



BALLINEASPAIG PARISH BULLETIN

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AFRICAN ADVENTURE

Fr. Bernard spent three weeks this January at a Mission Station in Kenya. This is his report:

I NEVER KNEW I talked in my sleep! My two travelling companions in Kenya swear I do. "The colours of Africa," they insist I said on our first day there, "Kenya is beautiful". Even subconsciously, I spoke the truth!

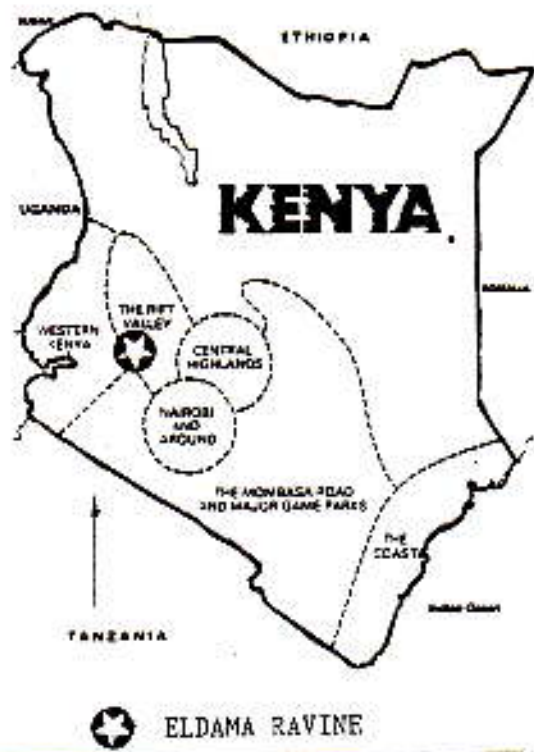
It is a lovely, colourful place. Safe and crimefree. English speaking. Left-hand driving. First worldish. Friendly, unhurried. Warm-equatorial. And a place of fresh and enthusiastic faith. At Sunday Mass, I was the longest baptised.

The rural parish of Eldama Ravine where I stayed, covers 750 sq.miles (bigger than Co. Louth). People live in mud huts, about 8' x 8', and families are big. They are poor, very poor. And their message to the people of Dennehy's Cross? "Tell them we're very happy", they said. Would our message to them be as simple?

Greeting the Christians...

WHEN VISITORS attend Mass out in Kenya, there's one thing they're expected to do. They must stand up and greet the congregation and convey the good wishes of the people of their own Parish.

Fr. Bernard did just that at each Mass he attended in Kenya. He told the Kenyans that "the people of Dennehy's Cross send their greetings". And he was told to tell the people of Dennehy's Cross that the Christians of Kenya greet them!



9.00 Mass there was very long. It started when everyone assembled (about 9.15) and was over at 11.15. They sang everything, beautifully. And they were delighted to be there. "Our Mass is so special to us", they said.

Two lessons Kenya taught me -
1) From the African perspective, our Irish Church seems so dead, so apathetic, so lifeless. Where has the enthusiasm gone? When the African Missionaries come to Ireland, they'll shake us up!
2) Africans never rush. "Hurrying brings no blessings", they say. People are far more important than time, there. A lesson to all of us clockwatchers, maybe!



Rest in Peace

TOM DEMPSEY, "St. Declans", Wilton Avenue, died recently after being in poor health for some time. A kind and gentle man, much loved by family and neighbours, he had spent the past while in Mount Desert. Our sympathy goes to his loving wife Ciss, to his family and friends.

JIMMY CROWLEY and his wife Audrey came to live in their new home at Beltra, Model Farm Road, Dennehy's Cross in 1988. Jimmy was born and reared in that beautiful sea-side spot - Butlerstown, near Timoleague. He spent most of his life in England, where he met and married Audrey, a Dublin girl. They returned to Cork to spend their retirement years, which were abruptly ended for Jimmy on 16th January. We extend sincere sympathy to his dear wife, nephews, nieces and friends.

KITTY MORLEY, 16 Lima Lawn, died in the Bon Secours Hospital after a short illness. She struggled courageously with failing health in recent years and maintained contact with family and friends. Our sympathy to her son Denis, Liam Lynch Park, and daughters Christine and Carmel, grandchildren Bernadette, Stephen, Denis, Elaine, Sandra and her family. She is remembered with affection by her friends, who speak of her loyalty and helpfulness. More recently, Kitty found new and sincere friends among the members of the Ballin-easpaig Friendship Club. Our sympathy and thanks to you for building up a haven of care and friendship in our community.



Unexpected Guest

DOWN IN CORK to attend the ecumenical service in Turner's Cross, Bishop Tony Farquhar dropped in to say 12.15 Mass with us last Sunday. An Auxiliary Bishop in Down and Connor, he is based in Anderstown, Belfast.

He was delighted with the welcome parishioners gave him. And he ended his homily with a request:-

"Whenever you hear something awful has happened in the North, say a little prayer for us."



