

Sunday, Nov. 29th, 1992



No. 316

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

1st Sunday in Advent



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
CENNIENYS CROSS, DORK



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

Fr. Finbarr writes

Can we make it happen?

Of course we can, if we all work at it together.

I'm not talking about a political situation, but about making Christ the focus of our Christmas.

This weekend is the beginning of Advent, a special time of preparation to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

There are twenty-six shopping days left to Christmas. Could we not also make it twenty-six days of prayer with emphasis on caring and sharing, thinking of those who don't feel like celebrating for various reasons, such as the lonely, marginalized, bereaved. We can make this coming season one of hope, joy and a reason to celebrate by the encouraging word, kind smile, caring thought.

We can make it happen if we do it as a community.

Fr. Finbarr Cweely c.c.

*What soever you do to the least of
my brothers, that you do unto me.*



THE ADVENT WREATH

The tradition of the Advent Wreath, normally consisting of a circle of evergreens, grew up in the western Church. The circular shape symbolises the eternal nature of God; the evergreens represent the continuing and everlasting life that comes from God through Christ.

The four candles (three purple and one pink) mark the four weeks of Advent and attest to the truth of Jesus as the light of the world. The purple candles symbolise that Advent is a time of repentance, a time when we turn towards God. The pink candle (for the third week of Advent) reminds us that we can rejoice because we are drawing near to Christmas Day. Placed in a prominent position within the home, the Advent Wreath can be a constant reminder of the real meaning of the season we are celebrating.

The lighting of the candles (one the first week, two the second and so on) could be done at the evening meal each day in conjunction with the reading of Scripture. The service could close with a formal or spontaneous prayer led by one member of the family. If it is not practical to do this at the evening meal, try to set aside time before or after the meal.



We offer our sincere sympathy to KATHLEEN GLEESON, Farranlea Grove, on the death of her sister.

To CHRISTY MCCARTHY, St. Clare's Avenue, on the death of his brother.

To HUMPHREY KEATING, Kenley Road, on the death of his father.

To JAMES NOYLAN, Merlyn Lawn, on the death of his daughter-in-law in Canada.

To TONY BARRY, Roger Casement Park, on the death of his father.

A Reminder

St. Joseph's Young Priests Soc.
Monthly meeting next Thursday, 3rd at 8 p.m. in the C.P. Centre.

Bishopstown Social Services
The Annual Christmas Dinner for Senior Citizens and Friends will be held on Sunday, 13th December in the G.A.A. Pavilion at 6 p.m. Tickets £4. Transport provided if required.

Contact Nora Fitzpatrick 546358
Brid Hartnett 544693
Michael Haydon 541638

We wish to thank our many sponsors, especially the Bishopstown Credit Union, our main sponsor in 1992.

Parish Visitation
Fr. Finbarr Crowley will continue visitation on the Model Farm Road this week.



TAKE TIME

TO THINK

it is the source of power

TO PLAY

it is the secret of keeping young

TO READ

it is the source of knowledge

TO PRAY

it is the greatest power on earth

TO LOVE

it is the grace of God

TO MAKE FRIENDS

it is the road to happiness

TO LAUGH

it is the music of the soul

TO GIVE

it is the price of success

TO BE CHARITABLE

it is the key to heaven



QUESTION: Can you tell me something about the Prophets?

ANSWER: The Prophets have been described as 'The conscience of Israel', i.e. of the Jewish people.

They preached of the One, True God who is interested in our worship only if it is reflected in the way we live our lives.

They came from varied backgrounds, a shepherd, a priest, a court advisor.

They reveal the nature of God to us and tell us what our response should be.

They are fearless and outspoken. As a result, they were not always popular.

Perhaps we need a few in today's world?



COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by 'LUKE'

THE WRONG SIGNALS?

MEDIA COVERAGE of the drug problem ranges from the educational to the sensational. Public response varies from the smug and the apathetic to the hysterical.

What can we do to turn the problem around?

Adults can show by example that it is possible to grow and develop without recourse to drugs. An over-reliance on medicines, on alcohol, on tobacco is unhealthy and gives out the wrong signals to our young people.

