

Sunday, March 17, 1991



No. 243

# BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

St. Patrick's Day.



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,  
DERMYS CROSS, CO. RM



FROM OUR  
**PARISH  
TEAM** *vic*

*Sr. Ursula writes*

## *On St. Patrick's Day*

AS A child, St. Patrick always fascinated me. It wasn't the snakes or the big hat. It was this business of prayer - a hundred times a day; a hundred times a night! How did he do it? I couldn't.

Many years later, I got my answer, visiting an old lady in St. Finbarr's Hospital. "How are you?", I asked. "Eternal rest give unto the poor souls O Lord", she answered, smiling up at me. "It goes on all day long", a nurse told me, "she thinks she's talking to you. It must be the habit of a life time."

The habit of a lifetime; short, sharp, 'telegrams' of prayer sent up to God day and night over many, many years. This is so much part of our Irish culture and heritage - Sacred Heart of Jesus I trust in thee/God bless you/God bless the work/ welcome be the will of God - God in the bits and pieces of every day, as the poet says. God grant that we, as a people, may never lose it.

A happy St. Patrick's Day to all the parish.



## PASTORAL COUNCIL *News*

Saturday, 11th May, until Sunday, 19th May inclusive, are the dates for the forthcoming Novena. This was announced at the meeting of the Pastoral Council on Monday.

This year, the Novena will be again conducted by the Redemptorists - Fr. Tony Flannery and Fr. Tom Flanagan. Different intentions will be prayed for each night. Prayer leaflets and further details will be available after Easter.

Another date for your diary is Thursday, 2nd May. That is the night of our Annual Parish Social. It will be held in Jury's. There will be a cold supper, music by 'The Shades' and spots galore. We hope you can all join us there and have a really enjoyable night out. Tickets (£5 each) can be had from your Pastoral Council representative.

## *Rest in Peace*

We discovered during the past week that MONA FENTON, whose sudden death recently caused great sadness, was a founder member of our church's Altar Society. So her death severs another link with our church's history. May she rest in peace.

## CONGRATULATIONS



BALLINEASPAIG A - (Back l-r) Redmond Condon, John Waldron, Sean Barry, John Hall, Brendan Kealy. (Front) Gavin O'Driscoll, Brian Burke, Mark O'Mahony (capt.), Ronan Curran.

The Ballineaspaig Altar Boys had a successful outing at the Annual Inter Parish Altar Boys six-a-side indoor football competition held at the Regional College Sports Complex recently. The A team won their division outright while the B team reached the semi-final stages of the competition.

Thirteen teams participated in

a keenly contested competition.

The final was played against Ballyphehane. They were unable to stop a side that was improving with every kick of the ball. Ballineaspaig A won the game 3-1.

Ballineaspaig B met St. Joseph's B in the opening game and went on to play Cnoc na hAoine B in the semi-final. They made a gallant effort but were unable to get the better of the northsiders.



BALLINEASPAIG B - (Back l-r) Kevin Twomey, Fergal Murray, John Kealy, Paul Heaney, James O'Callaghan. (Front) Mark Murphy, Philip Murphy, Timothy Higgins, Patrick Buckley, Jimmy Riordan.

**A PARISHIONER WRITES....**

24 Parkway Drive,  
Model Farm Road

Dear Editor,

Regarding last Sunday's article "Media Comment" by "Luke", I would like to make the following points.

It is very difficult to reconcile the findings of a Maynooth social study - ie., Catholicism is alive and well in Ireland -

with Dr. Comiskey's recent statement saying that Ireland was now morally and spiritually bankrupt.

One wonders how attuned our Church is to the vast majority of our people when we hear Bishop Newman describe the issue of AIDS as a 'red herring'.

Finally, whilst it is true that we, the people, are the Church, we have no opportunity to elect our Religious Leaders, as we can do with our Government and Opposition.

Yours sincerley,  
Kevin Dinan



## COMMENT

ALTERNATIVE SLANTS by THOMAS

### DON'T THE BISHOPS TRUST US?

The concept of the Church as an authoritarian organisation that imposes its views is supposed to be history. Has the condom controversy helped or hindered this concept?