OUR SYMPATHY goes to Neans O'Sullivan, Bishopstown Avenue West, on the death of her mother.

To Denis O'Mahony, Wilton Gardens, on the death of his sister.

To Eamonn Young, Woodleigh Park, on the death of his mother.

To Eileen Loughnane, Bishopstown Avenue, on the death of her sister.

To Nell O'Brien, Wilton Road, on the death of her mother.

To Stella Barry, Woodlawn, on the death of her sister.

To May McCarthy, Laburnum Park, on the death of her uncle.

To Deirdre O'Connor, Laburnum Park, on the death of her mother.

To Linda O'Halloran, "Glenesk", Farranlea Park, on the death of her mother.

To Bertie O'Hanlon, Barna, Model Farm Road, on the death of his sister.



THE PARISH LITURGY group was set up in February, 1989. Its members include the parish clergy and sisters, the sacristan and representatives of the various parish groups and ministries e.g. Eucharist, Word, Choir, Altar Society, Altar boys and Pastoral Council.

Meetings are held monthly. The aim of the group is to make the liturgy and the word of God more meaningful and interesting for the faithful. Work is based on forward planning for the major Church festivals.

To date it has been involved in the Easter, Advent and Christmas liturgies. You will have seen the Pentecost/Confirmation altar fall, the notice board display on Emigrant Sunday and the November dead list display.

At present the group is preparing the Lenten liturgy and an Irish missalette and is co-ordinating the Offertory processions.



MEDIA COMMENT

WHAT'S in a name?, they say. Dr. Noël Browne was described in the media as the 'ultimate political maverick' when he declared his willingness to be nominated for the Presidency.

He has been called many things in his lifetime. How will history remember him? As centre-stage character in the famous (infamous?) Mother and Child Scheme? As the chief instigator of the effort to rid Ireland of T.B.? Or as a 'political maverick' who always swam, to quote his autobiography, 'Against the Tide'?

CHRISTIANS of differing persuasions worshipping together do not make headlines. Christian Unity Week has passed with little enough media attention. Christians 'going for the jugular' in one another is much more newsworthy - pictures and all!

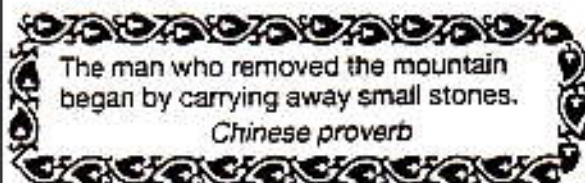
This did not prevent the eight hundred odd worshippers in Christ the King Church last Sunday from giving glory to God.

HOW EASILY we take for granted our ability to read and write! 1990 has been designated International Literacy Year.

Wouldn't we all have made a wonderful contribution to the year if we each helped even ONE person with an illiteracy problem?

Perhaps a little more awareness and encouragement is all that's needed?

Do try.





NOTICE BOARD

Pastoral council

OUR PASTORAL COUNCIL have their second meeting of 1990 on Monday 29th in the C.P. Centre at 8 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul

USUAL MONTHLY collection will take place next Sunday 4th February at all Masses.

St. Joseph's Young Priests' Society

THE USUAL MONTHLY meeting will take place next Thursday 1st February in the C.P. Centre at 8.00 p.m.

Romanian Appeal Fund

THE IRISH RED CROSS present a Concert followed by Dancing in aid of the Romanian Appeal Fund at City Hall on Friday 2 February 8p.m. to 1 a.m. with full orchestra and Guest Artists. Joe Mac will be M.C. Enquiries 270076. Tickets available from School of Music, Pro Musica and Crowley's Music Shop.



**Welcome
New
Members**

Plea from Karisma

UNFORTUNATELY, due to emigration, a lot of our members have had to leave. As a result, we are now looking for new members. We are not looking for people with experience in singing - just for people who can sing and who have an ear for music, i.e., an ability to sing in tune.

We would be delighted if people who are interested in joining would come and meet the group after 12.15 Mass on Sunday, or come along to our practice on Thursday night at 8.45 p.m. in the Crypt, beginning February.

We are looking forward to meeting our new members.

First Friday

FRIDAY NEXT February 2nd is the First Friday. Confessions on Thursday night at 8. Calls to the sick and housebound on the usual days.

February 1990



Feb. 1: ST. BRIGID'S day, the first day of Spring, is the day of 'Muire na nGael', Mary of the Irish, as Brid was called. Brigid is the secondary patron of Ireland.

The custom continues of making a cross of rushes to honour her.

Feb. 2: Friday is the feast of the Presentation of the Lord (also known as Candlemas Day). Candles are usually blessed before Mass. Drop yours in to the Sacristy beforehand if you want yours included.

Feb. 3: Saturday is the feast of St. Blaise, the man associated with healing of throat ailments. The blessing of throats, using newly blessed candles, will take place after the morning Masses.

The blessing used goes like this:-

"Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from all ailments of the throat and from every other evil, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Amen."