

Sunday, 12th March, 1995



No. 415

# BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

2nd Sunday in Lent



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
BALLINEASPAIG CO. CAR.



FROM OUR  
**PARISH  
TEAM**

*Sr. Ursula writes*

Is there any one of us who is not touched by kindness? Isn't it interesting also that we seem, subconsciously, to recognise the difference between the do-gooder and the genuinely kind person?

I came across a little reflection lately entitled "The Ministry of Kindness". It begins, "Of all the ministries open to us, the most effective, the most far reaching, the most consoling, is kindness." How very true that is and how badly we need to develop it in ourselves and in our children. We hear so much today about bullying at school and violence against old people. Has kindness gone completely out the window? Hopefully not, and it's so simple that even the smallest child willing to share sweets or toys with another can practise it.

It's simple yes, but does that mean that it is easy? Not really, as I found out when I took it as my daily examination of conscience lately. Practising it, really trying to meet the needs of others and not my perception of those needs could be a very effective penance for Lent. I remember an old nun

saying that where she grew up they had very good neighbours. Her definition fascinated me. "Good neighbours are there when they're wanted and not there when they aren't." Work that out for yourselves!!.

"Kindness", says my reflection, "is God's best gift to the world."

## PATRICK IN HIS OWN WORDS

**A Man of Prayer:** "My zeal grew so intense that in the course of a single day I would say as many as a hundred prayers and almost as many in the night."

**A Man of Poverty:** "I know perfectly well that poverty and misfortune suit me better than riches and pleasure."

**A Man of Perseverance:** "I ask God for perseverance, to grant that I remain a faithful witness to him until my passing from this life."

## TAKE NOTE

As St. Patrick's Day falls on a Friday, next week's bulletin will have to go to the printers a day early. So, anything for inclusion in that bulletin would need to be submitted early in the week.

### Helping our Emigrants

A special collection in aid of the Irish Episcopal Commission for Emigrants will take place at Masses on 17th March.

For 200 years emigration has been a significant part of life here. Every family in Ireland has been affected by it. In one recent nine-year period no less than 213,000 left Ireland.

What does the Commission do? In 1957 the Irish bishops established a Chaplaincy to the Irish in Britain. Now 52 religious and lay people are providing a whole range of services for our emigrants. These range from helping them to settle in, getting over homesickness, finding accommodation and jobs, helping prisoners and their families, dealing with AIDS victims and the homeless, counselling, marriage preparation, hospital chaplaincy.

### **A MESSAGE FOR ALL PIONEERS**

The Annual Diocesan Pioneer Mass will take place on Thursday March 30th at 8 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Church, Western Road. Pioneers from all Centres in the Diocese are invited to attend - those who have received their gold and silver pins are especially invited.

Bishop John Buckley will preside at the Mass and present pins to silver and golden jubilarians as well as to new members.

Fr. Bernard McGuckian, Central Director of the Pioneer Association will be the guest speaker. Pioneers of 25 and 50 years who wish to be presented with silver or gold pins please contact J. Coffey, tel. 345281, as soon as possible, as pins have to be ordered.

### Bishopstown G.A.A.

Table Quiz in Club on next Wednesday, 15th March, at 8.30 p.m. Teams of four. Come along for an enjoyable night!

On St. Patrick's Night there is a Ceili, Old Time & Modern, 9.30 - late. Bar extension. Suppers. Tickets £3.50 (from Club) advance sales. £4.50 at door on night. Tar amach agus bigi linn!



### Congratulations!

Congratulations to our alter-server, Ciara Healy, Kenley Crescent, winner of the Irish Open Under-14 Squash Championships held in Dublin recently. Ciara's brother, Brian, is a member of the Irish Under-16 team. Congratulations are also in order to Robert McDonnell, Kenley Drive, winner of the boys Under-12 Irish Open.



### **WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

This year's Women's World Day of Prayer was held in St. Joseph's Church, Wilton, on Friday March 3rd, attended by many of the women of these parishes - and at least one brave man!!

The Service was prepared by the Women of Ghana, the theme being "The Earth is a House for All People" and consisted of Scripture readings and prayers said and sung.

Women's World Day of Prayer is not just a "One Day" event. In fact, it is the largest Christian Ecumenical Movement in the world organised by women.



# IN SYMPATHY

We extend sympathy to:  
Tony O'Riordan, Wilton Gardens on the death of his mother.  
Mary Murphy, Sheares Park on the death of her sister.

## Bible Corner (7)

The thumb and index finger of this worshipper are extended, while the three remaining fingers are bent. The man is apparently about to kiss his outstretched finger, then throw the kiss to his god. In blowing a kiss, one simultaneously offers to God one's life's breath. One's soul is lifted up to God, expressing the confidence that God will not let it be brought to shame.



