



Sunday, February 6th, 1994

# BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

No. 368



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DENVERHYE CROSS, CO. DUB.



FROM OUR  
**PARISH  
TEAM**  
*The Dean writes*



## SHALOM - PEACE

Every news bulletin since Christmas has some reference to peace - or the lack of it. We read of the awful suffering which fighting brings in its train in Bosnia, Somalia, in Northern Ireland. We pray for them. We pray for ourselves too. Thank God, we are spared the terrible torments of war. But we have our own sufferings - ill health, death of a loved one, loss of job, the anguish of shame, the torment of nerves and depression, loneliness, and the day when just about everything goes wrong for us.

Where can we turn for help? Is there any? On the night before he died Jesus said: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God always, and trust in me. Peace I leave you, my own peace I give you, a peace that the world cannot give. This is my gift to you."

Shalom - be at peace - I understand. "Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted."  
(Response in today's Mass).

## FEAST DAYS

### St. Gobnait: Friday 11 February

She is said to have fled from her home in Cläre to Aran. However, the main part of her life was spent in Ballyvourney where she founded a convent and where there has always been a deep devotion to her. She practised bee-keeping. There is a statue to her as a bee-keeper outside the graveyard made by the Sculptor, Seamus Murphy in 1951. The remains of the convent, including stones from the circular hut where she lived, her grave and a holy well can be found at the site. Pilgrims visit each site in turn saying prayers at each 'station' as they have done for hundreds of years. Nice Sunday outing!





## LETTER

Dear Editor,

Since I arrived in Cork nearly 11 years ago I have found myself learning to adjust to many new ways of doing things. But I haven't been able to feel comfortable in church - not because I felt unwelcome - I found people here much friendlier than in my former church.

Last week I finally realised why I felt out of place. I think it is because of the presentation of the gifts (comment in the 23rd January bulletin).

Since I was a very small child my mother explained that after we present the gifts a miracle happens: God changes bread and wine into the body and blood of Jesus. To me, next to the actual blessing, it is the most important event at Mass. I realised the change only last week. Many things are happening at the same time as the presentation of the gifts. I'm looking in my purse, my neighbours are asking one another whispered questions, children let out a sigh because finally everyone is making just a little noise!

May I humbly suggest making the church announcements while the baskets are being passed around, then announce the actual

presentation of the gifts. In this way the ushers have plenty of time to collect the baskets and present our gift of money at the same time as our gifts of bread and wine. The blessing can happen with the reverence that it deserves.

Yours faithfully,  
name and address with  
the Editor

*The Editor regrets being unable to publish letters which are anonymous. This is our policy. We will, of course, withhold the name if the writer wishes.*

*Also, as ours is a small bulletin we would ask that letters be limited to 150 words approximately.*



We offer our sincere sympathy to VIVIAN FOLEY, Wilton Gardens, on the death of his sister, Mary Egan.

To SR. ELMA COAKLEY, St. Columba's Convent, on the death of her mother.

To JOE McNALLY, Farranlea Grove, on the death of his brother.

To LOUISE CUMMINS, Farranlea Grove, on the death of her brother-in-law.

To NOREEN LEHANE, Wilton Gardens, on the death of her brother, Michael O'Brien in England.

To EDDIE KENNY, Farranlea Park, on the death of his mother.





# COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

## CYNICISM THE PRODUCT OF DESPAIR

Fr. Owen O'Sullivan is a Capuchin priest ministering in Zambia. He has written a very thought-provoking article in THE FURROW.

He describes what he calls a 'silent schism' that is taking place in the Church. Believers, he claims, are slipping away, quietly, without fuss, "not because they have lost faith in God, but because they have lost hope in the Church."

The young, Fr. O'Sullivan says, are "not switched off; they were never switched on in the first place. They go," he says, "directionless, carried off by a popular culture without content or substance."

He speaks of the alienation of so many married Catholics because of *Humanae Vitae*. He decries the making an absolute of the contraceptive issue which resulted in a world-wide loss of papal authority and led to pain, anxiety and sacrifice for so many Catholics.

Women, married, single and religious, are alienated by a Church they perceive as patriarchal. Many see themselves as relegated to the traditional roles of "children, chores and church."

Women, Fr. O'Sullivan says, are not looking for concessions and privileges. They want the church leadership to listen and to respond. They are cynical and disillusioned. "And cynicism," Fr. O'Sullivan says, "is the product of despair."



## Lent

Weekday Mass and Scripture.

Lent is a time we are encouraged to attend weekday Mass or at least read the Mass readings at home.

Lent Daily Missal, published by Veritas Publications 1988 at £1.95 (purple cover, available in Veritas, Bridge Street) is a handy volume which contains the texts for all the weekday Masses of Lent, with a daily commentary.

It is specially designed for people who go to Mass daily in Lent, and can be used for Scripture reading at home.

It contains also a Stations of the Cross composed by Pope John Paul II for the Holy Year.



Today is a day for new beginnings.



## TAKE NOTE:

### Ministers of the Eucharistic Past and Present

You are invited to a Special Mass at 8 p.m. on Tuesday 8th February in the Crypt.

### Ministers of the Word

Meeting in C.P. Centre 8.10p.m.

### World Day of the Sick

Friday 11th February,  
Commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes and designated World Day of Sick by Pope John Paul II.

### Lenten Scripture Reading

Interested in doing something extra for Lent? The Scripture Reading for Beginners may be for you. Details and enrolment in the C.P. Centre. You will need your own Bible. First meeting will be on Shrove Tuesday 15th February at 8 p.m. and meetings will continue on subsequent Tuesdays throughout Lent.

### Pastoral Visitation

Fr. John will visit Victoria Court and Farranlea this week, and Fr. Finbarr will continue his visitation in College Road.

### Announcing....

We wish 'Good Luck' to John O'Callaghan who takes over the Fruit & Veg Shop (formerly Strahens) in Glasheen Village on Monday 7th February.

### Altar Society

New members urgently needed. Could you spare an hour or two once a month? If so, please give name at Sacristy or C.P. Centre.

### Bishopstown G.A.A.

At the recent A.G.M. the following officers were elected for 1994:

President L. Lynch, Chairman S. Carrig, V-Chairman J. Ryng, Secretary S. Phelan, Asst. Sec. A. Jones, Treasurer J. Collins, Asst. Treasurer E. Finnegan, Registrar C. Begley, Asst. Reg. N. O'Mahony, P.R.O. J. Ryan, Delegates to Count Board J. Ryan, R. Murray, Delegates to City Board J. Collins, N. O'Mahony.

Scor na nOg: Congratulations to Jacqui Whelton who won the County Championship in the Recitation Competition. She was narrowly beaten in the Provincial Final which was held at Killarney recently. Well done, Jacqui.

The County Final of the Premier Minor Football League takes place on Sunday 6th at 3 in Ballingearry. Bishopstown -v- Bantry. We wish the team well and appeal for your support.

### Can You Help?

Any unwanted furniture in good condition would be gratefully received for a charitable cause. Can be collected by appointment. Phone Noelle or Carol at 307282 office hours.

### Art Classes

Art Classes for older people will commence on Thursday next 10th in the Crypt at 2.30 p.m.

### Readings for Sunday February 13

Joel 2:12-18, Ps. 50, 2 Cor. 5:20-6:2, Mt. 6:1-6, 16-18.

**PRIESTS' EMERGENCY  
NUMBER: 271551**