



Saturday, December 25th, 1993

No. 363

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

Christmas Day



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DEMNETHY CROSS, CO. DK.



Courtesy of The Poor Clares

Christmas Message

The Dean writes

He will be called - Prince of Peace.

Peace is a blessing which we long for, and pray for. We are especially conscious of it just now because of the awful sufferings of our brothers and sisters in the North of Ireland. But we need peace ourselves - in our hearts and in our homes.

During World War 1, French and German soldiers faced each other in trenches a short distance apart. It was Christmas Eve 1914 - a beautiful moonlit night. There was a lull in the fighting. Suddenly, a French soldier climbed out of his trench and began to sing 'O Holy Night'. Not a shot was fired. When he finished a German soldier climbed out and sang 'Stille Nacht - Silent Night' - not a sound was heard to mar the beauty of this Christmas hymn. Those who witnessed the event found tears in their eyes, and never forgot it.

We may differ in many things, but there is good hidden within

the heart of every person. Jesus came as a child on that first Christmas night to enable this goodness to blossom and bear fruit. An anonymous poet expressed it like this:

*When the song of the angels is
stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are
home,
When the shepherds are back with
the flocks
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost, to heal the
broken,
To feed the hungry, to release
the prisoner.
To rebuild the nations.
To bring peace among brothers and
sisters
To make music with the heart.*

This is my prayer for you: that the Prince of Peace may bring his special gift of peace to all of us in this community - that we may experience the warmth of his love - and that we may share that love with our families, our neighbours and everyone we meet and make music in our hearts during Christmas 1993.

~~the editor writes...~~

*the
editor
writes...*

Dear Bulletin Readers,

This is my time for saying thank you to everybody who is involved in producing the Bulletin. It may look small, but it takes about 150 people to keep it going.

A special word of appreciation to the Dean, Fr. John and Sr. Ursula for their support and encouragement and, of course, to

Fr. Finbarr who is one of our team.

For you, our readers, I hope you didn't let the pressures and stresses of Christmas get to you and that it is the peaceful and happy time that it is meant to be.

To any of our emigrants who are back with us for Christmas we say "Welcome Home". It is good to have you home, even if only for a short time.

Your sincerely,

Elise Harris



Christmas Comments



BY

"LUKE", "NAOMI" and "THOMAS"



COMMENT BY "LUKE"

Luke tells us that, when it was time for Mary to have her child, she gave birth to a son, her first-born, wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn.

Two thousand years on, little has changed. We read in the media that "over the past ten years the rich have got richer - and beggars have re-appeared on our streets like ghosts from a Dickensian past."

At that first Christmas, the angel said "Listen, I bring you news of great joy, to be shared by the whole people."

Whatever happened to the message? I wish you all a Happy and a caring Christmas.

ALTERNATIVE SLANTS BY "NAOMI"

When we take away the trappings that, over centuries, have surrounded the birth of Jesus, we find ourselves facing the dazzling reality of Love in all its awesome mystery. If we then reassemble the familiar Christmas conventions of the Crib, gifts, singing, feasting, we find the same Love in all its tender gentleness infusing our human nature and uplifting us to share in its Divinity. So, in the words of a traditional carol - "Rejoice and be merry, set sorrow aside, Christ Jesus our Saviour was born on this tide!"

ALTERNATIVE SLANTS BY "THOMAS"

When I was young, God was a baby from early December until 6th January. He was a young man until Good Friday. He was dead on Holy Saturday, often leaving me quite lonely. He was a young man again, but now in white clothes until mid Summer. For the rest of the year he was the man in the Sacred Heart picture. (I must confess that in those days he was never a woman.)

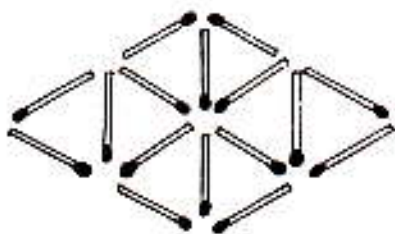
I always felt strange when Christmas came round and he was a baby again. Was this cheating, I asked myself. The priests who knew he had grown up were still putting a baby in the crib.

