



BALLINEASPAIG PARISH BULLETIN

207

MAY
6th ~~April~~, 1990

*Fr. John
writes.....*



Last week we had Confirmation in this Parish. My memory of Confirmation is clear enough. The master lined us on the front seat; the Bishop, Lucey, questioned 'Who made you?' and glared at us and we blurted out our answer. 'Why did God make you?' 'God made me to know him, love him and serve him in this world and be happy with him in the next,' which seemed a good thing as we were pretty unhappy sitting before the Bishop. They told us the Bishop would fail us and we would be 'put back' and be disgraced if we didn't have the answers. I doubt Bishop Lucey 'failed' often but the fear of failure was enough to make us memorise answers. The only trouble was that there were answers to questions we hadn't asked. They were always someone else's questions and for most of us that's where it has remained.

Now, I don't doubt that it is important for us to know about our Church but that surely is not all there is to it. We know today and we try to help young people discover that our Faith is not in the Church, or in answers, or in the Bishop. Our faith is beyond that, in the Lord. We experience God's grace flowing through our lives touching our hearts, sharing with others and being moved by the Spirit.

Discovering the experience of God in life is as important as knowing the formula of words to express belief.

There was a curious inconsistency in the old system. We were taught that the spirit of God blows where it wills but that system itself tended to prevent any real freedom of spirit. We didn't blow where the spirit led us, we blew where we were told to. In a couple of weeks (May 23rd) we begin a Novena to the Holy Spirit in this Parish. It will be a valuable time to allow the Spirit of God lead us where he will. It will be a time to learn that the Holy Spirit has inspired the Church to give right answers, but also to experience that the answers we bear in our hearts are important. The Church is not static established one for all

with all the questions asked and answered, because we are the Church. And we are the Church, not set side by side, alone together, but bound by the same breath, the same Spirit, the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.





Congratulations!

WE CONGRATULATE all the Ministers of the Word commissioned this Sunday, particularly those joining the ranks for the first time:

MARION BREDIN, Bishopstown Avenue
GERALDINE FAHY, Farranlea Grove
SEAN GILL, Merlyn Lawn
PAT HEGARTY, Laburnum Lawn
COLM LEHANE, Wilton Gardens
BREDA LONG, Kenley Close
CONOR MCCARTHY, Laburnum Drive
JOY O'DONOGHUE, Lynbrook
IMELDA O'HANLON, Wilton Avenue
BRENDAN O'LEARY, Kenley Road
CLARE REARDON, Kenley Road
DONAL SHANAHAN, Kenley Drive



*From Death
to New Life*

RITA O'REILLY, 'Montana', Farranlea Park, died recently after a brief illness. We are saddened to see a well liked and kind lady depart our community. We offer sincere sympathy to her daughters, Freda, Judy and Margi, and her family who were ever attentive to Rita during her illness. The Requiem Mass and funeral ceremonies were carried out by her nephew, Fr. Lynch, who is a native of this parish and now ministers in London.

IN SYMPATHY

SINCERE SYMPATHY to Elsa Ronan, Liam Lynch Park, and Theresa Kelly, Sheares Park, on the death of their brother.

THE PARISH

IN A PARTY MOOD



"WHY A PARISH Social anyway?" somebody asked. Well, judging by our recent night out, you could say it's a celebration. It's time off from the serious activities of the parish - a night just to enjoy ourselves.

Celebration indeed it was with three wedding anniversaries and of course Fr. Bernard's 29th (what, again?) birthday. Another reason to celebrate was the welcome sight of Sr. Brendan back in action. And Sr. Frances flew in from London specially!

Jurys looked after us well and the meal is still the best value around for a fiver. "The Shades" provided a nice mix in music. No matter if some of us felt it was a bit too loud, making conversation difficult. There will always be a few cribbers - we're just showing our age!

David McInerney brought the whole thing together with his instant wit. He certainly helped to provide an atmosphere of good humour and fun.

So that's our opinion. Tim Bowen and his team did a good job. But what did you think of the fourth Parish Social? Have you any comments, suggestions, complaints (like where were all the MEN?). We'd like to hear your views. Write to us, tell us. Now!

