



Sunday, Feb. 7th, 1993

No. 326

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
CERNEY'S CROSS, CO. CK.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE 1993



OUR LADY OF LOURDES

This year we hope to organise a pilgrimage to either Lourdes or Fatima.

LOURDES: 2 - 7 October, five nights, £358.00, ex Cork, Hotel Med. (minimum 50 people).

FATIMA: 23 - 30 October, seven nights, £317.00, ex Dublin (possibility of ex Cork).

A meeting will be held in the Crypt on Tuesday, 16th February, at 8.00 p.m. and a representative from Visitation Tours will attend.

If you are interested in joining a pilgrimage please come to the meeting, as we need to know if we have sufficient numbers.



FROM OUR
PARISH TEAM
Sr. Ursula writes

I like winter. I love the sharp crispness of the frosty air, the beauty of a clear night sky and the graceful lines of the bare trees, which have their own beauty in winter. I'm one of those people who is even daft enough to like walking in the rain, if it isn't too heavy or driving.

Has it ever struck you that there are some plants which are at their best in winter; red-berry holly for instance, or Christmas cacti, Christmas roses, chrysanthemums and michaelmas daisies? These are the winter beauties which we don't see during Spring or Summer.

This set me wondering if the winter of life has also got its own particular beauty: if old age need not be a sad time, but a time of growth and graciousness. The need to succeed and to gain power can become less as we grow older. How important is it anyway? Like money, we can't take it with us. The serenity that I have seen in so many older people is truly beautiful.

I remember a Sister, a difficult lady, who scared the wits out of me when I was a young

postulant and she in her sixties. Many years later I had the privilege of helping to take care of her when she was in our Convent Infirmary and approaching ninety. Still in full possession of all her faculties, she had mellowed into one of the most grateful and gracious ladies I have ever met.

I certainly would welcome old age, if I could "let go and let God", as she had done.



We extend our sincere sympathy to NANCY KELLEHER, Wilton Road, on the death of her brother John Casey.

To DAN JOE O'DRISCOLL, Laburnum Lawn, on the death of his mother.



The Difference

I got up early one morning
and rushed right into the day;
I had so much to accomplish
that I didn't have time to pray.
Problems just tumbled about me
and heavier came each task.
'Why doesn't God help me?' I wondered.
'He answered, 'You didn't ask.'
I wanted to see joy and beauty,
but the day totted on, gray and bleak.
I wondered why God didn't show me
He said, "But you didn't seek."
I tried to come into God's presence;
I tried all my keys at the lock.
God gently and lovingly chided,
'My child, you didn't knock.'
I woke up early this morning,
and paused before entering the day.
I had so much to accomplish
that I had to take time to pray.



Rest in Peace

SEAN MOLONEY, Leedale, Model Farm Road, was called home to heaven at a comparatively early age.

Everybody Sean met in life felt the better for it. A loyal Church collector, he worked at Cork Distillers prior to his illness - and a large number of former colleagues and neighbours attended his obsequies.

Just before he died he wrote a beautiful tribute to the gentle loving care of the sisters, doctors and staff at St. Patrick's Hospital.

We offer sincere sympathy to his wife Betty, family, brothers, sisters and friends.

JOHN KELLEHER, Woodleigh Park, died at the Regional Hospital after a short illness. A quiet spoken gentle man, he was popular with youngsters and adults alike.

He will be missed especially by his dear wife Eileen, Tony and Paula and family, with whom he resided, his daughters Mary and Brid, their children and his two sisters.

MAURA HARRINGTON, late of Bishopstown Avenue, died last week after suffering a long illness. A gentle and refined lady, she had spent her life in the teaching profession.

Her funeral took place to her native Castletownbare. We extend our sympathy to her family - especially Nessa O'Donnell, Slane Lodge, with whom she lived in her declining years - and to her brother, sister and relatives.



COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

HOW SAFE IS SAFE?