I have heard a young couple describe their new baby as "the light of our lives". This makes me as an adult see the relevance of "Baby Jesus".

I picture a crib with light shining out from within and even the gloomiest moments are alleviated.

★

*Peace
on Earth*



Take 4 matches away to leave only 4 triangles.



Christmas crispy cakes

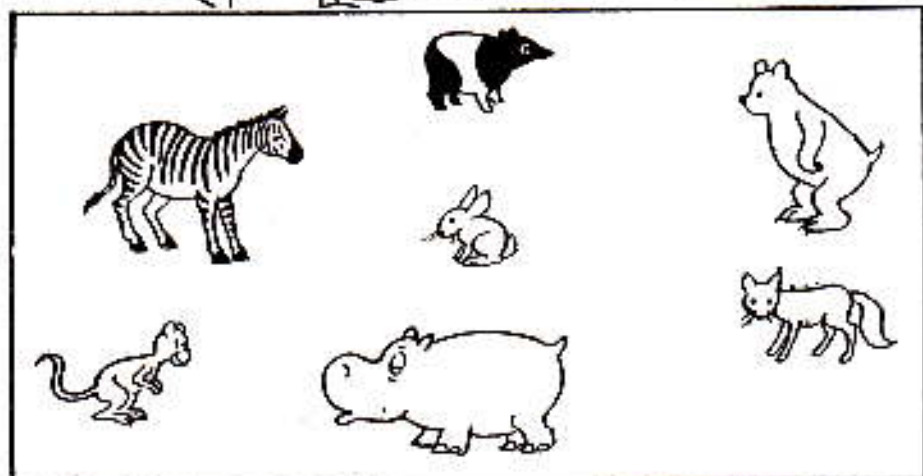
Melt 4 oz. white chocolate broken into squares, with 1 oz. butter and 8 tbsp. golden syrup in a large heatproof bowl over a pan of gently simmering water. Remove bowl from heat and stir in 4 oz. rice crispies, 1 oz. coconut, 1 oz. raisins. Divide mixture between 16 paper cases, then sprinkle each one with a little more coconut and decorate with half a cherry. Chill for 2 hours until set.



DOMINOES

What should appear on the last domino?

6	12	24	48
2	4	8	?



Tommy the zoo-keeper wanted to separate the animals. He did this by building three straight walls in the field. Can you draw three straight lines and give each animal his own space?



QUIZ



1) Who was No. 1 at Christmas 1992?

Answer.....

2) The Beatles started out in The Cavern. Who started out from the Station House, Richmond?

A.....

3) Who is known as 'The Bachelor from Mullingar'?

A.....

4) There is a group in the charts at the moment whose video features missing children.

A.....

5) In the song 'American Pie' there is a line "The day the music died". Why did the music die?

A.....

6) Linfield and Lyton are in the charts at the moment - what group did Lyton originally front?

A.....

7) Born in Tralee, a famous star in the 60's and 70's - her original name was Mary O'Brien. Who is she?

A.....

8) Jersey Girl by Bruce Springstein - who wrote it?

A.....

9) Who is Robert Zimmerman?

A.....

10) Who won the Eurovision in 1993?

A.....

11) Born in Bromley, London, in 1907, original name David Jones - who is he?

A.....

12) Where is Jim Morrison buried?

A.....

13) In 1984 what drummer lost his arm in a car crash?

A.....

14) What group did Philip Bailey front?

A.....

15) What have Noel Redding, Alex Cooper, Annie Lennox and Kenny Everett in common?

A.....

16) Name Queen's first single?

A.....

17) What year was 'Out of Hell' originally released?

A.....

18) Who was lead singer with 'Them'?

A.....

19) Who was the English member of The Monkeys?

A.....

20) What is No.1 in the Irish Charts this week?

A.....

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

Answers to be dropped into the C.P. Centre by Sunday 9th January.



GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

This year it has been decided to vary this type of page. It is hoped it will cater for all ages and classes and prove a test of one's ability to solve problems and show a good knowledge of languages old and new.

