



Sunday April 28th 1996

No. 464

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

4th Sunday of Easter



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
DEARNEY'S CROSS, COBK.



FROM OUR PARISH TEAM

The Dean writes

Authority in the Church.

Fr. Joe Dunn is well known for his T.V. production of Radharc documentaries. During the week he published a book which is critical of Catholic Church structures - as he sees them. Bishop Willie Walsh of Killaloe was also quoted during the past few days on the necessity for further debate on certain aspects of Church practice.

These publications leave some people quite confused. What is the Church coming to? Haven't we enough critics outside our ranks without adding to them? To

steady our nerves we might recall a few points:

1. The core values taught by the Church are not under attack.
2. The commission given the Church by Christ Himself to preach his message to the world is given total allegiance.
3. The manner in which this is done - and especially the exercise of authority, is the matter being debated.
4. Jesus made it clear that authority among his followers differed from others. "He who wants to be first among you must be your servant."
5. It may be fruitful to take a look at ourselves to see if we - frail human beings - are being faithful to this in all cases.

Special Prayer

This weekend is one of special prayer for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

First Step: Pray about the inner stirrings in your heart that you think might be a vocation. Talk to someone whose judgement you value, live as normal a life as anyone your age.

Then: - for diocesan priesthood

contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr. Noel O'Sullivan, St. Finbarrs, Farranferris, tel. 303015, or a local priest.

- for religious life contact the religious house, e.g. S.M.A. Wilton, Sacred Heart, Western Road, Presentation Brothers, St. Catherines (Mercy Sisters), St. Josephs (Sisters of the Infant Jesus), Poor Clares, etc.

A PARISHIONER WRITES...

Cherrygrove,
Model Farm Road

Dear Editor,

What a gloomy piece by Luke on Easter Sunday morning! He takes his cue from the secular press; all the jargon is there - "church rocked to its foundations", "more to come", "spathy", "confusion", "betrayal", "bitterness".

Take heart Luke. We had wonderful ceremonies at the Holy Ghost. Look at the voluntary work that must have gone into making the church sparkle and gleam; the long hours of rehearsals by a choir that rendered a memorable performance; the word perfect Readings and thoughtful sermons.... Why carp? Why not rejoice at the universality of our faith? 950 billion Catholics all over the globe were in communion with us all recalling and reliving the events of Calvary and the Resurrection. We really are lucky to belong. Let's thank our hard working clergy and enthusiastic parishioners who made the occasion so memorable.

Yours sincerely,
Jane Quinlan

HELP!

Can You Help?

Double drainer needed for kitchen at Bishopstown Meals on Wheels. If you have one you are no longer using we would be glad of it. Please contact the C.P. Centre, mornings, tel. 344452.

FOLLOW-UP TO TRIDUUM MEETING

On a most miserably wet Tuesday night last week, 28 hardy souls met in the Crypt to take a stage further the points raised at our Triduum meeting.

On the matter of prayer, there was some surprise expressed at the variety of opportunities to pray that already existed. Examples were Sól Retreats, a Meditation Group, Christian Family Movement, Bible Study, Perpetual Adoration in the Poor Clare Chapel. There was a suggestion that we might follow their example and have a monthly period of Adoration for a specific intention.

Fr. John gave a 'potted history' of Vatican II and both he and Sr. Ursula emphasised the importance of the challenge of Baptism in the Christian's life.

Fr. Finbarr spoke on the need for all the witnessing community not only to worship and pray together, but to be involved, as a community, in the social issues as well.

Many speakers raised the question of involvement by parishioners in the running of the parish. There was a need for formation, for learning, for knowledge. It was only a matter of time before we have only two priests, perhaps even one. Fr. John challenged us to plan for a parish with NO parish team!

The meeting opened with a prayer led by the Dean and closed with a plea to the Spirit to be active among us, led by Sr. Ursula. Perhaps it was an omen (!) but the dreadful rain had lifted when we left the meeting!

A further meeting is planned in a month's time. Please watch the Bulletin for details.



COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

"WHERE ARE YOU, GOD?"

"Where are you, God?" asked the woman survivor of the Qana wreckage. It's a cry that has echoes in so many areas of the world where man's need for violence and revenge has overcome the pleas for peace.

One would have thought that, with so many marriages under threat, there would have been a universal welcome for the new State law on a minimum age of 18 years for marriage and a statutory three months period of notice. Not so. Fr. Maurice Dooley, a former Professor of Canon Law, maintains

that it is an intrusion by the State on the "natural right to marry and with the Church's exclusive competence over the essentials of marriage of Catholics."

I read recently about another approach to marriage stability. In the old Celtic church calendar, the Lammas fair or festival was a highlight. (Remember the Old Lammas Fair at Ballycastle - Oh!?) One liberal custom was the eleven-day "trial marriage". The Lammas fair lasted eleven days. The young couple could then call off the marriage if they didn't particularly fancy a life-long commitment!

In war, as in love, perhaps things haven't changed all that much when you think about it.



"GEORGE! - THAT'S NOT EXACTLY WHAT I MEANT ABOUT GOING OUT ON A LIMB FOR THE LORD."

IN SYMPATHY

To CLARE CURRAN, Wilton Avenue, on the death of her brother.

We offer our sincere sympathy to SHEILA HIGGINS, Leeddale, on the death of her mother.

←PSSST!→

Due to lack of space, results of the Easter competitions will be held over until next week.



First Friday

Next Friday, 3rd May, is the First Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on the usual days.

Visitation

Fr. Finbarr will continue visitation on Model Farm Road during the week.

Join Us!

Catholic Nurses Guild of Ireland

16th Annual Pilgrimage to Knock on Saturday 4th May. Everybody welcome. Contact Anne 345656.

All Irish Pre-School

At Bishopstown G.A.A. Club, Monday to Friday, 8.45-1.00, conducted by native Irish speaker. Enrol now for September 1996. Enquiries 961222 p.m. or 902665 (voice mail).

St. Vincent de Paul

Monthly collection will take place at all Masses next week-end.

Readings for Sunday 5 May

Acts 6:1-7. Ps.32.1 Pet.2:4-9.
Jn.14:1-12.

Bishopstown Social Services

Annual Summer Outing for senior citizens and friends to Cashel Heritage Centre on Thursday 9th May. Tickets £10 available from Michael Haydon (541638), Brid Hartnett (544693), Nora Fitzpatrick (546358).



Shout for Joy to the Lord

Celebration, praise, on Friday 3rd May at Ardfallen Centre, Douglas Road, at 8.30 p.m. For more information contact Hilary (373413) or Valerie (291216).



Bishopstown G.A.A.

Cork County Senior Football Championship, Bishopstown v Ballincollig, Sunday 28th at 3.30 pm. in Paire Uí Chaoimh. We need your support to bring a Senior County Championship to Bishopstown. Bi linn agus beidh an buadh againn.

PRIESTS' EMERGENCY NUMBER

088-519940

It could make all the difference

The May issue of the Fold carries a wealth of useful news and information, including: a feature on Alcoholics Anonymous • the new Marriage notice laws • the Missions in Peru and Ecuador • Newcestown parish • the head of the Bon Secours sisters • and all the local news.

Just 60p in the May Fold