

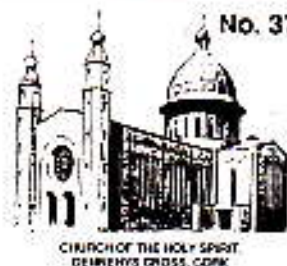


Sunday, April 17th, 1994

No. 378

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

3rd Sunday of Easter



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DUBLIN'S CROSS, DUBLIN

VOCATIONS

Next Sunday, 24th April, is a day of prayer for vocations.

Prayer to the Mother of Vocations

O Virgin Mary, to you we commend our young people, particularly those called to follow your Son more closely. You know the difficulties, the struggles, the obstacles they must face. Help them to utter "yes" to the divine call, as you did at the invitation of the angel. Draw them to your heart so that they can understand with you the beauty and the joy that awaits them when Almighty God calls them into intimacy, to make them witnesses to his Love and enable them to inspire the Church with their consecration. O Virgin Mary, help us to rejoice with you in seeing the love which was brought by your Son being welcomed, treasured and returned.

Grant that we may see in our own days the wonders of the mysterious action of the Holy Spirit.

(Pope John Paul II)

ST. GEORGE

Saint George was venerated as a soldier-saint at Lydda in the Holy Land where he was probably martyred around 300 AD. His cult may have been popularised in England and Ireland by returning crusaders. He is the patron Saint of England, of soldiers, and of boy scouts. His feast day is next Saturday 23rd April.



FROM OUR PARISH TEAM

Fr. Finbarr writes

I read a statement recently, "The person that accuses must be ready to be accused". We live at a time when allegations and accusations are made against different people and organisations freely and often without consideration for the extended family or community.

On reflection, the above statement I hope has made me a person more sensitive to my own failings. Nobody likes to be criticized, but if we are to be criticized let it be constructive and not just destructive. Destructive criticism, where one has no right to reply or to defend oneself, can be soul destroying. Christ's teaching, "love the sinner but condemn the sin" most surely be part of all our lives. Easter time gives us an opportunity to reflect on this Christian message and put it into practice.



Aldon,
Wilton Road

Dear Editor,

I was most surprised to notice that the five adjacent parishes in this area are now having Sunday Masses at exactly the same times. Is there a breakdown in communication? The Diocesan Directory gives the impression that attempts are being made to offer worshippers a variety. However, it would appear that the Bishop is to be accommodated in preference to the laity. Even if one local parish staggered the times to 8.30, 10.00 and 11.30 it would have offered immense variety all round - and kept within episcopal directive.


Yours sincerely,
Paddy Ryan




IRISH GIRL GUIDES

Congratulations to the Bishopstown Girl Guides who represented Rangers, Guides and Brownies in Dublin at the I.G.G. National Final Table Quiz on 26th March. The Rangers won 1st prize - team members Fiona Barrett, Rosemary O'Driscoll, Breeda Lenihan and Emma O'Sullivan. Guides from St. Joseph's Company also won 1st prize - Helen Moloney, Terri Ranahan, Deirdre O'Donovan and Tracy Kilgallon, while the Brownies from Marian Pack - Pixies - Carmel O'Herlihy, Eavan Coughlan, Ruth Moloney, Jennifer O'Sullivan and substitute Therese O'Connor won 3rd prize.

Well done to all. The day out also included Ice Skating and a visit to the Wax Work Museum.



A PARISHIONER WRITES



6 Kenley Ave.
Model Farm Rd.

Dear Editor,

In the March 27th issue of the Bulletin, Fr. John Newman described a competition among a group of young bird-watchers as "an example of how many people make themselves slaves of the leisure habit". This is utter nonsense and shows his ignorance of the nature of this event.

It seems to me that it is very important, especially for young people, that one should develop a deep interest in some hobby or pastime which absorbs one's mental and physical energies to the extent that inertia and boredom are kept at bay. Youngsters who develop a consuming interest in some healthy leisure activity rarely get into trouble. It may be participation in a competitive sport which should prepare them to accept victory or defeat with equanimity or a pastime such as fishing, ornithology, archaeology, painting, etc., which demand study and patience rather than physical prowess.

A healthy enthusiasm for a hobby or pastime does not necessarily mean an obsession and very often demands a spiritual awareness of ourselves, our weaknesses as well as our strengths. "Proving our worth" is not always something to be afraid of, Rev. Father.

Liam O'Flynn



COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

AN OVER DEFENSIVE CHURCH?

It is peculiar to our nature that, when we are criticised, we become defensive. As individuals, we are like that. As a Church, we behave in the same way.

