



BALLINEASPAIG PARISH BULLETIN

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WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY



SPREADING THE WORD SELF-IMPROVEMENT COURSE FOR THE BULLETIN TEAM

"The Church Newsletter is the new MICRO MEDIA - as opposed to the vast global media of communication! So we were told at a seminar in Dublin run by the Religious Press Association recently. We were encouraged to believe that there is a need and a demand for this smaller and more personal Newsletter.

About 100 newsletter producers, including six from our own group, were fed information on all aspects of the Bulletin. It was all very stimulating - and challenging.

We exchanged ideas. We examined each other's bulletins with interest (although perhaps being inwardly a little critical!).

We heard how other teams survived - or thrived. Bottom of the scale were unfortunates who didn't even own a typewriter. But we sat in stunned silence when a priest from Newcastlewest announced, "I have £100,000 worth of equipment, printing machine, computer, 16 typists....."

Sister Brendan WRITES....



I was reading recently about the Russian people. They are very patient and put up with a lot especially the womenfolk when they go shopping. But even after a long wait in a queue they say that they have a great feeling of elation and a sense of having achieved something. Do we ever feel like that coming out of an uncrowded supermarket which is full of consumer goods?

It is, however, wonderful to see, during this week, the same sense of achievement and feeling of elation among the public attending the Novena.

Your constant daily efforts in attending the morning and evening sessions will be rewarded. Keep it up during the remaining days and evenings.

Coming back to normality, we hope to benefit from Fr. Martin Tierney's excellent advice on content, layout and style. He urged us, "Tell your readers about your need for news!". We can't know all that's happening in the parish. YOU must tell us.



52 Wilton Gardens

Dear Editor,

I would like to express my concern at Fr. Bernard's comments re Our Lady and May in a recent bulletin.

His reference to "May being hi-jacked by Our Lady" was, to say the least, insensitive and emotional. I had always thought that the month of May, being devoted to Mary through the usual means of prayer and supplication, was so because of a decision of the Church and I am not aware of any decree - Papal, Council or of Synod that has eliminated that.

While I agree with Bernard in his emphasis on the liturgical season of Easter being foremost at this time, I see nothing wrong with Mary sharing in that, as she shared in his life, death, resurrection and in the coming of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, singing of Marian hymns would not be out of place at this time (was it 3?). After all, the main prayer of the Mass - The Eucharistic Prayer - includes honour to Mary and the Saints (who also seem to be out of favour!). I am conscious of the validity of an old Latin truism: *Ad Jesum per Maria*.

Like all change, a sense of balance and an awareness of deep-felt feelings must be found and radical change is not the only solution.

Incidentally, why should Our Lady be disowned for the Novena? Are we not going to pray to the Holy Spirit through and with her, as we used to? According to the fresco in the dome, Mary was present when the Spirit came first. Anything wrong with her presence this time?

Sincerely,
David McInerney



PARISH NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS to Tom and Elsie Harris on the birth of their granddaughter Stephanie earlier this year. (Ruth and Francis' child).

Also, to Dermot and Ann Browne, Wilton Avenue, on the birth of Jessica (daughter of Roger and Janet Browndale).



Rest in Peace

BILLY WATERS, Leesdaile, died recently after a long and courageous struggle with ill health. Billy's cheerful attitude to life endeared him to a large group of people and enriched their lives with wit and adventure. Our sincere sympathy to his mother Mary, sister Catherine, children Aoife and Billy, and to all his family and friends. May he enjoy happy fishing by the rivers of glory.

FR. BERNARD replies:

1. A theological point:
The Mass is an act of worship of God the Father, through Jesus, in the Spirit. It is neither "ad Jesum" nor "per Mariam". Jesus remains our one and only mediator.
2. A question:
Can Mary share in Easter honour without obscuring the Risen Christ? I personally doubt that she can.
3. An apology:
I am sorry if my opinion offended anyone's sensibilities!

MEDIA-COMMENT

BE POSITIVE, I said to myself as I began to write this week's column. At the vigil Mass on Wednesday night, Fr. Stan Mellett invited us to turn away from the negative. And there's so much of it in the media!!

Death in the Middle East. Claims of fraud in Romania's first election in half a century. Deepening crisis in Waterford Crystal. Now there's even controversy over Ireland's soccer squad in the World Cup Series! All this banner headlines.

