. 188 * CHRISTMAS DAY 25th December, 1989 *



Come,
let us Adore Him



OUR PASTOR WRITES....

My dear Friends,

Christmas brings new hope - new life - new beginnings. The feast has its own special magic, and rightly so. The birth of the infant at Bethlehem was the most wonderful event the world had ever known. Jesus came to bring us peace, joy and love.

We, the pastoral team of Ballineaspig, wish you every blessing at this time. We appreciate your continued loyalty and generosity. We extend a warm welcome to all who have joined our Parish during the year, and a C  ad M  ile F  ilte to all who are home for Christmas.

May the peace of Christ ever dwell in your homes, may the angels of God protect you, and may the Holy Family of Nazareth be your model and inspiration.

Very sincerely,

Denis O'Donnovan P.P.



STEPHEN - FIRST MARTYR

"THE APOSTLES ... asked the community to choose seven prudent and spiritual men. Among those selected was Stephen, a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit."

(Acts, Chap. 6)

Stephen died as Jesus did: falsely accused, brought to unjust condemnation because he spoke the truth fearlessly. He is an example of courage, total trust and forgiving love.

From the Editor

Dear Bulletin readers,

I hope you enjoy our Christmas gift to you - this Christmas Bulletin! The whole team worked on it and we hope it pleases you.

The New Year will bring a "shake up" to the Bulletin Team. After editing for 4½ years since Bulletin No.1 on 1st September 1985, I will 'bow out' with the Old Year. It's time for new faces!

Rosalie Moloney, Farranlea Park, will take over as Editor, helped by Elsie Harris as News Editor, Pat Lemasney as Features Editor and Irene Connolly as general Sub. I will continue to be part of the team, along with Eileen Walsh, Tom Harris, Marie Loughry, Margaret Murphy, Des Dunnion, Mary McInerney and Margaret McCarthy.

These changes will, I hope, mark an exciting new phase in the development of the Bulletin. I am confident the re-formed Team will continue to enjoy your encouragement and support, something I have always appreciated.

All that remains for me to do is to wish you all a restful day and peace and joy throughout the Christmas season.

Sincerely,

Fr Bernard

P.S. Warm thanks to those who made our giant Crossword possible (centre pages): to Sr. Assumpta who devised it, and to Tom O'Donovan who printed the grid. Their efforts are appreciated!

The True Meaning of Christmas



*Christmas for many of us means joy, love, happiness and parties.
Christmas for the poor means hunger, loneliness and cold.*

*Christmas for the dying means hope and support and
also the fear of maybe it being their last Christmas.*

*Christmas for an adult often means money, buying food and
trying to make everyone happy.*