But isn't it necessary to listen first to criticism, to evaluate it and, only then, to respond to it? It is the age of the instant response, urged on by the media, who are less interested in the criticism than in a controversy.

We all make mistakes because we are human. But life, surely, is a learning process and we can all learn from our errors - if we have the humility to do so.

During the past week, we saw the reaction of the Hierarchy to the accusations of a bishop's alleged involvement in a scandalous affair. This reaction

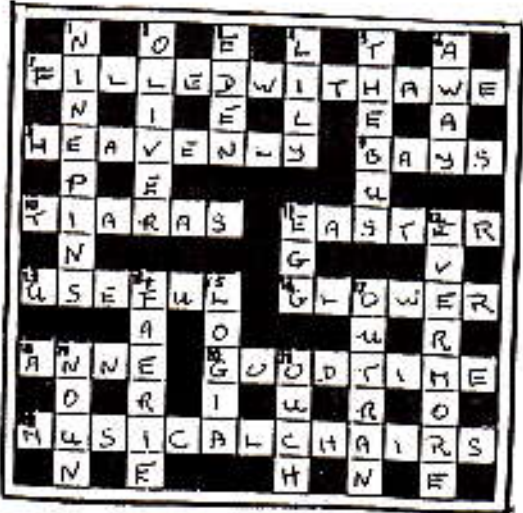
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from the GUARDIAN newspaper.

On the other hand, the over-reaction to Fr. Joe Dunn's book, 'No Lions in the Hierarchy' seems excessive. Fr. Dunn's track record over the years speaks for itself. Perhaps a little more consideration of his criticisms would be good for the Church in Ireland?

One coin in a bottle rattles; the bottle filled with coins makes no sound.

Talmud



10 correct solutions were submitted. Congratulations to all who got it right. A few people said it was a stinker. That, of course, does not include the genius who declared it to be "dead easy".

The following were drawn for a prize:

- (1) Lily Casey, Bendemeer Park
- (2) Kathleen Fahy, Farranlea Grove.

ANY ANSWERS?

Only one! The rest of you are no doubt still considering your answers to the Easter questionnaire by 'Des'.

Send in your opinions. We'd still like to hear from you.



SYMPATHY

We offer sympathy to Noreen Lehane, Wilton Gardens, on the death of her sister Elizabeth Condon in England.



Ministers of the Eucharist

Please note that the 11.00 a.m. Ministers revert to the 10.30 Mass until new rotas in June. Thank you.

Easter Dues

We would like to thank the collectors and those who contributed so generously for the support of the parish clergy.

Visitation

Fr. Finbarr will visit Kenley during the coming week and Fr. John will visit Leesdale.

Parish Novena

Novena to the Holy Spirit will take place on May 12th - 20th.

Thank You

The members of the Dennehy's Cross Society of St. Vincent de Paul thank sincerely all who subscribed £1,250 to our Coal Fund. £2,500 in all was paid out this winter.

"The Discipleship of Women"

At the Dominican Pastoral Centre, Pope's Quay (tel.502267) next weekend, Friday 22nd April 8.00 p.m. - Saturday 23rd April 10.30 a.m. Celebrating the Feast of St. Catherine of Siena. Director Anne Thurston. Cost £10.

Benedictines of Cloyne

Monastic Afternoon at the Priory Cobh on May 1st from 2.30 to 5.30. Come and bring your friends.

Light out of Darkness

A human/spiritual growth course of a week's residential retreat, for adults from 16/18 upwards. Cost £170. Further details at C.P. Centre, or Mary O'Sullivan, tel. 871951.

Walk in Greece

A sponsored walk in Greece is being organised by the Irish Heart Foundation from 5-14 October. If you would like to participate please phone 505822

Regional Hospital Incinerator

A health hazard? Public meeting at SMA Hall, Wilton on Sunday 17th April at 3 p.m. This meeting is being organised by residents worried about the effects of black smoke emissions from the incinerator on their health and environment. Guest speakers from the St. James Hospital incinerator action group.

Bridge Tournament

Will be held on Sunday 24th April at 7 p.m. sharp at Jury's Hotel, in aid of the National Council for the Blind. All categories catered for. Raffle - free. Table money £5 per person. Please support this worthy cause.

Readings for Sunday 24th April

Acts 4:8-12 Ps. 117. 1 Jn. 3:1-2 Jn. 10:11-18

Baile'n Baspaig Gramophone Circle

Monthly recital will take place on Wednesday next 20th April at 3 p.m. sharp in the Crypt of the Church. Eddie Hogan will play some of his favourite music and everybody is welcome to attend.

Art Classes

For older people will re-commence on Thursday 21st April, 2.30p.m.-4.30 p.m. in Crypt.