



Sunday, Nov. 15th, 1992

No. 314

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
DEANERY'S CROSS, COOR

THE DEAN WRITES:

A SUMMARY OF BISHOPS' STATEMENT ON FORTHCOMING REFERENDA

1. The intentional destruction of innocent human life at any stage from conception to natural death is gravely wrong - no exception.
2. A mother's right to life is inviolable. She is entitled to medical treatment required for saving her life - even if this were to result in the unintended death of her child.
3. The right to life of the child is also inviolable.
4. The "Substantive" question now being placed before us in the Referenda does not give us the opportunity to rule out deliberate abortion totally. So what are we to do?
 - (a) Some may decide that the best they can do towards excluding deliberate abortion - taking account of the choices before us - is to vote 'Yes' to the "Substantive" question. With that intention they may in conscience vote 'Yes'.
 - (b) Others may decide that, since the proposed wording does not rule out deliberate abortion totally, they cannot in conscience vote for a proposal which envisages limited abortion whatever the legal and political consequences. They are quite entitled to vote 'No'.
5. The Right to Travel - is certainly an important civil right for everybody. To travel for an immoral purpose is wrong.
6. The Right to Information - is also an important civil right. To disseminate information to facilitate an abortion is morally wrong.
 - What are we to do re (5) and (6) above?
 - We must consider carefully the natural right of everybody to travel or information - but we do not condone either for an evil purpose.
 - Keeping both facts in mind try to vote as we consider best.
7. We must, in all circumstances, maintain moderation in the use of language in this debate. We must be careful not to hurt, or sit in judgement on anybody - but respect the convictions of those who differ from us.
8. It would appear that for the foreseeable future, the law will not guarantee full protection for the unborn. We should bear in mind that, while abortion is always a tragedy, all too often it is undertaken through fear and pressure from other people and circumstances. Could it possibly be from us?
9. Finally, let us pray earnestly at this time for guidance to do the right thing. Let us pray too for everybody who is touched by the trauma and sadness of abortion.

FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY

The first of our series of talks was given to a capacity audience last Tuesday night. Canon Denis O'Callaghan showed us that freedom and responsibility are two sides of the same coin.

When we respond to what our intuition tells us is good, then we are at the beginning of choosing to follow what is truly good. We admire the persons who (like St. Thomas More) so believe in what their heart says is good that they freely choose even to die rather than forfeit that belief; and while we in our everyday lives may not achieve such a level of heroism, the very fact that we admire such an attitude shows our own desire to choose the good also.

In defining principles to govern our actions, openness and tolerance must be the foundation if we are to avoid too rigidly defining what is right and wrong.

Addressing the dilemma we face in the forthcoming Referendum on the Twelfth Amendment, where voting 'no' leaves the Supreme Court 'X Case' decision intact with the door on abortion wide open, and where voting 'yes' almost closes the door but still leaves a chink open, Canon O'Callaghan gave two guiding principles: (a) we cannot choose evil even that good may come; and (b), in making any choice, each of us is responsible to the full foreseeable consequences of what we choose to do.

IN SYMPATHY

We offer our sincere sympathy to EILEEN KERINS, Wilton Gardens, on the death of her sister. To DENIS O'SULLIVAN, Leesdale, on the death of his sister.

CÉAD MÍLE Fáilte

We extend a hearty welcome to Fr. Mossie Kelleher, the newly appointed P.P. at our neighbouring Parish of Wilton. A native of Dunmanway, his appointment was celebrated at the 12 o'clock Mass last Sunday in St. Josephs, presided over by Bishop John Buckley.

Our best wishes go, too, to Fr. Jim O'Kane who was Pastor at Wilton for several years. He is taking responsibility for a new venture in the West of Ireland. There he will oversee the setting up of a central house incorporating promotional work for the Order and providing a retirement base for the less active in the SMA community.

We wish them both well.

Advent ***** PRAYER

We invite you to a Spiritual Preparation for Christmas each Tuesday night for the four Tuesdays of Advent, in the Crypt, beginning at 8.00 p.m. on 2nd December.

Each evening will have a talk/prayer experience and small groups sharing. We will have a quick 'cuppa to finish and everything should be over by 9.30 p.m. at the latest.

Please sign on in the C.P. Centre during the next two weeks.

ATTENTION!

FORMER AND CURRENT MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

A Retreat will be held in the Crypt on Saturday, 28th November, from 2.30 to 5.00 p.m. All welcome.



COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

FAITH OR FAIRYTALE?

Jonathan Miller, actor, director, doctor, is a superb entertainer. So, when he claims that all religion is a fairytale and that all talk of an afterlife is 'Disneyland', are we to take him seriously? Or do we dismiss his claim that there is no God, that at the end there is nothing, it's all over, in the knowledge that he IS an entertainer - and that that is simply what he is doing, entertaining us?

