



Sunday, January 30th, 1994

No. 367

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENEHY'S CROSS, DORK

SAINT
BLAISE



FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

Legend and fact have become interwoven in the centuries since St. Blaise was martyred in 316 A.D. But we are told that he was a good bishop who worked hard to encourage the spiritual and physical health of his people.

So it is that, even though we associate St. Blaise with throats, the prayer said at the blessing includes the words: 'May God deliver you from all ailments of the throat and from every other evil.'

Why not avail of the blessing of Throats at all Masses on Thursday February 3rd.



Pope's Intentions for February

That the World Day of the Sick help people recognise the suffering, glorious face of Christ in all who are sick. (In 1992 Pope John Paul II instituted the World Day of the Sick to be held each year on the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes, Friday 11th February.) It is meant to be "an intense moment of prayer, sharing, offering suffering for the good of the Church, and a call to everyone to recognise in the face of our sick brothers and sisters the holy face of Christ, who, in suffering, dying and rising again, carried out the salvation of humanity."

Pope John Paul II.

POPE'S APPEAL FOR PEACE

The Pope requests all Catholics to join him in a special day of prayer today for peace in Bosnia and in the North of Ireland. He suggests that we might observe a Fast on Friday next.

PLEASE PRAY *for*

We pray for the late Betty O'Mahony, formerly of Kenley Avenue and Friars Walk, who died peacefully last week. She lived with her daughter Carmel O'Shea in Kenley, before going to Mount Desert. She was a softly spoken gentle lady who bridged the generation gap through her ability to communicate with the young and old. To her daughters and their families we offer our sympathy.

Eileen Kelleher, Woodleigh Park, died peacefully at the South Infirmary in the early hours of Sunday 23rd January. A gentle kindly lady, she was in failing health since the death of her husband John, exactly a year ago. We extend sincere sympathy to her daughters Mary and Brid, son Tony, daughter-in-law Paula, sons-in-law and grandchildren.



We offer our sincere sympathy to MAN FORREST, Laburnum Lawn, on the death of her brother Jack Barry, Midleton.

To CYRIL FOLEY, Wilton Avenue, on the death of his sister.

To the family of the late Sean Walsh, formerly of Bendemeer Park and Windmill Road, who died last week.

ST. BRIGID

St. Brigid was born c.454. Her father Duhtach of the Ui Fortharta sect of the Ui Failghe had a child by Broicseach, a Christian slave of his. She was born in Faughart, Co. Louth. Her youth was spent in herding and milking cattle and making butter.

She was an attractive girl and her father fixed marriage for her. She refused. Instead she opted for religious life and received spiritual formation from St. Mel and stayed for a period under his direction in Ardagh.

She founded a monastery in Kildare. Cattle were the main support of her monastery.

Hospitality, alms-giving and care of the sick were her main preoccupation. She died in 524. She is the Secondary Patron of Ireland and her feast is celebrated on 1st February.

LENT

"The Lenten season should preserve something of its penitential character." - Pope Paul VI. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 15th February. Here are some forms of penance that are part of the tradition of the Church, one or more of which we might consider taking up this Lent: giving up sin; praying; fasting from food and drink; doing good works; giving alms; abstinence from some foods or other pleasures; reading of the scriptures; controlling our desires for possessions that are newer, bigger, better and more automatic; controlling our desires for entertainment by TV and radio, films, and spectator sport.



COMMENT

ALTERNATIVE SLANTS

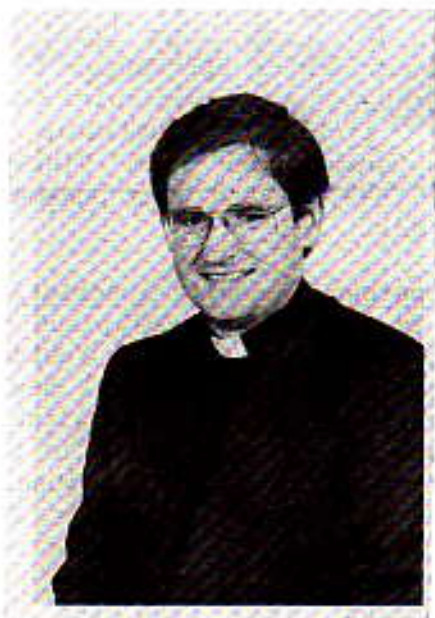
BY NAOMI

Thoughts on Feminism have drifted through my mind lately. A complex theme, it tends to be perceived (falsely) as pertaining solely to women, encompassing a range of social and psychological areas including home, workplace and church. Concepts like Equality, Identity, Patriarchy are, by now, well-worn topics.