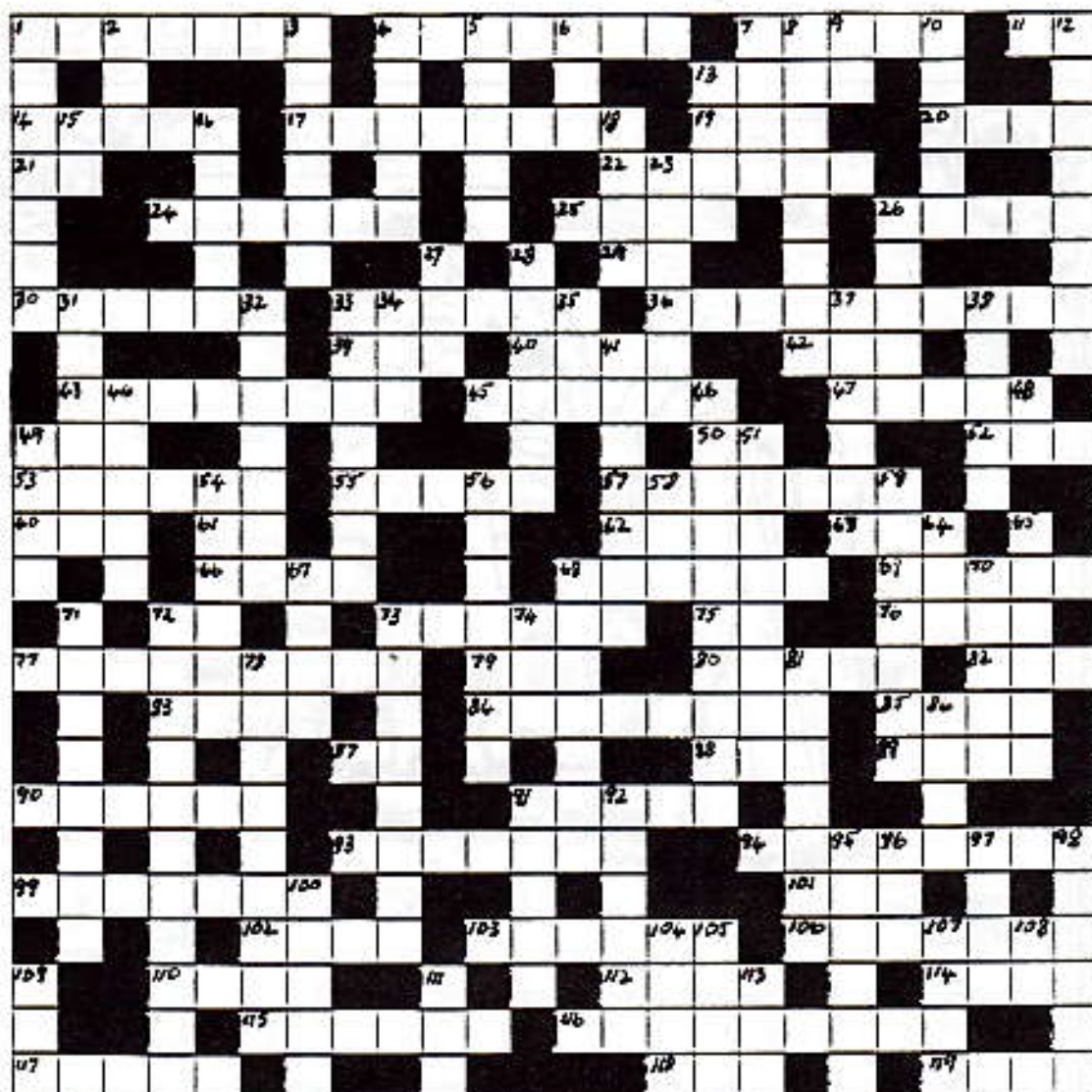
*Christmas for children means presents, delicious food and love.
The story of Christmas relates to all these feelings.*

*The joy and happiness of Mary and Joseph when Jesus was born.
The cold and hunger of the shepherds, seeking Jesus.*

*The celebration of the angels; the support of the innkeeper and
the fear of Mary and Joseph over where their baby would be born.*

*All these things surrounded the birth of Christ.
In these things lies the true meaning of Christmas.*

Dominique Portsmouth



ACROSS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. A nomadic arab (7)</p> <p>4. To stray from the main topic (7)</p> <p>7. To make an abrupt dry sound (5)</p> <p>11. The sixth tone of the diatonic musical scale (2)</p> <p>13. To dote (4)</p> <p>14. To deprive of courage (5)</p> <p>17. A large deer (8)</p> <p>19. To consume food (3)</p> <p>20. To be afraid of (4)</p> <p>21. A negative reply (2)</p> <p>22. Indifference (6)</p> <p>24. These Fathers gave our last Mission (6)</p> <p>25. Smooth (4)</p> <p>26. Incorrect (5)</p> <p>29. Used to express hesitation (2)</p> | <p>30. On a particular course (6)</p> <p>33. To tax imported goods (6)</p> <p>36. Entered upon a task (10)</p> <p>39. Some (3)</p> <p>40. To give off an unpleasant odour (4)</p> <p>42. Decompose (3)</p> <p>43. Sticking fast (8)</p> <p>45. One who moves rythmically to music (6)</p> <p>47. A slender graceful girl (5)</p> <p>49. A turkish ruler (3)</p> <p>50. A unit of measurement (2)</p> <p>52. A clumsy stupid person (3)</p> <p>53. A fleet of warships (6)</p> <p>55. A landed proprietor (5)</p> <p>57. To fence in with stakes (7)</p> <p>60. A venomous snake (3)</p> <p>61. Present 1st person singular of verb 'to be' (2)</p> |
|---|--|