Few such headlines proclaim the happy events in society. Only dogged determination kept me digging for the good news!

FERGUS is the only survivor of Ireland's first quintuplets. He is reported to be making good progress. Deo Gratias - and we wish him well.

DR. MICHAEL WOODS, Minister for Social Welfare, officially opened Newbury House during the week. It is not so much the political hype that caught my attention as the fact that this wonderful Resource Centre is owned by Mayfield Parish and is run by a local Management team. Well done, Mayfield!

THE POWER OF WORDS

- A careless word may kindle strife;*
- A cruel word may wreck a life.*
- A bitter word may hate instill;*
- A brutal word may smite and kill.*
- A gracious word may smooth the way;*
- A joyous word may light the day.*
- A timely word may lessen stress;*
- A loving word may heal and bless.*

ALEXANDER DUBCEK was reported as visiting Moscow for the first time since being taken there in disgrace in 1968 as leader of the suppressed "Prague Spring".

It gives one hope that it isn't only in the story books that good triumphs over evil.



Thank You

WE WOULD like to express our gratitude to all those individuals and companies who were to generous in donating such wonderful spot prizes for our Parish Social. They were:

- Jury's Hotel
- Fischer's Restaurant
- Coleman's Car Care
- Wilton Stores
- Henry Ford & Son Ltd.
- Guinness & Company
- Hawthorn Bar
- Office Bar
- Lena Dennehy, Dennehy's Shop
- Body Shop, Patrick Street
- Glengarriff Hotel
- Dennehy's Cross Bar & Lounge
- Gillan & Company
- Lucy Ryan Hairdresser
- Leggett's Shop
- Rendezvous Lounge Bar
- Kiely Family
- Anne
- C.M.P. Dairies
- O'Flynn's
- Goldens Food Store
- Boeing Computers
- Byrnes Butchers
- Dunnes Stores
- St. Columbas Convent
- Economy Shop
- Plus five Spot Prizes from people who wish to remain anonymous.



Congratulations

Well done, Mount Mercy! Under the baton of Mrs. Pat O'Shea the Mount Mercy Choir, composed of second and fifth years, entered the Chester Choral Festival. In their class, they came joint first. As there had to be an outright winner, they were tipped into second place.

Congratulations all round!

GOLF

CONGRATULATIONS to Miss Mary Dunning on winning the Ladies' Golf President's (Mrs. Clare Cantillon) Prize at Cork Golf Club Little Island.

CONTRACT BRIDGE NOTES

THE BRIDGE SEASON is finishing. Ballineaspuig Bridge Club finishes on Monday, 28 May. The Wilton Bridge Club formally closed on Wednesday 23 May but will continue having Summer Bridge (visitors welcome) in the S.M.A. Community Hall every Wednesday evening (7.30 pm) during the Summer months.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mrs. Lorna Cole on winning the Bridge President's Prize.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mrs. R. Flynn and Mrs. P. O'Regan on winning the Club Championship Prize.

An Invitation

Would you like to accept Christ's invitation to visit the sick?

One of the Bishopstown St. Vincent de Paul conferences visit Our Lady's Psychiatric Hospital. They need new members.

If you are interested in the Challenge, please leave your name and telephone number at the C.P. Centre. You will be contacted.

NOTICE BOARD

First Friday

Next Friday, 1st June, is the First Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on the usual days. Confessions on Thursday night after the Novena.

St. Vincent de Paul

Monthly collection will take place at all Masses next Sunday.

FEAST DAY - VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - Thursday 31st May.

In her honour perhaps we could visit some sick or housebound person in the parish.

Please Collect

Ministers of the Eucharist (both current and retiring) please collect your letters from the Altar rails this weekend.

MORE COUNCIL NEWS

THE FORMATION of a Junior Parish Council to cater for 18-25 age group is envisaged soon.

The needs of the Youth of the Parish will be researched.

If you are a young person and would be willing to help or offer some constructive ideas, Colm Lehane (phone 542126) would like to hear from you.

Found

A bunch of keys has been found in the Laburnum Park area. Finder may be contacted at 542934.

You can easily judge the character of a man by how he treats those who can do nothing for him. *James Miles*