Reflecting on who actually debates these matters, it struck me that people making best use of the nurturing qualities of the female psyche - those involved in caring for others in a practical (everyday) sense - probably have the least time for organized discussion. Yet, this very quality is surely the heart of Feminism in its truest sense and its most positive contribution to human society.

Edwina Gately, founder of the Volunteer Missionary Movement, writing during a personal retreat in 1981, had strong feelings about the Eucharist and church structures:

"I sit and celebrate the Eucharist with all men at the altar - knowing it to be unjust.... How far from the sheep shepherds get when they gather to celebrate the Eucharist.... They set themselves apart, even convince the sheep that this is the order of God and the Universe. But the Mother, Compassionate, Nurturing God does not validate anything but to love one another."



SCRIPTURE COURSE

Fr. John will lead a Scripture reading course during Lent. If interested please sign in the C.P. Centre. You will need your own Bible. The first meeting will be on Tuesday 8th Feb. in the C.P. Centre at 8 p.m. Each session lasts an hour. The primary aim is simply to read the scriptures themselves. No prior knowledge is supposed. The meetings will be on Tuesday evenings Feb. 9, 16, 23, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.





Calcutta Fund

Supper Dance at Jurys Hotel on Wednesday 2nd February, 8-12 midnight. Music: Ceoltoiri Cois Laoi. Tickets £6 available in C.P. Centre, or from Vincent Jones (544762) and Mary McNamara (273702).

Bishopstown Community Association

Next meeting will take place at Wilton Park House on Tuesday February 1st at 8 p.m. Newly decorated rooms are now available for meeting to any groups in the locality at Wilton Park House. There is a nominal charge for this service and details or bookings may be made by contacting The Caretaker at 543757.

Bishopstown Meals-on-Wheels would like to hear from any person willing to cook meals for the elderly of the locality. Each cook is only required to work from 9.30 to 11.30 a.m. just one morning every three weeks. There are ample drivers at this time. Enquiries please to Mary Coffey (541465) or Wilton Park House (543757).

Monastic Afternoon

At St. Benedict's Priory, Cobh, on February 6th, 2.30 to 5.20 p.m. Talk and display on monastic life, refreshments, slides, vespers. Details from 811354.

Bring Life to your Faith

In the "new-look" **FOLD** there's something for everyone.

FIND OUT HOW LIFE HAS CHANGED FOR THE COUNTRY'S FARMERS; LISTEN TO LYNN'S STORY OF HER MOTHER'S SUICIDE... GET THE INSIDE STORY OF A CITY PARISH. AND SMILE WITH BILLA!

All this and more for just 50p.

Visitation

Fr. Finbarr Crowley will visit College Road area during the week.

Fr. John will visit Farranlea Park and Victoria Village.

Thanks!

Thanks to Sarah Fitzpatrick who prepared the St. Brigid crosses in the Church.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

Monthly meeting next Thursday 3rd at 8.00 p.m. in the C.P. Centre

St. Vincent de Paul

Monthly collection next weekend.

First Friday

Next Friday 4th February. Calls to sick and housebound on usual days.

Altar Society

Meeting of members at Sacristy on Tuesday 1st February at 8 p.m.

Can You Help?

The Brothers of Charity need families who will be prepared to offer one week's holiday this summer to a child with Mental Handicap. If any person is prepared to take up this challenge, please come to a public meeting at the Imperial Hotel on Thursday 3rd February at 8 p.m. Further information may be had from Mary Fitzgerald at Lota, phone 821012.

**PRIESTS' EMERGENCY
NUMBER: 271551**