



Sunday, 4th June, 1995

No. 427

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

Pentecost Sunday



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DEHNENY'S CROSS, CORK



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**
Sr. Ursula writes

A POWER GREATER THAN OURSELVES

"God is good" we say, but I sometimes wonder do we really believe it? Do we really and truly believe that He is as good today as ever he was?

This is a stressful time of year. Our young people will soon be sitting for examinations which will have a major effect on their future lives. The struggle for exam points and college places causes heavy burdens under which some may crack. Soon college students will be heading off with their back-packs to take up summer jobs in Europe and America. Parents worry. What will the conditions be like? What sort of company will they keep? What about drink - or worse? What will I have to face with my son/daughter before the summer is over?

God is good? Do we really believe it - do we? Are we prepared, like the members of Alcoholics Anonymous, to hand our lives and those of our loved ones over to a power greater than ourselves: to God. Do we really believe that He loves and cares

for our young people today as much and as truly as He has done for any generation in the past? Do we, young and old, really believe it? Are we prepared to turn to Him for help? Prepared to let Him into our lives as a loving, caring, personal God - a power greater than ourselves - who is always there for us?

The alternative is to carry our burden of stress alone. Today, too many try to do this and are broken by the strain. We have a loving God who is as good today as ever He was. Let us give Him space in our lives this Summer.

Ursula O'Malley

BUT THIS IS WHAT CHRISTIANITY IS ALL ABOUT!

We note with some dismay that the "Teen Scene" section on the Cork Examiner last week promoted Buddhism as a "good option".

Why? Because (according to this journalist) it offers "all the joys of spiritual cleansing.... it teaches cleaning living...."

Isn't this exactly what Christianity offers us - if we choose to take it seriously?

Think about it!

HELP TO BEAT THE CRIMINALS

WHAT THE BURGLAR LOOKS FOR POINTS TO REMEMBER

- * Windows open - lock all windows whenever you leave home.
- * "Hidden keys" - if you have a spare key leave it with a friend or neighbour.
- * Papers in the letter box - cancel newspapers, have a neighbour collect any post, or advertisements.
- * Build up of milk on the door step - simply cancel it until you return.
- * Ladders or tools that will help him to get in - lock them up!
- * Unguarded property - lock it in a garage, a shed, or otherwise indoors.
- * Easy access to the rear of the premises - fit a side gate with lock.
- * Lights on in the daytime or none on at night - use of a simple timing device can help overcome this problem. Try to ensure that your house has a lived-in look.

DO PEOPLE EVER CHANGE?

You might think this is the age of cynicism. But how's this for a quote from the 19th century:

Marriage - Is not marriage an open question, when it is alleged, from the beginning of the world, that such as are in the institution wish to get out, and such as are out wish to get in?

R.W.EMERSON (1803-1882),
Representative Men: Montaigne

(submitted by a parishioner)

PREVENTING CAR THEFTS

Your car is a target for the criminal from its stereo cassette right down to the hub caps.

It is in all our interests to take the steps necessary to reduce the incidence of car thefts. Most people who take cars are young, opportunistic criminals, who are looking for an easy target.

The first step in preventing this crime is to engage existing security.

- * Lock all doors, close all windows, and engage the steering lock, even if you are only leaving the vehicle for a short time.

- * Augment the security of steering locks by employing an additional locking mechanism to the steering wheel or operating pedals.

- * When leaving your car, park in a supervised area if possible. Take the ticket with you. At night park in a well lit area.

- * Car alarms are a proven deterrent.

- * Consider fitting a fuel or ignition cut-off.

- * Engrave a security mark on the vehicle registration on to the window.

IN SYMPATHY

We offer our sincere sympathy to BILL McLOUGHLIN, Clonallon House, Model Farm Road, on the death of his father, Arthur, Warrenpoint, Co. Down.



COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

ARE YOU THERE, GOD?