62. A fleshy fruit (4)
63. Colour for martyrs (3)
66. To subject to tension (4)
68. Off the right course (6)
69. An answer (5)
72. An objection (2)
73. To come (6)
75. In the position of (2)
76. The church bells do this (4)
77. Flowing forth language (9)
79. An epoch (3)
80. Plural of that (5)
82. A movable cover (3)
83. To ward off (4)
84. The action of supplying with
air (8)
85. The organ of smell (4)
87. Abbreviation for the North
or Ireland (2)
88. A unit (3)
89. Santa Claus brings many (4)
90. Built up piles (6)
93. To follow in order to overtake (7)
94. A review of a book (8)
99. A disease marked by spasms
of the muscles (7)
101. The Christmas candle was... (3)
102. A set of intricate windings (4)
103. To have shown pity (6)
106. Promotes the growth of (6)
110. To regulate one's daily intake (4)
112. To strike with open hand (4)
114. Supplements with great effort (4)
115. To control the affairs (6)
116. Hypocritically righteous persons (9)
117. Best quality (5)
118. A fisherman will use this (3)
119. Small centre of population (4)

DOWN

1. To make a mistake (7)
2. A title given to some monks (3)
3. The expected state (6)
4. To rid of ice (5)
5. Pious (5)
6. Vigil (3)
7. A garment with sleeves (4)
8. One who lathers (8)
9. Denoting precise position (2)
10. An edible cereal (5)
12. Overbearing (8)
13. Head of a faculty (4)
15. Abbreviation for number (2)
16. A person of rank (5)
18. To rage (4)
22. Greeting (3)
23. A wig (6)

26. Humourously clever (5)
27. To attempt (3)
28. Filled with apprehension (6)
31. Willow twigs for basket
making (6)
32. A family name (7)
33. Brought together in intricate
confusion (7)
34. A small insect (3)
35. A marsh (3)
37. A list of names (6)
38. A mass of silky fibres (5)
41. To obscure (7)
44. A small female spirit (5)
46. To repair (10)
48. A sound of surprise (2)
49. A false god (4)
51. A long distance race (8)
54. To play in liquid with hands
or feet (6)
56. Seclusion (7)
58. Past participle of 'to meet'
(3)
59. What was Moses asked to raise
up in the desert (7)
64. The 4th letter of the
alphabet (3)
65. Group united by treaty (6)
67. A necessity (4)
68. Eager desire for wealth (7)
70. Paralysis (5)
71. The border of a country (8)
72. Officials as a body (11)
73. Posture or position (8)
74. Anger (3)
78. Unpretentious (9)
81. The reflexive form of one (7)
86. To leak out slowly (4)
91. Classroom hearing aids (5)
92. The state of being odd (6)
95. A pretty flower (6)
96. The possessive form of the
pronoun 'it' (3)
97. A period of seven days (4)
98. To instruct (6)
100. A smooth fabric (5)
104. Impetuosity (4)
105. To venture (4)
107. Drivers must pass this (4)
108. Abbr. for regarding (2)
109. Moisture of tree (3)
111. To score a point (3)
113. Cavity or depression (3)

 COMPLETED CROSSWORDS should be
 dropped into C.P. Centre on or
 before Sunday 31st December.



MEDIA COMMENT

By the time you are reading this, it will be all over.

As I write 'Silent Night' is competing with the latest pop albums and the strident jingles encouraging us to buy more consumer goodies and more and more food and drink than we would normally consume in a month of Sundays.

The media hype must certainly work. Contrast the huge crowds jamming our city shops these past Sundays with the few dozen souls rattling around in our Church preparing for Christmas.

Today, as I prepare to write, the first reading at Mass has Isaiah speaking of 'the glory of Lebanon' as the world prepares for the Coming of the Lord. The prophets of old wrote in troubled times. How sad that a modern-day prophet would have no more fertile ground in which to practice his gift.



Yet, there is hope. The media has reflected that wonderful spirit of tenacity, of hope and courage that exists in human kind everywhere. Beginning in Poland, it has moved through Eastern Europe like a new Spring, leading to a new life of dignity and prosperity for all of these people, we hope.

