



Sunday, March 8, 1992

No. 287

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

First Sunday of Lent.



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
CENNET'S CROSS, DORN



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**
Sr. Ursula writes

"The Treasury of the Sacred Heart". How many of you remember it? A prayer-book which was very popular with my parents and grandparents' generation. When I was entering the convent someone promised to buy me a copy. A Sister with whom I was friendly said, "By the way Ursula, don't bring any prayer books. You won't need them." "What? How will I pray?" I asked. "It will be different and you'll be taught how", my friend answered.

It was different, and I needed to be guided by my novice mistress. Some years ago, Bishop Murphy asked religious to find ways of sharing their prayer experience with people outside their own communities. The Sisters from La Retraite and their team are doing just that for our parish in two weeks time. It will be the third Guided Prayer experience which they have given in Ballineaspaig.

If you decide to take part, you will be given individual guidance in using Scripture for prayer. This should be of particular interest to those who have made a Soul Retreat or are engaged in the follow-up programme, *Siolta Chríost*.

No previous experience of

praying with Scripture is necessary, however. I can promise you that anyone who takes part in the week will not regret it. Full information is available in the C.P. Centre.

Ursula O'Sullivan R.S.M.

A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE OF THE GUIDED PRAYER WEEK

The week opened with an informal meeting in St. Catherine's wherein anyone who did not already know their fellow participants was introduced to them and we met our Spiritual Directors.

Next we each met with our own Director on a one to one basis. She introduced us to selected passages from St. Mark's Gospel, and exhorted each of us to set aside about 30 minutes per day to read and ponder on them. On our return to St. Catherine's each day, Sister asked us what we thought of the particular passage and enquired what message it had for us.

By the end of the week, it had become a pattern and at the last meeting Sister advised us to set aside about a half-hour

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COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

WAS IT DIVISIVE?

FOOLS, they say, rush in where angels fear to tread. Am I being foolhardy, then to comment when church leaders have, wisely perhaps, kept a discreet silence? On the other hand, what kind of a commentator would I be if I were to remain silent on an issue that has dominated the media for weeks? I refer, of course, to the 'abortion issue'.

We can have nothing but sympathy for the fourteen year old girl and her family. We can pray that she continues with her pregnancy with the full support of her family and friends and

A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE (Continued)

per day and do likewise.

It was such a soothing experience and it seemed so easy! Surely, anyone could achieve a half an hour of this each day, but therein lies the problem. Caught up in the bustle of life, I personally found it hard to set that definite space aside each day. This brought home to me how necessary it is to discipline oneself to achieve this haven of peace.

I can genuinely recommend it as an excellent prayer form - the reading of the gospel passages challenge one to look at one's own life.

Mary Fitzgerald

whatever professional resources she requires. The life within her, with its potential for love, both in the giving and the receiving, may yet reward her one hundred fold. Our God works in strange ways.

DO YOU, like me, get a little tired of those who use the media to tell you how uninformed you were at the time of the 1983 referendum? How you were misled by your priests and by SPUC? I feel insulted by those commentators who are so blatantly attempting to change the minds and wills of a majority of right-thinking people.

Do you, like me, question the assertion that the 1983 referendum was divisive? It was divisive in the media, certainly. But in this parish, did it divide you from your family, your neighbour? Do you know anyone who was so divided?

It seems to me that, far from living in the dark ages as has been suggested, we Irish have a pretty good 'feel' for what is right. Let us not be afraid to take pride in the fact. Neither let us be taken in by the posturings of so many 'experts'. Instead, we might listen to the prophet Micah whose recipe for right living is 'to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God'.



"DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING FOR FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS?"



LETTERS

3 Orchard Road,
Victoria Cross

To 'Luke',
Media Commentator.