For many years, one of my favourite TV programmes has been **Songs of Praise** on BBC. Last Sunday night, it was from the beautiful island of Guernsey, all eight miles by five miles of it!!

One of the people interviewed had the intriguing name of Graham Greene. He grew tomatoes (by the ton!) but in the mid nineteen eighties, things weren't going well for him. After a very damaging storm, he reached a low-point in his life, physically, emotionally, spiritually, in 1987.

Graham had been an infrequent church-goer up until then. One day, he left the Post Office in mid-afternoon, crossed the road and entered the darkened church. Walking right up to the front, he prayed: "If you're there, God, help me." After an hour, he felt even lower and made to leave. Walking to the rear of the church he said to himself: "As I thought, God, you're not there."

Then, it was as if he heard a voice saying: "Go back up to the front of the church and repeat your prayer. Say again, 'If you're there, God, help me.' But this time, MEAN IT."

He did exactly that and, of course, God WAS there for him and he did help him.

I loved, too, the elderly couple who, annually on their wedding anniversary, returned to the church where they were

married and exchanged vows with one another. They also exchanged their ONE ring!!

It made such a lovely change from the endless debate on divorce.

MORE OF "THESE OTHER SINS"

Here is an unlisted sin. Some elderly parents/parent manage to make their family feel guilty about them. This usually applies to the person who tries hardest to look after them. The son or daughter who breezes in once a week - or flies in once a year - doesn't experience such guilt feelings. They don't have to. For some unexplainable reason there's more thought of them!

On a totally different line, there's the inconsiderate motorist who parks the car against the trolley ramp outside the Supermarket, so forcing you to bump down a high step with a loaded trolley - or, worse still, somebody in a wheelchair!



"IT'S THE SAME EVERY BANK HOLIDAY!"



Announcements

Annual Eucharistic Procession

Points to remember:

- 1) Date: Sunday next, June 11th
- 2) Time: Assemble at Church 2.45.
Leave promptly at 3 p.m.
- 3) A collection will be taken up in the porch at all Masses to defray expenses.
(Accumulated deficit £6659.34)

Temporary Closure

Please note that the Church will be closed for maintenance work on Thursday next, 8th June, from 2.00 to 6.00 p.m.

Ministers of the Eucharist

Please note that commissioning of new Ministers of the Eucharist will take place at Masses on Saturday Vigil and Sunday 11th/12th June. Would new Ministers please attend the Mass at which you are to be commissioned. Certificates and rotas will be available in the Sacristy after commissioning.

Would current Ministers please collect their new rotas at the altar rails next weekend.

Visitation

Fr. Finbarr will continue visitation at Model Farm Road this week.

Pioneer Total Abstinence Asscn.

The annual Mass in honour of the Sacred Heart will be celebrated on Wednesday June 7th, at 7.30pm. New members will be presented with their badges and certificates at this Mass.

The Council of the P.T.A.A. in this parish would welcome new members. Contact L. O'Driscoll (544683) or J. Coffey (345281).

St. Anthony's Novena

Begins on Sunday 4th June in St. Francis Church, and ends on the Feast of St. Anthony on June 13th. Mornings at 10.30 (Sunday 10.45) and Evenings 7.30 p.m. (Saturday 6.30). Preacher Fr. Gabriel Kinahan OFM.

Swim Week '95

One week intensive swimming course - Adults (June), Children (July). Guaranteed results. Phone Eileen 884137/871888.

Computer Courses in June

Especially for students - word processing, desktop publishing, light programming. Contact Colaiste an Spioraí Naoimh (543790).

Please Note

Noreen's Hairdressing will be closed on Tuesday June 6th.

Legion of Mary needs new members

Involvement: Meeting once a week, Tuesday nights C.P. Centre at 7.15 for one hour. Some sort of voluntary work,

- hospital visitation
- visiting the elderly
- meals-on-wheels, etc.

Anyone over 18 is welcome. Come along some Tuesday night and meet us.

PRIESTS' EMERGENCY NUMBER

088-519940