

COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

DRAW THE WAGONS INTO A CIRCLE

So often I have felt that the Catholic Church in Ireland has used the media defensively. The option is there to harness the media, in all its forms, to promote the Good News, to highlight the positive aspects of Christianity.

Instead of this, writes Fr. Kevin Hegarty, editor of INTERCOM, the response to our problems has been to "draw the wagons into a circle and hope for rescue;" as in the old Wild West movies.

We must get rid of this siege mentality, says Fr. Hegarty. We need a church which is forthright in its teaching and honest about its failures and mistakes - and how they mount up! We need a church which is respectful of human experience and genuinely committed to lay involvement.

Since Vatican II the church has been committed, in theory at least, to the concept of a church for all of God's people. In practice, too many uninspired and uninspiring priests have clung to power, perceiving the involvement of lay people as a threat.

The Catholic Church in Ireland must "reinvent itself" says Fr. Hegarty, "if it is to continue as a significant voice in Irish Society." "The Church," he claims, "has yet to evolve a coherent pastoral strategy that attracts and

involves the citizens of the new Ireland."

I believe that he is right and I believe that the time is ripe for a brave and honest approach to the whole matter. Certainly the time for empty rhetoric is well and truly over.

THE YEAR OF THE FAMILY CONSECRATION

Today, Sunday 20th at 4.00 p.m. we will be celebrating Mass and consecrating families to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Mass will be concelebrated by Bishop Michael Murphy, Frs. Dan O'Connor, MSC., John Newman and Finbarr Crowley.

We ask that you will be in the church some time beforehand as there will be a rehearsal of hymns and lighting of votive lights.

Votive lights will be available at the doors at 50p. Please take one, bring it to the altar rails. It will be kept lighting for you throughout the Mass and can be reclaimed the next day from boxes at the church doors. As there will be at least six hours lighting time left after the ceremony, the light can be placed before your Sacred Heart picture in your home.

If you have a picture of the Sacred Heart please bring it with you. All pictures will be blessed during the ceremony. If you wish to have the picture signed, arrangements will be made to facilitate you. Pictures at 60p can be purchased at the church doors today.



NEW CATHOLIC CATECHISM STUDY DAY

What is new? What is different about the New Catholic Catechism? In order to give people an opportunity to get to know more about the background and content, a study day has been organised on Saturday November 26th in the Community Hall in Sunday's Well, which is located beside the church, beginning at 9.30 and ending at 3.45 p.m. The speakers are Frs. Pdraig Corkery, Bob Harrison and John Newman. Please bring packed lunch. Tea/coffee will be provided. The cost is £3 (unwaged admitted free). For further information please contact Sr. Patricia Winkle at 312330.



We offer our sincere sympathy to ABINA MULLIGAN, St. Claire's Avenue, on the death of her brother.

To KATHLEEN FAHY, Farranlea Grove, on the death of her sister Jean St. Lawrence, in Salisbury.

To KAY REARDON, Farranlea Grove, on the death of her sister May Donovan, Montenotte.

GOOD SERMON.....

when the preacher's remarks apply to everybody but ME

Pastor's Letter



My dear friends,

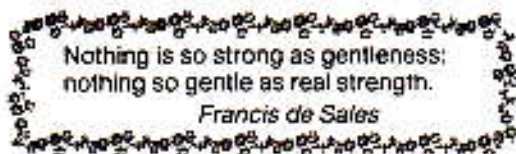
I want to send a very special message of thanks to all, young and adult, who prayed for me, and had Masses offered for my recovery during my recent illness, and to the Parish Team who so generously covered my duties.

Your care and concern meant more to me than you will ever know - or my words can express, but it was great to know there are people out there who care. I would like you to know how much I appreciated your support at a time when I needed it.

May God reward you for your goodness. You are for ever in my prayers.

Denis O'Donnell P.P.

On behalf of his parishioners we would like to send the Dean our very best wishes for a full recovery. We are so pleased his operation has gone well. We assure him that he is in our thoughts and our prayers.





Notice Board

Visitation

Fr. Finbarr Crowley will commence visitation at Model Farm Road this week.

REMEMBRANCE

You Are Invited to Attend

Monday 28th November at 7.30 p.m. Mass will be concelebrated for all our deceased parishioners of the past year, and for those buried from our church.

We invite family and friends to attend. A member of the family will be invited to place a votive light (provided) on the altar rails at the Offertory Procession.

Christmas Dues

Dues envelopes will be delivered to homes in the parish this weekend. We wish to thank the distributors for their help.

HELP NEEDED

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

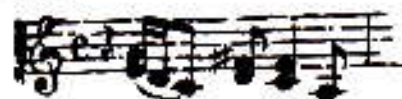
Once again winter comes and our poor need heat in their homes. Please give generously to our Coal Fund to be spent in parish. Donations to C.P. Centre, or Jim Hasset 13 Bishops court Hill and Ed. Beechinor, St. Philomenas, Bishopstown Road.

Preparation for Marriage



Weekend Pre-Marriage Courses

Will be held at the SMA Wilton on 10th/11th February.



Baile'n Easpaig Gramophone Circle

The monthly recital will take place on Wednesday next 23rd November in the Crypt of our Church at 3 p.m. sharp. Joe Crean will present his favourite music and everyone is welcome.



Concert by Vienna Boys Choir

At City Hall on Friday 25th November in aid of Trocaire's work in Rwanda. Tickets available from Trocaire, 9 Cook Street, or from Kelly's Music Store, Grand Parade.

THANK YOU

Cork Spastic Clinic

Wish to thank most sincerely the residents of Woodlawn for their very generous response to the recent house-to-house project. Amount collected was £86.

St. Finbarr's H & F Club

The annual Mass for the repose of the souls of deceased members of the Club will be celebrated at the Club Pavilion next Monday 21st November at 8 p.m. All are welcome.

Priests' Emergency

Number : 271551