With God's help the last barriers will fall in Eastern Europe and in China and elsewhere, wherever people are deprived of dignity and freedom and the right to peace and justice.

MARY AND JOSEPH had the 'No Room' sign shown them repeatedly 2,000 years ago. Will it take a Second Coming before we come to the realisation that there is room for all on this planet of ours?

A VERY HAPPY, PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS
From this columnist.



"HE SAYS, CAN WE DO 'DALLAS' INSTEAD?..."

Children's Page

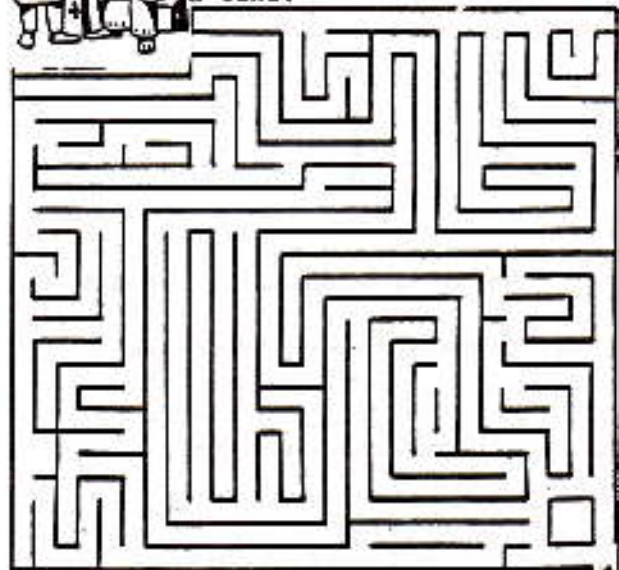
CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

ST. NICHOLAS was a bishop who lived in the 4th century in Lycia, a province of Asia Minor. He became well-known for his many charitable acts. And so SANTA CLAUS, the most generous person in the whole world, took his name from him.



CHRISTMAS MAZE

Find the right path to the Crib without crossing a line.



START

WORD SEARCH

H O L D W Z R U O I V A S M Z
E L B A O H P E S P S I R H C
C H R I S T M A S O Y R R A S
H S D Y M R D R E H P E H S Y
S A Q E X A J R A A S A M T S
H C T K A H R V C H R I S T M
R Y S N T P X Y Q J I M Q T S
H P G O F E M S T N J E E R D
D R K D E S Y O U R G H L B E
S T H M L O W E L B Q E R S T
S T T O B J L R Y O N L J D O
E P H X A Z T A L X M H I R U
R Y U I T K P T L R Z T D R A
T E B C S F O S O D D E J O J
C H R I S T M E H I B B M S A

These are the hidden words.



BETHLEHEM

CHRISTMAS

STABLE

DONKEY

STAR

MARY



SHEPHERD

SAVIOUR

JOSEPH

HOLLY





ONE SOLITARY LIFE

He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in still another village, where He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty. Then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family or owned a house. He didn't go to college. He never visited a big city.

He never traveled more than two hundred miles from the place where He was born. He did none of the things one usually associates with greatness. He had no credentials but Himself. He was only thirty-three when the tide of public opinion turned against him. His friends ran away.



He was turned over to His enemies and went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While He was dying, His executioners gambled for His clothing, the only property He had on earth. After He died, He was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

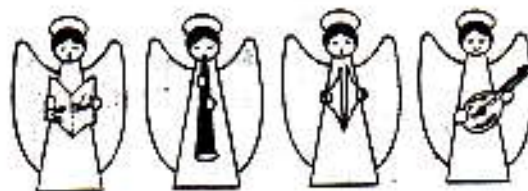
Nineteen centuries have come and gone, and today He is the central figure of the human race and the leader of mankind's progress. All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that one solitary life.



CHRISTMAS WORDS

joy
grace
hope—love
faith—peace
honor—purity
justice—charity
courage—loyalty
goodness—prudence
sympathy—humility
fortitude—temperance
brotherhood—cooperation
and
God
is
love

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THE REAL MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

May Christmas time mean more to you
Than gifts on Christmas morn;
May you feel the peace the whole world knew
When Christ the Lord was born!
May you know the special gladness
And hope that came to men;
And may it thrill your heart just now
As Christmas comes again!