



Sunday, November 28th, 1993

No. 359

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

1st Sunday in Advent



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
DEANEY'S CROSS, CO. CARL



FROM OUR PARISH TEAM

Fr. Finbarr writes

"CHRISTMAS ISN'T like the way it used to be" is a phrase we hear so often. Every generation of people has seen and will see a change in the way of life to which it is accustomed.

Confession, Sacrament of Penance, Sacrament of Reconciliation, are words meaning the same thing: God's forgiveness and grace through the action of the priest. Different generations of people use different methods to explain the same Sacrament.

I personally go every six weeks to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Why, you may ask?

Firstly, to receive forgiveness and secondly, to receive the grace to live a life worthy of my Christian Baptism, i.e., to love God and my neighbour.

My confessor, the priest to whom I go, could be compared to my medical doctor. I go to my doctor when I'm sick and for a check-up, and he advises me best how to look after my health. I go to my confessor not just to receive grace and forgiveness, but also for him to guide me how best I can have live my Christian

life. A confessor/priest is a person who is there to help you be reconciled with God and to live a life in union with Him.



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 in 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.

LETTER

Curator's House,
Waterworks,
Lee Road

Dear Editor,

One Shepherd One Fold

I am astounded by the reference made to the Pope, the Church and celibacy in Media Comment of Nov.14. I find it quite extraordinary that such disregard for Church teachings should receive circulation in a parish letter.

It is an injustice to equate Pope John Paul II (or indeed St. Peter the first Pope) with the role of experts in modern day society, as the author has so skilfully done.

The Pope's 'job' is very different; it is one of serving the people of God as they seek to live and understand the good news revealed by Jesus Christ. It is not within his discretion to alter it or water down its implications.

In its wisdom the Church has for centuries found it most beneficial for ministerial priests to practice the virtue of celibacy.

Yours in Christ,
Gearoid R. O Dubhtaigh



Rest in Peace

Siobhan O'Mahony, late of Farranlea Park, died recently. Due to failed health she had spent the past number of years in Heatherside Nursing Home. She is remembered with much affection by her neighbours in Farranlea, and especially by her companion, Bridie Ronayne. Sympathy to her sons, and relations.

IN SYMPATHY

We extend our sincere sympathy to NOEL O'SULLIVAN, Cherrygrove, Model Farm Road, on the death of his father.

To PAT BUCKLEY, Sheares Park, on the death of his mother Jane.

To JOE HARRINGTON, Ballinhassig, on the death of his father Bill.



Congratulations

Our congratulations to Mrs. Connie Murphy, the mother of Suzanne McCarthy. Seventy years after graduating (yes, seventy) she was awarded an honorary M.A. degree in Trinity College, Dublin last Monday.

In 1923 she was conferred with a B.A. in English, French, Logic and Mathematics. College fees were then eight guineas half-yearly.

All the McCarthys in Sharon Vale, Laburnum Drive, are very proud of their granny. And so are we!! Well done!!



Cookery Demonstration

The Parents' Association of Mount Mercy College are holding a cookery demonstration on 2nd December, presented by Mary Wilson, at 8 p.m. in the college. Adm. £3. All welcome.

Bishopstown G.A.A. Ladies

Cake and Christmas decorations demonstration in aid of Cope Holiday Fund on Tuesday 30th November at 8.30 p.m. in G.A.A. Club. Adm. £1.

Deaf Enterprises

Quality Auction at Ardmanning House, Togher, on Thursday 2nd December at 8 p.m. New items in furniture, leisure, toys, etc.

Peace Vigil

Will continue at the Poor Clare Chapel each Wednesday during Advent.

Monastic Afternoon

At St. Benedict's Priory, Cobh on 5th December, 2.30 - 5.30 p.m. and on every first Sunday of the month.

Legion of Mary Stall

Catholic Papers will be on sale at the Stall each Saturday evening after 6.15 p.m. Mass.

Cake Sale

Bishopstown Rotary Ladies will hold a cake sale in the Crypt after Masses on 4/5th December.

The Field

The R.T.C. Theatre Group are presenting 'The Field' by John B. Keane, in the R.T.C. Theatre from Monday 29th Nov. to Friday 3rd Dec. at 8 p.m. Adm. Adults £4, Students and O.A.P's £1.50.

Liturgy Group

Minutes available in Sacristy.

Bazaar

The Sacred Heart Adoption Society will hold a Bazaar on Sunday 5th December at 2 p.m. in Connolly Hall.

St. Finbarr's H & F Club

Annual Mass for deceased members of the Club will be celebrated at the Club Pavilion on Monday 29th November at 8 p.m. All are welcome.

Bishopstown G.A.A.

Congratulations to U-21 Hurlers who defeated Ballincollig and now meet Newcestown in County semi final at Ballinbessig on Sunday 28th November at 2.30 p.m.

Our Club has set up a fund to purchase a 'Thistle Tri-Lo Hand Propelled Tricycle' for 6 year old Garry McSweeney of Leesdale. Garry, a regular supporter of our teams, suffers from Spina Bifida and the tricycle will be of immense benefit to him. Two Fund Raising events have been organised for next weekend:
Saturday 4th: Music Show featuring the Dixies. Adm. £3.
Sunday 5th: Children's Disco (max. age 13) 2.30-5. p.m. Adm. £1.25.

All proceeds from the above will go to this worthy cause. Subscriptions greatly appreciated. Contact any club officer.

Presents from Third World

Having difficulty choosing Christmas presents? Why not buy a Third World product at the TraidEireann exhibition/shop at Connolly Hall from Sat. 27 November to Wed. 8 December. Range includes toys, jewellery, bags, household decorations, etc.





Advent

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

There will be Exposition and quiet prayer after Evening Mass until 8.30 p.m. on each Thursday of Advent.

Ministers of the Eucharist

Reminder of Retreat in Crypt next Tuesday 30th at 8 p.m. for all Ministers. Ex Ministers are also welcome to attend.

Special Mass

Concelebrated Mass for our deceased parishioners takes place this Monday, 29th, at 7.30 p.m.

Visitation

Fr. Finbarr Crowley will continue visitation in Wilton Avenue/Bishopscourt during the coming weeks.

Mass for Sick and Housebound

Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 4th December at 3p.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.

First Friday

Next Friday 3rd December is the First Friday of the month. Calls to sick and housebound on the usual days.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Soc.

Monthly meeting next Thursday 2nd December at 8 p.m. in C.P. Centre.

Sale of Parish Directory

The Parish Directory 1993-94 is on sale this weekend, price £1. Include some Parish Bulletins in a copy of the directory and it will make a fine Christmas Information Pack for your family away from home.

Children's Advent Mass

This year, once again the Communications Committee will be organising a special Mass for children, including an Advent ceremony. It will be held on Sunday 12th December at 12.15 Mass.

A Christmas Tree will be the focal point of the ceremony. Children will be responsible for decorating this special tree with messages for the Child Jesus.

Also, we invite all children to bring a gift, a non-perishable item, to this Mass. These gifts will be distributed by the St. Vincent de Paul Society to people in the area before Christmas.

All information about the Mass, Christmas Tree Ceremony and gift-giving is on notice boards in the church porches, and in all the primary schools in the Bishopstown area.

Please come and join in this lovely preparation for the birth of Jesus. Top section of church will be reserved for children.

Readings for Sunday 28 November

Ex.34:11-12,15-17. Ps. 22. 1 Cor. 15:20-28,28. Lk. 26:31-46.

**PRIESTS' EMERGENCY
NUMBER: 271551**