Purity it used to be called. Those of an older generation will remember the sermons on purity, or rather, on impurity. Chastity was another description. How out-of-date they sound now. We almost feel ashamed to mention the words in case the liberals ridicule us.

Yet, was there ever such a need to promote the ideals that these two words conjure up? Purity. Chastity. Would 'right living' substitute? 'Good moral behaviour' perhaps?

In an age where the media screams Abortion! AIDS! Contraception! Freedom of Choice! and where the media peddles all sort of promiscuous behaviour, where 'anything goes', surely the Christian values must be proclaimed again and again before society self-destructs?

I found these values proclaimed in two most unlikely sections of the media, 'Readers Digest' and 'Newsweek' magazine of all places!

In one, a doctor advised his teenage daughters to seek one partner in life when the time comes. How can anyone indulge in 'safe' or 'safer' sex, he says, when one is dealing with a disease that is fatal?

In the other, the letter writer asks how is it that, when the experts' answer to the smoking habit is to abstain, why should it be any different with irresponsible sex?

We're back to purity and chastity, aren't we? Responsible, right, moral living places a duty on all of us to treat our bodies (and others) with dignity and respect. The media paints the grim picture of the consequences of ignoring the message.

THE UNHOLY BEATITUDES

1. Blessed are the wealthy and those who have everything; they have no need of God and will never have to admit their dependence on him.
2. Blessed are those who have a hell of a good time; they shall never be troubled by pain or sorrow.
3. Blessed are those who insist on having their own way; they shall have the best of what's going.
4. Blessed are those who look out for themselves; they will have a trouble-free life in security and peace.
5. Blessed are those who insist on their pound-of-flesh and don't get taken in by the cries of misery; they will always have plenty and be respected for their non-nonsense ways.
6. Blessed are those who hedge their bets and give some recognition - in public - to God; they shall be safe just in case.
7. Blessed are those who couldn't care less about individuals or society; they will be rewarded for minding their own business.
8. Blessed are those who avoid persecution by remaining silent and indifferent to important human issues; they shall live securely in their uninterrupted privacy.



Announcements



A Vocations Day

At Ennismore Retreat House, Montenotte, on Saturday February 13th (begins 6 p.m. the previous evening).

If you are interested in becoming a diocesan priest, contact Fr. Noel O'Sullivan, St. Finbarr's Seminary, Farranferris, Tel. 303015.

Pastoral Council

Meeting on Monday, 8th February, at 8.10 p.m. in the C.P. Centre.

World Day of the Sick

Thursday, 11th February - the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes - has been designated by Pope John Paul as 'World Day of the Sick'.

The purpose is to call attention to the role of those who suffer as a participation in Christ's saving paschal mystery, and to encourage all those who give practical expression to the Church's special love and care for the sick.

Next Sunday

Fr. Michael Gillespie, Mill Hill Missionaries, will preach at all Masses next weekend, 13th and 14th February. He will be promoting their missionary magazine "St. Joseph's Advocate".

Bishopstown Camogie Club

The A.G.M. was held recently and the following were elected for the year 1993:

President: Irene Higgins
Chairperson: Neil White
Secretary: Pat Murray
Treasurer: Breda Heffernan
Club Captain: Rose Desmond.

Training is as follows:

Senior- Sunday morning 12-1 p.m. at Bishopstown G.A.A. Wednesday night 10-11 p.m. at Bishopstown Community School.
Under 14 - Saturday, 2.30 p.m. at Bishopstown G.A.A.

New members welcome.

Adult Irish Classes

Glor na nGael Bhaile an Easpaig are commencing Irish Classes for Adults at Bishopstown G.A.A. on Wednesday nights.

Commencing: 10th February
Time: 8 - 9.30 p.m.
Enrolling: prior to first class
Duration: 9 classes
Fee: £20

Information: 951222 (evenings)

Why not come along and make new friends!

**PRIESTS' EMERGENCY
NUMBER: 274888**