Modern Catholics will see their Church as a powerful, dynamic force which is inspiring. A documentary on Father Roch filling a void for young adolescent boys and enhancing their lives is uplifting - and challenging. The Bishop's pastoral enumerates the services available to parents, married and single - one cannot but be impressed. Father Healy is a voice for the voiceless poor. Our Church, like Christ, is a constant challenge to the comfort and materialism that surrounds us.

Normally we perceive our challenge as modern Catholics as being ever more difficult than our predecessors. It is a challenge to be aware and informed of church guidelines and to act on this awareness, taking full responsibility for one's actions. It was easier to weigh an egg and eat it during Lent than to respond to a call for denial from within oneself.

Against this background, it is sad to read media lines such as

"an outdated Church has little to offer its dwindling congregation but instructions on how to behave in the bedroom".

But, if the media are going to take note of the Church, only when church leaders present the old fashioned dogmatic Church that media people recognise as providing "juicy" footage, then maybe churchmen are also at fault. Why can't Church leaders let them know how far we've progressed? Perhaps a less conservative and a factual, rather than a point scoring, approach might make us feel more trusted.

Why aren't Church leaders saying: 'We have confidence in the quality of our followers'.

#### REPORT ON 'GAELIGE' MEETING

A total of fifteen parishioners attended the recent meeting about the role of Irish in parish life. Many creative suggestions arose, and the following recommendations were made:

- 1) that the 9.00 Mass on Lá le Pádraig be fully in Irish.
- 2) that Irish be used in the other Masses that day, particularly the Sign of the Cross at the start, the *Ár nAthair* and the Final Blessing.
- 3) that Irish would be used also at other Masses during the year.

Fr. Denis reminded the meeting that those wanting a fully Irish Mass could go to SS. Peter & Paul's Church any Sunday at 10.00 a.m.

The Parish Team will try to put the recommendations into practice, and will be interested to hear the reaction of other parishioners.

(Opinions always welcome in the Bulletin).



### Cancelled

The Bible Share meeting scheduled for 18th March has been cancelled.

### Important Feast

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday. On that day, the three principal Masses (7.30 p.m. Saturday, 11.00 and 12.15) will begin with blessing of palms inside the Main Door and a procession up the Church. All should feel free to bring palms for the blessing, and assemble just inside the Main Door.

There is a tradition of people bringing home the blessed palm and decorating their homes with it.

### "Good News for Parents"

Most of the homes of the parish have now received their copy of the Bishop's Lenten Pastoral, with the above title. The document gave two phone numbers for those who might be interested in the services mentioned. The following numbers may also be of help:

Parenting Courses - contact Sr. Ailbe, St. Catherine's N.S. 546868.

Preparing for Marriage - contact C.M.A.C., 34 Paul Street, 822238.

Bereavement or Separation - for details of Beginning Experience, ring Sr. Mary Dineen at 273213. Or for individual counselling ring Sr. Ursula at 545549.

Young People interested in developing their full potential should ring Sr. Julia O'Gorman at 273213.

Emigration Advice available from Sr. Patricia O'Regan at 274520. Our own Sr. Frances can be contacted at (03)-081-Dial 528-9001 and ask for 809137 paging number and leave message, stating when to call you back.

### Bank Holiday Monday

There will be no 7.30 a.m. Mass on Monday, 18th March (Bank Holiday). The Mass will be celebrated as usual from Tuesday on (until Spy Wednesday).

### G.A.A. Bishopstown

Bowls: Exhibition games in the Pavilion at 8 p.m. on Wednesday night next, 20th March. Ladies and Gents welcome. It is hoped to form a club.

Ceili & Oiche Cheoil: Oiche La le Padraig 9-1.00 a.m. Cead isteach £2.50. Failte roimh chach!

Congratulations to Brian Murphy and Johnny Ryan who starred in U.C.C's Fitzgibbon Cup Final win last weekend in Belfast - and also to the Chairman of the UCC club Jerry Buttimer.

### Gramophone Circle - Note date

Invite you to join them for an afternoon of Music presented by Mr. Paddy Conway on Wednesday 20th at 3.00 p.m. Tea and refreshments to be enjoyed by all as well.

### Ceili Mór

Organised by Togher Muintir na Tire at St. Finbarr's H&F Pavilion on Thursday, 21st March.

### Bulletins to the Homes

will be delivered all over the parish next weekend by our ever reliable distributors.

### If we did...

If the Parish name was changed, what might we call it? Suggestions, please, to the Bulletin.

