



Sunday, January 5, 1992

No. 278

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

Second Sunday after Christmas.



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNYHILLS, CORK CO. 12345



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes



My dear friends,

Looking back on 1991 - we thank God for all the good things in our lives. We, in the Parish Team, deeply appreciate your support and generosity during the year - your welcome and encouragement - your unselfish work in so many facets of Parish life.

We look forward with confidence to the year ahead. How about these words of wisdom:

Whether seventy or seventeen,
there is in every being's heart the love of wonder,
the undaunted challenge of events,
and the joy of the game of life.
You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt;
As young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear;
As young as your hope, as old as your despair,
So do all the good you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can,

You will never be sorry
For doing your very best,
For your faith in humanity,
For being kind to the poor,
For asking pardon when in error,
For being generous with the enemy,
For sympathizing with the down and out.

We wish you every blessing for 1992.

Very sincerely,

Denis O'Connor P.P.



We welcome into our Christian community:

ROSS GERARD HEELAN, baptised on 28th December.

URSULA ANNE O'SULLIVAN, baptised on 28th December.

CAL LEHANE MAGEE, baptised on 28th December.

CLAIRE JOSEPHINE McSWINEY, baptised on 29th December.



Congratulations to AINE O'BRIEN, 'Raban House', Wilton Road, who married Noel O'Shaughnessy of Limerick.

IN SYMPATHY

We offer our sincere sympathy to MRS. BOWEN, Wilton Gardens, on the death of her mother, Catherine Maher.

To MRS. NAN FORREST, Laburnum Lawn, on the death of her brother Kevin Berry.

PLEASE PRAY *for*

MRS. NORA HAYES, late of Magazine Road, died recently in Grange Con Nursing Home. She had carried on a Vintners business in the Watercourse road. We offer our sincere sympathy to her two sons who now live in England, and to her sister, Mrs. Byrne.

Joe

I did not know him very well. A quiet man devoted to his family, outwardly not known to be very religious. He went to Mass quite often. He was a Painter with the Dublin Corporation and, according to his colleagues, he was much too good a Painter for the job he had to do. He retired at an early age and indulged himself in his two hobbies - gardening and bird life. To see his garden you would say there is a real artist at work, and when he spoke on bird life he was encyclopaedic. He had no formal education beyond the National School.

He died suddenly and on the death it was discovered he had a poem published. It was a surprise to all, especially his family who had no idea that he was interested in the writing of poetry. I give you his poem. On my reading of it, I said to myself he was a bit of an old saint. Read it and see what you think.

OMNIPRESENCE

I seek my God within the woods,
He whispers through the leaves,
I seek Him in the raging floods,
That thunder down the screes.

I seek Him where the heaven's blue
Merges with the sea;
I seek Him when the morning dew
Salutes the sea.

I seek Him when the stars at night
Surround the 'Milky Way',
I seek Him when the sun's fair light
Shines on the rising day.

I seek Him in my every walk,
In country or in town -
In all of those with whom I talk,
Has He His presence shown.

Joseph O'Brien



COMMENT

ALTERNATIVE SLANTS by "RUTH"

THE SIGNING of a new ceasefire in Yugoslavia on New Year's Day heralded some hope for peace in 1992. Please God, it will be a lasting one this time. For so many people all over the world, the dawn of a New Year makes no difference and brings no hope of any change in their lives.

For those living in the shadow of war, hunger, violence and exploitation it must be very hard to maintain any hope of better things to come. When we think about the horrific lives those people lead, our own problems pale into insignificance. But when we remember those less fortunate than ourselves, we shouldn't despair for them.

Prayer is one weapon we have to fight with: pray for them - let that be my first New Year's Resolution.

Another New Year's Resolution should be to recognise injustice and exploitation in my own community, and to speak out about it, do something practical to help those less fortunate than I am. This could be by giving financial help or by becoming involved in some organisation which helps people in difficulty. "It is in giving that we receive"; when we help another we feel happy in ourselves.

Happy New Year.

Prayer should be the key of the day and the lock of the night.

The New Year

On New Year's Night I happened to turn on the T.V. and listened to a little talk by Rev. Matthew Byrne, Dean of Kildare. His talk was on the New Year. I was quite taken with his talk. He said this New Year will be no different to the old one which, in turn, was no different to the preceding years. Events happened of course in particular years, but ordinary life just goes on. You meet friends, have a drink, go to a football match, be invited to a wedding or attend a funeral. You read or listen to the daily news, give out about the Government and the price of everything.

You could hardly disagree! Look back and what were the big events in your own Parish: the Ballinaspig Bulletin Team winning the All-Ireland First Prize; the installation of the new church heating system; the successful Parish Novena; the departure of Fr. Bernard and the arrival of Fr. Fiabarr; the successful Bible Study Course, and many more. They are all just ordinary events well documented and remembered for the time being.

The one event which took place 1991 years ago in a stable at Bethlehem was not very well documented. It was certainly not recorded in the equivalent of what we call our daily newspaper, it was not for the general public a matter of great importance. Yet, the news has survived all the centuries, while all other great powers have crumbled.

So the message perhaps is there was only one New Year that mattered and all New Years merge into one.

Happy New Year.



NOTICE BOARD

Holyday of Obligation

Monday 6th January is the Feast of the Epiphany and a Holyday of Obligation. Masses will be at 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.15 and 7.30 p.m.

Ministers of the Eucharist

A reminder that the new rota is available for collection on the Altar Rails.

Diocesan Directory

There is no FOLD in January, but the Diocesan Directory is on sale this weekend in the C.P. Centre. Great value at £1, it includes information on every parish.

- Confirmation dates.
- Comprehensive phone number list.
- Guide to social and caring services.
- 1992 calendar, detailing all the Sundays of the year (handy for readers, etc.)
- Colour coding and indexes, to make it easy to find what you need.



Conspicuous by its Absence!

The Bulletin team were extremely pleased and gratified to hear all the moans and groans as people came out from Mass last Sunday and found there was no Bulletin. Or, was it sighs of relief? We'll try not to let it go to our heads - just in case.

Retired Peoples Network

Social and Cabaret in the Grand Parade Hotel, today Sunday, 5th, from 3.00 to 5.30 p.m. Spots, Prizes and Refreshments. Open to all Retired People and Senior Citizens. Tel. 966939.

Found

Strayed before Christmas a Jack Russell Terrier. Owner can contact C.P. Centre, tel. 344452, or 546096.

'How Clever Are You' Quiz

Please note that Question No.6 is not to be answered.

THANK YOU!

A special thank you to the pupils of St. Catherine's for stapling and folding the Christmas Bulletin. We are grateful also to Sister Ailbe and the teachers for facilitating them. Well done, as usual!

CONGRATULATIONS



We would like to express our appreciation to the choirs and musicians, and all concerned with the Christmas Carol Service. It was delightful.