Diocesan Office,
Bishop's House

Dear Canon Denis,

I write to thank you and all your parishioners most sincerely for the generous contribution of £500 to the Emigrant collection. As a member of the Episcopal Commission for Emigrants, I am aware of the great work which the priests, sisters and lay workers are doing for our emigrants abroad. I often visit Irish Centres in England and the U.S. and the emigrants appreciate very much the interest of people here at home in their welfare. The collection is a practical expression of that concern.

Very sincerely,
+ John Buckley

Dear Sir,

I read with interest your article in the Bulletin of 16/2/92 and feel that your recommendations are worthy of serious consideration by parishioners. Hopefully they will respond in large numbers and that some good will result.

Yours faithfully,
G.G. Lyons

'Luke's' suggestion was that we should show our pastoral concern for the Northern Ireland problem in an active way. He urges every parishioner to write to Peter Brooke and to Cardinal Daly showing solidarity with them, and to Sinn Féin and the U.F.F. condemning the violence.



Rest in Peace

PEG HIGGINS, Farranlea Park, died recently after a brave struggle with ill health in recent years. Well known as one of the Higgins of Washington Street, she had a large circle of friends who turned up to her Requiem to commend her to God. Our sympathy to her sister Kay, other members of her family, and friends.

DONIE SEXTON, Leesdale, died in the South Infirmary recently. Our sincere condolences to his wife and family. For many years Donie worked on the roads with the Corporation and was well known and liked about the parish because of his fondness for walking.

Your Attention Please

Has the bereavement of one of your neighbours gone unreported in the Bulletin? Please tell us. Your co-operation would be a great help in this area. Thank You in anticipation.



Runs from Sunday, 22nd March to Friday, 27th, at La Retraite, College Road.

It consists of an opening meeting on Sunday (5-7 p.m.), a daily meeting with a Prayer Guide for half-an-hour each evening, and a closing meeting on Friday (7-9 p.m.).

Those who participate agree to try daily prayer with Scripture for 30 minutes each day (or 2 x 15 minutes).

Full information sheets available at the C.P. Centre. Forms must be returned by Sunday, 15th March.

Lenten Scripture Course

Reminder. Course continues this Tuesday, 10th March at 8.00 p.m. No course on St. Patrick's night, 17th, but course resumes on Tuesday 24th.

Aifreann le Gaeilge

Beidh Aifreann dhátheangach a cheiliúradh an Domhnach seo chugainn ar a naoi a chlog. Bíodh is go mbeidh na léachtaí agus an tseanmoir as Béarla, beifear ag súil go mbeidh na freagraí go teir as Gaeilge.

LENTEN SEASON

Sunday Evening Prayer and Benediction at 5.30 p.m.

Bulletins to the Homes

Bulletins will be delivered to every home in the parish next weekend.

Parish Pastoral Council

Reminder of meeting next Monday, 9th, in the C.P. Centre at 8 p.m.

Cake Sale

Next Sunday, 15th, our Church Choir will hold a cake sale in the Crypt after the 10, 11 and 12.15 Masses.

Table Quiz

Gaelscoil Uí Riada will hold a Table Quiz in the G.A.A. Hall on Tuesday next at 8 p.m. £10 per table.

Meadowlands Montessori School

Open Day Sunday, 8th March, 2.30 to 5.00 p.m. at Scoil Therese, Bishopstown Park. Catering for children 2½ - 5 years. All welcome. Enquiries 962665, Margaret Hipwell.

Celebrity Fun Bowl

In aid of Farranferris Development Fund will be held on Wednesday 25th March at 8 p.m. in the Coliseum. Teams of Four, excellent prizes. Cost per team £100.

Bishopstown G.A.A.

Hurling coaching for 6/7-12 year olds every Saturday from 10.30 to 12 noon. All welcome.

Senior footballers had a decisive win over Castlehaven in the Kelleher Shield last Sunday, and this Sunday they entertain Glanmire at home at 3.30 p.m.

**PRIESTS' EMERGENCY
NUMBER: 274888**