The problem is that he could be right. Nobody has ever come back to confirm that Christ's promise of victory over death stands up. We rely on our faith that we are saved by Christ's death and that life eternal with the Lord is

ours.

So, who do we listen to? We could listen to St. Luke who tells of the 'good thief' who, admitting his guilt, asks Jesus 'to remember me when you come into your kingdom'. Indeed I will, promises Christ, 'today you will be with me in paradise'.

We could listen to the account of the martyrdom of the seven brothers in the Second Book of Maccabees, who suffered death in the belief that a new life awaited them.

We could listen to the mother who was interviewed on BBC's SONGS OF PRAISE who, 'though two of her sons were killed in war, found time to care for other war victims and who could say 'Thank you, God, for all you have done for me'.

And when all else is said and done we could say, 'I believe, Lord. Help my unbelief,' - and leave Jonathan Miller to his entertaining!

CHILDREN'S ADVENT MASS

The Communications Committee will be organising a Special Mass for children, including an Advent Ceremony, to be held on Sunday, 13th December at 10.00 a.m.

A Christmas tree will be the focal point of the ceremony. Children of the parish will be responsible for decorating it with messages for the Child Jesus. Cards will be handed out after each Mass one week before the ceremony. Please take one for each child in your family.

You will remember this ceremony from last year as a very happy preparation for the Birth of Christ.

Wilton United

Last weekend - our Ladies Senior Team won the Steve Quinn Memorial Cup; the men's Senior Team lost to Bohemians and the Junior Team lost to Blarney Street. The U-15, U-13 and U-11 teams won all their matches. Lotto nos. 8/11/92 - 9, 13, 15. Winner Michael Long £850.

Today at 2.30 our Senior Team play Mervue United at Farranlea Road.

Bishopstown G.A.A.

Congratulations to the Senior Footballers who defeated Castlehaven in the semi-final of the Kelleher Shield. Our U-16 Hurlers won the County Title last Sunday with a two point victory over Killeagh.



Parish Adult Education Diary

Freedom, Responsibility and Law:
The second of our series of three lectures on the theme of freedom and responsibility will be given by Fr. Gerard Garret who specialises in Canon Law and is a member of the Cork Diocesan Marriage Tribunal. Discussion, Questions, Refreshments...

Tuesday, 17th November, 8 p.m.
Church Crypt. Admission £2.

Education Subcommittee

Meeting 6.30 p.m. Monday, 16th, Fr. John's house.

Mass for the Sick and Housebound

Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 5th December at 3.00 p.m. in the Crypt. The Sacrament of the Sick will be administered during the Mass.

A reminder to the Contact people to ensure that transport is available where required.

As always, the organisers are dependant on the wonderful response from Contact people and parishioners who supply sandwiches and cakes to ensure that those who attend the Mass enjoy the social aspect afterwards.

Visitation

Fr. Finbarr will complete his visitation in the College Road/Magazine Road area this week and will commence Model Farm Road next week.

Daily Readers

New rota now available at the altar rails.

Table Quiz

CONCERN will hold a Table Quiz in aid of Somalia at Nemo Rangers Club on Tuesday, 17th November at 8.30p.m. Table £12. Plenty of prizes!

The Story of Knock

Cork Multi-Channel in association with Veritas will transmit 'The Story of Knock' on Channel 06 at 5.30 this Sunday. There will be repeat transmissions next Thursday at 4.30 and 10 p.m.

Baile'n Baspag Gramophone Circle

The November Recital will be held on Wednesday next, November 18 at 3 p.m. sharp in the Crypt. Mona Dalton will present her favourite music. This is a wonderful way to spend the afternoon.

Everyone is welcome.

Christmas Sale of Work

At St. Mary's Good Shepherd Convent on Friday next November 20th from 8.00 - 4.30 p.m. Looking forward to seeing you.

People of Faith

The monthly Mass will take place on Friday, 20th November, at 8 p.m. in the Church of the Descent of the Holy Spirit. The theme of this Mass is "Christ is King".

St. Anne's Adoption Society

Annual collection at all Masses next weekend.

Cork Stroke Support Scheme

The Role of the Home Help following a Stroke. Speaker - Sr. Mary Salmon, at S.H.B. Buildings, Grattan Street, on Thursday 26th November at 8.15 p.m. All welcome. Free admission.

Bridge Tournament

In aid of Fight for Sight (Eye Bank) will be held at Jury's Hotel on Sunday 22nd November at 7 p.m. There will be a Novice Section.

**PRIESTS' EMERGENCY
NUMBER: 274888**