Young people are quick to pick up signals. But they are curious, like experimenting and enjoy risk-taking. It is imperative that we quantify the risks for them.

Education, as well as example, is all important, in the home as well as in the classroom.

We must provide and encourage healthy pursuits for our young people, where drugs are alien. We must stop glamourising cigarettes and alcohol in our conversation, in the media, in our sports complexes.

Abuse of drugs is degrading to that pinnacle of God's creation, the human person. The fight is against human weakness, against commercial exploitation, and against evil people who would condemn so many to a terrible bondage in order to line their pockets.

We need to fight it with all our human resources, money, enthusiasm, to will to succeed. And we need to call on God's help too, if we are to conquer this modern-day scourge.

FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY IN CHRISTIAN LIVING

Fr. Leonard Perrem, O.P. gave the last in our pre-Christmas series of adult education talks on Freedom and Responsibility.

A lively audience participated in developing and discussing the topic which Fr. Leonard presented in the context of "the experience of being favoured by God with the grace of living in, by, and out of the Spirit of Jesus Christ". Jesus summed up what he understands it to be to live freely by the life of the Holy Spirit in his sermon 'On the Beatitudes' (Matthew 5:3-10); and this is the truth about life we are invited to that Jesus refers to in the quotation "the truth will make you free" (John 8:32).

A true spirituality, "the art of living in tune with the Spirit", is the way to true freedom and responsibility; and like any other art, it requires constant practice, review and renewal (cf. St. Paul, Galatians 5:1-26).

Think About It!

"And is it time? And is it time?
This most amazing tale of all
A baby in an ox's stall!
And is it true and is it true?
That God was man in Palestine
And lives today in Bread and Wine.





Sunday Evening Devotions

Each Sunday during Advent, there will be Devotions and Benediction at 5 p.m.

Half-Hour Adoration

Each Thursday night during Advent, there will be a half-hour Adoration in the Church commencing at 8 p.m.

Mass for Sick and Housebound

A reminder that Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, 5th December at 3 p.m. in the Crypt. The Sacrament of the Sick will be administered during the Mass.

Would Contact people please 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 attending Mass enjoy the social aspect afterwards.

Advent Prayer

Commencing next Tuesday, 1st December in the Crypt at 8 p.m. Spiritual preparation for Christmas for four Tuesday nights of Advent. All welcome.

Please sign on in the C.P. Centre, tel. 344452.

First Friday

Next Friday, 4th December, is the First Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on the usual days. Confessions on Thursday at 8 p.m.

Food and Wine Fair

If you love good food, come to the C.B.F. Meat Centre at Bishopstown Community School on Thursday, 3rd December, for an evening of good food. The programme will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets £4 (including draw) are available at door.

Night Vigil at Knock Shrine

A coach will leave from Curraheen Church on Monday 7th December at 4 p.m. for a night vigil in Knock shrine for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Enquiries to Maureen 544533.

Sponsored Walk for Somalia

Walkers needed to join Sponsored Walk (10k) on Sunday 6th December. Meeting at County Hall at 1.30 p.m. For information please phone Margaret 342294.

St. Finbarr's H & F Club

The Annual Mass for the repose of the souls of deceased members of the Club will be celebrated at the Club Pavilion on Monday, 30th November at 8 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Fr. Peyton

Sunday 29 November at 5.30 p.m. on Multi Channel (06) there will be a programme on Fr. Peyton, Servant of God.

Bishopstown G.A.A.

Congratulations to our Minor Footballers who captured our third County Title of 1992 by beating Bantry Blues 3-12 to 0-10 last Sunday. It was a great team performance and helps us to look to the future with confidence.

Congratulations to Liam Meaney (Victoria Village) who has played himself on to the Cork Senior Football team. He lines out today in a vital League game against Kildare.

Education Sub Committee

Next meeting Monday 30th November at 6.30 p.m. in Fr. John's house.

**PRIESTS' EMERGENCY
NUMBER: 274888**