1. Underline the odd one out:

a) Pale, Jack Carey, George Best, Dixie Dean, Eusebius.

b) Rile Mick, Romes Ganner, Mensahoib, Kudland.

c) August, September, October, November, December.

d) Mozart, Bach, Handel, Beethoven, Socrates.

2. Translate the well known part of a "Nursery":

'Quid dixit Cinderla fabro qui conficiebat imagines iam luce parvoque in scrinio quodam statim factus? Aliquando, ait ad me princeps meus illustris adveniet.

.....

.....

3. Translate two well known French proverbs:

a) Pierre qui roule ne ramasse pas mousse.

.....

.....

b) Loin des yeux, loin du coeur.

.....

.....

4. Insert the word missing from the brackets:

Example: Policeman (Mars) Nurse

Solicitor () Barrister

5. Insert the missing number:

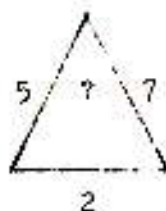
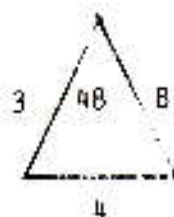
8	5	9
26	20	
13	16	12

6. Insert the word which completes the first word and starts the second:

UR()LE

Clue: It is a male.

7. Find the missing Number:



Entries to the C.P. Centre by
9th January.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....



CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD



Entries into
C.P. Centre
by 9th Jan.



Across

1. "The Virgin will conceive and give..." Mt.1.V.23 (5,2,1,3)
2. Unfold what was once ordinary. (7)
3. Who the devil is this? (5)
4. This is Greek, at the very least. (4)
5. "I will make an everlasting..." Is.55. (8)
6. A tale to tell about a drink. (6)
7. You'll get no tea - this is not on! (6)
8. A hive of activity. (1,1,6)
9. This is for you to shake in when you're scared. (4)
10. Even Cork people won't have this for Christmas dinner. Such drivel! (5)
11. Symbol of immortality. Sounds like the second person in triplicate (3,4)
12. You must not molest or oppress him. Exodus 22. (3,8)

Down

1. Whatever comes out, it depends on this. (5)
2. Don't get all caught up in this one. (4)
3. It's his job to put the monk a cut above the rest. (6)
4. What we all hope to be when we pray. (8)
5. This unfortunate person is no longer in favour. (7)
6. To do this is NOT to turn the other cheek. (11)
7. He touched her hand...left her. Mt.8 V.15 (3,3,5)
8. This bulletin could not appear without them. (8)
9. That pre-Christmas dinner feeling. (7)
10. If you regularly utter one, then you are one. (6)
11. Sounds like a sore throat, but has four legs. (5)
12. Don't be down-hearted, awkward teenager, you may yet turn out like this. (4)



REFLECTION

Read slowly and reflectively the following reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The people that walked in darkness
has seen a great light:
on those who live in a land of deep
shadow
a light has shone.

Pause in silence

Have you ever felt that you 'lived in a
land of deep shadow' and then that 'a
light shone on you'?

You have made their gladness greater.
you have made their joy increase:
they rejoice in your presence
as men rejoice at harvest time,
as men are happy when they divide the
spoils.

Pause in silence

Think of times when you have felt like
rejoicing.

For there is a child born for us,
a son given to us
and dominion is laid on his shoulders:
and this is the name they give him:
Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God,
Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace.
(Isaiah 9:6)

Pause in silence

What name would you give him?

Come, let us Adore Him

And is it true?

And is it true? And is it true?
This most tremendous tale of all,
seen in a stained-glass window's
hue. A baby in an ox's stall?
The Maker of the stars and sea
Became a child on earth for me?

John Betjeman



Announcements

Feast of the Epiphany

Thursday 6th January is the Feast
of the Epiphany and a Holyday of
Obligation. Vigil Mass on
Wednesday at 6.15 p.m. Masses on
Thursday at 9, 10, 11, 12.15 and
Evening Mass at 6.15 p.m.

First Friday 7th January

Calls to the sick and housebound
at the usual times.

Ministers of the Eucharist

New rotas ready for collection at
Altar Rails this Sunday.

No Bulletin on January 2.

We hope we will be missed!

*Joy to the
World*

**PRIESTS' EMERGENCY
NUMBER: 271551**