Bronze Statue from Larsa (c.1700BC) Louvre, Paris.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.  
O my God, in you I trust. (Ps 25,1-2) JN

## The New Catechism

2416-18 Animals are God's creatures. He surrounds them with his providential care. He entrusted them to the stewardship of those whom he created in his own image. Hence it is legitimate to use animals for food and clothing. They may be domesticated to help man in his work and leisure. Medical and scientific experimentation on animals, if it remains within reasonable limits, is a morally acceptable practice since it contributes to caring for or saving human lives. It is contrary to human dignity to cause animals to suffer or die needlessly. It is likewise unworthy to spend money on them that should as a priority go to the relief of human misery. One can love animals; one should not direct to them the affection due to persons.  
*If you wish to comment, drop a note to the CP Centre.*

Dear Editor,

Re the quotation from the New Catechism (2384) on divorce on which comments were invited:

1) The paragraph employs a normative, legalistic, judgemental approach to the tragedy experienced in what it calls "the rupture" of a marriage. No compassion is expressed for their suffering.

2) The concept of "natural law" to which it refers is not universally accepted. Many, if not most, civil and religious human (and humane?) societies accept divorce as a (deplored and discouraged) reality?

3) The freedom (line 4) enjoyed and exercised by the spouses at the time of their consent, being human, is by definition limited and imperfect.

4) Can the "life with each other" (lines 4 and 5) still be called a life if it is felt to have become a mutual destruction experience.

And what is a happy and loving second union a sign of?

5) Finally, don't many things, actions and inactions, other than divorce, do as much or more injury to the covenant of salvation, but aren't as commonly preached against as divorce in the church's educational activity?

Yours sincerely,  
M. MacNamara

## Alzheimers Group

There is a service available to Alzheimers patients in Deerpark Day Centre, Friars' Walk, on Fridays. For information, contact Nurse Peggy Scriven at the Centre, Tel 311698.

A Support Group meets on the first Monday of the month at 8.00pm in the Health Centre, Grattan Street, Tel. 273088.



## Visitation

Fr John will visit the homes in Lynbrook during the week.

## Ministers of the Eucharist

Past and present Ministers are invited to the annual Mass in the Crypt on Tuesday 28th March at 8.00 p.m.

## Children's Mass

Children and parents who are interested in arranging the Children's Mass for March please attend a practice on Saturday 18th and 25th at 2.30 p.m.

## Bulletins to the Homes

Bulletins will be distributed to all homes in the parish next weekend. Please let us know if you do not receive a copy.

## Aifreann le Gaeilge

Leifear Aifreann as Gaeilge an Domhnach seo chugainn as a naoi a chlog. Tagaigi agus bigí pairteach linn.

## Pastoral Council

Meeting this Monday in C.P. Centre at 8.10 p.m.

## Masses for St. Patrick's Day

### Thursday 16th:

Vigil Mass 7.30 p.m.

### Friday 17th:

9.00, 10.30, 12.15

No Evening Mass.

## Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary praesidium at the Church of the Descent of the Holy Spirit meets each Tuesday evening at 7.15 p.m. in the C.P. Centre. Works include hospital visitation, visitation of the elderly and promotion of devotion to Our Lady. New members are sought. Everyone over 18 years of age welcome.

## Season of Lent

7.30 a.m. Mass Monday to Friday, as well as the usual times of 9.00, 10.00 and 7.30 p.m.

Benediction each Sunday at 5.30 p.m.

Please note that Taize Prayer will not take place on Thursday evening 16th.

## Catechism Course

There is an Introduction to the *New Catechism* (4 sessions on Tuesdays, 14, 21, 28 March, 4th April, 8.00 - 9.15pm) in the C.P. Centre. We read sections of the text and discuss its meaning and implications for everyday living. No previous knowledge assumed. Register in the C.P. Centre (Tel. 344452) beforehand. Copies of the Catechism will be on sale. A fee of £5 (unwaged exempt) for the course to cover tea, photocopying, etc.

## Making Sense of Life

Rev. Dr. Donald English, a professor of theology and a former footballer for Leicester City, will visit Cork city during Holy Week, to lead a Faith Focus week in Wesley Chapel, Ardfallen Centre, April 9th - 16th. The mission is subtitled "Making Sense of Life" and everyone is welcome each evening at 8 p.m.

Young People are especially welcome at the Saturday night Youth event on April 15 when the praise will be led by the 21st century Craic band.

## VACANCY

Vacancy for Caretaker has arisen in St. Catherine's National School, Bishopstown Avenue. Interested person should apply in writing to the Principal.

**PRIEST-ON-DUTY: 088-519940**