

Sunday, December 8, 1991



BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

Second Sunday In Advent.



No. 274

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
BALLINEASPAIG, CO. DUBLIN



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

MARY'S DREAM

I HAD a dream, Joseph. I don't understand it, not really, but I think it was about a birthday celebration for our Son. I think that was what it was all about. The people had been preparing for it for about six weeks. They had decorated the house and bought new clothes. They'd gone shopping many times and bought elaborate gifts. It was peculiar, though, because the presents weren't for our Son. They wrapped them in beautiful paper and tied them with lovely bows and stacked them under a tree. Yes, a tree, Joseph, right in their house. They'd decorated the tree also. The branches were full of glowing balls and sparkling ornaments. There was a figure on the top of the tree. It looked like an angel might look. Oh, it was beautiful! Everyone was laughing and happy. They were all excited about the gifts. They gave the gifts to each other, Joseph, not to our Son. I don't think they even knew Him. They never mentioned His name.

Doesn't it seem odd for people to go to all that trouble to celebrate someone's birthday if

they don't know Him. I had the strangest feeling that if our Son had gone to this celebration He would have been intruding. Everything was so beautiful, Joseph, and everyone so full of cheer, but it made me want to cry. How sad for Jesus - not to be wanted at His own birthday celebration.

I'm glad it was only a dream. How terrible, Joseph, if it had been real.

All the best,

Denis O'Connell PP



NOW
THE
LORD
IS
NIGH
COME
LET
US
ADORE

COMMENT

ALTERNATIVE SLANTS by "RUTH"

THE THORNY question of Sunday shopping has arisen again, as surely as Christmas comes around.

Why all the panic buying? Is it necessary to have shops open seven days a week to sell non-essential items?

Isn't part of the enjoyment of Christmas shopping all about the last-minute rush to find a suitable present for the person who "has everything"? Seven day shopping takes some of that excitement away. Of course, just because the shops are open doesn't mean that I have to go shopping, does it?

People often wonder what aliens would think if they landed on earth just before Christmas. Is some major disaster about to happen? Who is this "Christmas" that everybody feels has to be appeased with presents, a tree, fine food, etc? Then when Christmas arrived they're amazed to find peace and goodwill.

So let's try to keep it in perspective. Once the big "deadline" has passed, people often feel a sense of let-down, when what we should feel is a sense of rejuvenation of the spirit and a desire to keep up the peace and goodwill well into the New Year.



Depression, anxiety, bereavement, failure, loss - all of us at some time or other experience these. It is a part of life that no one can escape altogether. The good news is that you don't have to - and indeed shouldn't have to - go through these things alone. With friendship everything is easier.

GROW is Ireland's largest mental health movement, with groups over most of the country. We provide a caring and sharing community, well run meetings and a psychology of mental health for the ordinary person.

If you, or anyone close to you is going through a difficult time we could help. And if you would like to become involved to reach out to others we would also like to hear from you. GROW is anonymous, confidential, nondenominational and open to all.

Meetings are held nightly (Monday - Thursday) at the GROW Centre, 11 Liberty Street, at 8 p.m., with a morning meeting on Monday at 10.30, and at Wilton S.M.A. Parish Centre on Wednesday night at 8.00.

For further information, phone 277520.

Let's do something beautiful for God.
Mother Teresa



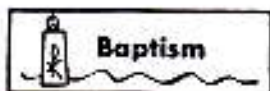
BISHOP MEETS PASTORAL COUNCIL



Back from left: Fr. John, Noelle Newton, Jim Hassett, Fr. Finbarr, Dean O'Connor, Sr. Ursula, Michael Lehane, Pearl Hurley, Mossie Higgins, Edward Fahy.
Front: Joan Beaney, Judith Coffey, Kitty Dillon, Bishop Murphy, Pat O'Connell, Colette Kenny, Mary Murphy.

Wedding

Congratulations to DR. FIONA QUINN, "Bartres", St. Clare's Avenue, who recently married Aidan McNamara.



We welcome into our christian community SHANE WILLIAM TOBIN, 31 Forrest Ridge, Togher, son of Alan and Lucy.



Cork Youth Orchestra in Concert with -

CARA O'SULLIVAN

City Hall, Wednesday
11th December at 8.00p.m.

Tickets available from
Pro Musica, Oliver
Plunkett Street.



Feast of the Immaculate Conception

As the 8th December falls on a Sunday this year, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on Monday 9th. However, Monday is not a Holyday of Obligation.

Ecumenical Service

At 5.00p.m. on Sunday, 8th in our Parish Church. Bishop Murphy, Bishop Warke and other Christian leaders will assemble for prayer.

Please come and pray together for the Unity of Christians and for peace throughout the world.

Volunteer Stroke Scheme

Monthly public meeting on Thursday, 12th December at 8.15 p.m. in the Day Hospital, St. Finbarr's Hospital. Topic - "Two family members speak of their experience of hemiplegia (stroke). A V.S.S. member will discuss our group and what it has to offer."

Aifreann le Gaeilge

Beidh Aifreann dhátheangach a cheiliúradh an Domhach seo chugainn ar a naoi a chlog. Tagaigí agus bigí páirteach linn.

Ministers of the Word

Please collect your updated rota which is available on the altar rail.

Bishopstown G.A.A.

The Annual General Meeting will take place on Sunday, 8th December at 2.00 p.m. in the Club Pavilion. All welcome.

I'Arche

A Christmas Sale will be held in the Crypt of the Church on Sunday next, 15th December commencing after 9.00a.m. Mass to 1.00p.m. Many items for sale, including Christmas Cards, produce, novelties, etc.

Christmas Mass and Advent Ceremony

Notice from the Communications Committee:

"Due to the Toy Mass being held in St. Francis Church on 15th December, the Advent Ceremony in our parish will be held on December 22nd at 10.00 Mass.

Notices and details of the Mass and Ceremony are now with the teachers of all the Primary Schools in the wider area of Bishopstown where children of Ballineaspaig are attending. Notices are also on the Church noticeboards and C.P. Centre. (By the way, we would like to encourage the children of Ballineaspaig to attend the Toy Mass in St. Francis on 15th.)"

COPE Foundation

An exhibition of HELP industries products will be held at the Sports & Leisure Complex, Sandymount Drive, Glasheen during the week. Open at:

Wednesday 11th - Friday 13th
10.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Saturday 14th - Sunday 15th
2.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

All welcome.

Bulletins to the Homes

Next weekend Bulletins will be delivered to all the homes in the parish. We thank all those who kindly help.