



Sunday March 3rd 1996

No. 456

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

2nd Sunday of Lent



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
SEYMEN'S CROSS, DUBLIN



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

OUR LENTEN TRIDUUM - 1996

My dear friends,

In 1993-94 we found the annual Novena to the Holy Spirit was losing its appeal. Attendances were falling. We asked why? We were told nine days was too long - anything over a week was asking too much. Very well, last year we had a week's Retreat. Attendances went from poor to very poor.

This year we are down to three days - 11th, 12th and 13th March, with one of the best preachers in Ireland - Fr. Tony Flannery. We are appealing for a good response. If it demands dropping your game of Bridge for a night, or your game of squash or whatever - so what?

Some people have problems (don't we all!). If I no longer find any meaning in religion - it does not follow that religion is meaningless. But if I am sincere I will look for an answer in a matter of such vital importance.

Fr. Tony Flannery will meet and take on board all questions and problems in the Crypt on Tuesday evening (12th March)

after the Church ceremonies. It should be good - and you are very welcome to come, to question, to be listened to with respect, and hopefully responded to clearly and honestly.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Denis O'Connor, P.P.

Out of the depths
I cry to you,
LORD
LORD, hear my voice!
Let your ears be atten-
tive to the prayer of
YOUR SERVANT.

SEASON OF LENT

Mass continues each morning from Monday to Friday at 7.30, 9.00 and 10.00 and 7.30 pm.

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 5.00 pm each Sunday.

Quiet half-hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament after the Thursday night mass.

Trocaire boxes available in the church.

**LENTEN
MEDITATIONAL
THEMES**

Week Two - We Follow

1. *"Still other seeds fell on good soil and produced a crop; some yielded a hundredfold, others sixty and others thirty. If you have ears, then hear."* (Mt.13:8). During Lent this year let us be open to the word of God.

2. *"Be doers of the word and not hearers only; deluding yourselves."* (Jas.1:2). Having listened to God's word then let us act.

3. *"What can we do to accomplish the words of God?"* (Jn.6:28). Send off the postcard calling for the cancellation of Third World Debt.

4. *"Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life."* (Jn 6:27). Consider if your life is guided by Christian principles.

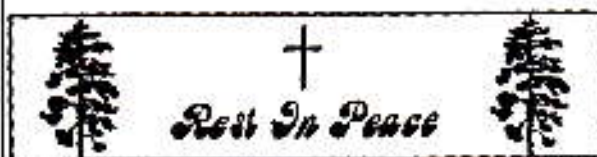
5. *"This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent."* (Jn 6:29). Following the example of Christ is the way to true life.



Sympathy

We offer our sincere sympathy to SHEILA O'DONOVAN, Highfield Lawn, and to JAMES and MARY O'DONOVAN, Model Farm Road, on the death of their brother Con.

To JIM BOGUE, Kenley Crescent, on the death of his mother.



We pray for the late Denis Drake, Wilton Avenue, who died recently. A kind, gentle and good man was how he was described by those who knew him. A lover of song and sport, Denis dedicated many years of his life to the St. Vincent de Paul here in the parish and always with care and gentleness for the dignity of others. To his wife Mary and family we offer our sympathy.

The March FOLD

What is "Vocation" in today's Church? Bishop Murphy addresses this question in his pastoral. The Fold has the full text. And more!

All for 60p in the March FOLD.



COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

IN THE February issue of *REALITY*, the Redemptorist monthly magazine, a whole section is given over to young people, their criticisms of the Church, their views, their hopes and aspirations.

The *FOLD* has a young person's section for many years where they can share and comment.

Bishop Bill Murphy, recently appointed Bishop of Kerry Diocese, gave over a complete weekend to listening to the young people of his diocese.

Perhaps we pay lip-service to dealing with "the problems" of the young. But I wonder if we really listen? Do we really take on board what they are saying, saying to one another, saying to us?

Do we really believe that they have valid points of view that need to be addressed seriously? Or do we feel that they will "come around to our way of thinking" - conform, in other words?

It seems to me that they DO have valuable points of view: that many of their criticisms are valid and need to be addressed: that we must not be condescending in our communications with them: that there is a need for greater honesty in our dealings with young people.

The problems will not go away and no amount of burying our heads in the sand will solve anything.



Marriage Support Collection next weekend

Marriage Counselling Centre

The Cork & Ross Marriage Counselling Centre will have a special collection in all churches on 9th/10th March. This service provides a wide range of services and courses that include: family therapy, individual counselling, domestic violence treatment programme, groups and counselling for separating couples, and fertility counselling, all free of charge. It is managed by a professional Director and the generosity of a range of people that includes full-time professionals, part-time administrative staff and trained volunteers.

Please continue to support the Centre, as you have done in the past.



'The siege is over. He says he's decided to give himself up for Lent.'



NOTICE BOARD

Visitation

Fr. Finbarr will continue
visitation in Merlyn
Lawn/Bishopscourt and Wilton
Avenue this week.

Cork Marriage Counselling Centre

Children of marital breakdown. A
programme of practical guidelines
to help parents understand and
deal with children's reactions to
marital separation, on Wednesday
6th, 6.15-10.00 p.m. at 34 Paul
Street. Contact 275678.

An Invitation



Does This Refer To You?

Are you a past pupil of St.
Maries of the Isle Primary
School? If so, you are invited
to a Social Evening in the school
on Thursday 7th March at 8 p.m.
Light refreshments will be
provided. Please come and bring
your friends and classmates. We
look forward to meeting you.



Highfield Tennis Club

Membership now open. Family £30.
Please contact Triona 544000 or
John 541070 (H)/966222 (W).

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society
Monthly meeting next Friday, 8th
March, in C.P. Centre at 8 p.m.

REMINDER:

Contact Persons

Reminder of meeting in the Crypt
this Monday, 4th March, at 8 p.m.

Visit of Taize Brothers

Some brothers from the community
in France (including Br. Felix
who looks after Irish pilgrims)
will be visiting Ireland for the
weekend of 8/10 March. There will
be a Eucharistic celebration in
Presentation College, Mardyke, at
10.30 a.m. on Sunday 10th hosted
by the various Taize prayer
groups in Cork. All are welcome,
especially young people from
other Christian Churches.
Further information from Miriam
at 273213.

Join Us!

Christian Meditation

Come and join us in the oldest
form of prayer as revived by Fr.
John Main, O.S.B. We meet every
Thursday without fail at 7 p.m.
sharp to 7.30 p.m. in the C.P.
Centre. Feel free to come when
the spirit moves within.

Readings for Sunday 10 March

Ex.17:3-7. Ps.94. Rom.5:1-2.5-8.
Jn.4:5-42.

Priests' Emergency

Number : (088) 519940