YOUTH NEWS

Local footballing heroes, Wilton United Youths have done the unprecedented. They have reached two different F.A.I. Cup Finals, at both U-17 and Youth levels and the nucleus of the panel, in fact, the whole first eleven, is U-17. Over the next few weeks they will be playing Belvedere at Dalymount Park and in the Youth Competition, they will play Cherry Orchard, another Dublin team, at Turner's Cross,

Wilton United is managed by Magazine Road man, Pat Bowdren, who was one of the Club's founders over twenty years ago - before all of the present team was born! Pat puts many of his free hours into the Club and ought to be lauded for his part in his team's success. The Club is lucky to have him. Our Parish is represented by Damien Bennett and Anthony Buckley.

The team could also clinch the local A.U.L. Youths League to-day and the Murphy Cup next Sunday. Let's get out there and give them all our support for the Cherry Orchard game. Notice will be given in the bulletin when the game is to be played.

Irish band, Hothouse Flowers, played at the City Hall on Sunday 22nd April. All of their new material was played and it was very impressive to see that they are able to maintain the high standard set in the highly-acclaimed debut album 'People'. Ex-Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh student, Gerry Fehily, in a valiant effort to prove his pride in his native city, tried to have a new song titled "The Bells of Shandon" but failed. Nevertheless, the "Flowers" gave a great overall performance.

Brian

The Bulletin Team wish our students every success in their forthcoming examinations.

Q.A.

QUESTION: The old Catechism claimed that Jesus Christ proved that He was God by raising Himself from the dead. The New Catechism claims that, on Easter morning, God the Father raised Jesus to new life. Please comment on the apparent contradictory meanings of the two answers.

ANSWER: To begin with, it is not given to any of us fully to understand the mystery of the Trinity.

As well, the source of Christian knowledge is Scripture. Here, we discover, (Acts 2:23) that "God raised Him to life" and again (Acts 2:32) "God raised this man Jesus to life". There are many other references.

I think we can be assured that God raised Jesus to life. As an Easter people we too can look forward to being raised to new life by God the Father.



Contact People

A special meeting will be held on Wednesday 9th May in the Crypt at 8 p.m. sharp (over by 9 p.m.).

Ministers of the Word

Final meeting on Monday 7th at 8 p.m. in the C.P. Centre. All readers -outgoing, incoming and current - are requested to attend.

Don't forget - new rota ready on sanctuary rail.

Parkway/Leesdale Residents' Asscn.

Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 7th May at 8.30 pm in St. Catherine's School.

Sincere Thanks

Our local branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society reports a great response to the Coal Fund appeal. They would like to thank all who contributed.

Provocative Subject

'Christian Feminism - Are the two terms compatible?' is the title of a talk to be held Tuesday night in Ardfallen House, Douglas at 8 p.m. Claire Murphy, a Holy Child Sister will give the talk. The organisers add that women and men are welcome.

They Thank Us

The Cork Spastic Clinic collected at our Church on Sunday 15 April. They raised £322.67 for which they thank us.

Friends of Suicide Bereaved

If you have been bereaved by the suicide death of a family member or friend, and you would like to contact other people who have had the same experience, why not contact us at P.O. Box 162, Cork. We also meet on the first Tuesday of the month in the South Pres. Convent (Evergreen Street entrance) at 8.00 p.m.

On 7th May in Sparks Lounge, Tuckey Street, we are holding a Table Quiz at 8.30 p.m. £10 per table - plenty of prizes.

ISANDS



I.S.A.N.D.S. is a group of parents each of whom has lost a baby at or around the time of birth. Monthly meetings are held in the Grand Parade Hotel where bereaved parents gather to share and discuss their feelings of grief and sadness. Bereaved parents may be overwhelmed with the physical and emotional reactions their bodies go through. They may not know anyone who has gone through a similar experience and, if they do, they may be afraid to talk to that person for fear of opening old wounds and causing more pain. The members of I.S.A.N.D.S. are willing to listen because they too have been there.

Telephone counselling is available at numbers 546735, 842197, 545600. A Booklet "A Little Lifetime" for parents whose babies have died around the time of birth is regularly distributed to the hospitals.