



Sunday May 19th 1996

No. 467

# BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

7th Sunday of Easter



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
BALLINEACROSS, CORK

*"If you do not eat*



*the flesh of the  
Son of Man and*



*drink his blood,  
you have no*



*life in you."* (John 6:52)

## THE EUCHARISTIC MIRACLE OF LANCIANO

During the Easter season two of our parishioners visited the Church of St. Francis in Lanciano, Italy, and venerated the Body and Blood of Christ, miraculously present and visible in the Church, in a special reliquary behind the Altar.

The miracle occurred at the beginning of the seventh century during the celebration of Mass by a Basilian monk. Having consecrated the bread and wine,

he began to doubt that the Body and Blood of Christ was really and substantially present. At that moment, in the presence of witnesses, he saw the bread change to human flesh and the wine change to blood. The blood subsequently coagulated into five clots of unequal size.

In the course of the thirteen centuries since the miracle, many tests have been carried out on the Sacred Flesh and Blood. In 1574 each of the five clots of blood was weighed and it was found that each of the five clots weighs the same as the five together.

In 1970/71 laboratory tests were conducted by Prof's. Linoli and Bertoli. In 1973 a UNESCO Medical Commission corroborated their findings by means of 500 tests lasting 15 months. The conclusion of the tests are as follows:

- 1) The substances are truly human flesh and blood.
- 2) The flesh is constituted of muscular tissue from the heart.
- 3) The flesh and blood are of the same blood type, AB.
- 4) The blood retains the characteristics of fresh human blood.
- 5) The flesh and blood are exactly like those of a human being who really existed.
- 6) Mummification is excluded because no trace of permeation of the tissue by any preservative was found.

### TRIDUUM FOLLOW-UP MEETING

At a second follow-up meeting last week in the Crypt (the weather was kinder!) about thirty parishioners shared their vision of Church in the parish of Ballineaspaig.

Ways of responding to the need for prayer were suggested. The TV evangelist, Mother Angelica, was mentioned. Eucharistic Adoration was again mentioned with a suggestion that families would be involved in organising rotas, praying for specific intentions.

It was suggested that we prepare for a future Church with diminishing vocations. Collaboration could take the form of lay people taking on roles for which they were suited, releasing the priest for the priestly, pastoral role.

A number of people suggested 'forward planning' for the Sunday liturgy. This could take the form of a Monday meeting involving Ministers of the Word and Eucharist, Musical Director and cantor, collectors and altar servers, all under the 'presidency' of the presiding priest for the Mass chosen. It would be hard work but it was felt to have great potential. We must ALL see ourselves as Church and be involved.

While there was great enthusiasm for the idea, it was agreed that the Pastoral Council should first examine the idea.

Other matters discussed were vocations, with a suggestion that more advertising be done in the secular media; the lack of religious content on national radio and TV; concern over the growing alienation of young

people, and the problem of 'reaching' them.

While a lot of useful ground was covered, there was an underlying feeling that time was running out: action was needed.



### Can You Help?

Bishopstown Meals-on-Wheels are in urgent need of drivers and cooks. You would be only required approx. 18 times per year as follows:

Cooks: one day every third week for approx. two hours.

Drivers: one day every week for one month in three, for approx. 2 hours.

It is anticipated that, due to lack of replacement volunteers, we will be unable to deliver meals for the six days of the week. Some of our volunteers are in their sixties and even seventies, but are reluctant to leave because of the poor response to appeals for new helpers. The service will be needed even more in the future as we have a large ageing population in the four parishes we serve - Dennehy's Cross, Curraheen, Wilton and Sacred Heart. If you think you can help, please contact Betty (542187), C.P. Centre (344452) or Anne (541971).





# COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

## "BONDING TO VIOLENCE"

Cork consultant psychiatrist Dr. Michael Kelleher was quoted recently as suggesting that "the way people bonded and related to their families and communities was fragmenting." He claimed that the way to overcome violence and the ever-rising crime rate was through education: education in the home, at school and in the community. "The moral issues," he said, "must be solved within each individual and within each home."

Elsewhere, it has been suggested that evil is all-pervasive these days, in Bosnia, in Dunblane, in Tasmania and elsewhere. While we look repeatedly for answers, we are

often "forced to settle for the solace of prayer".

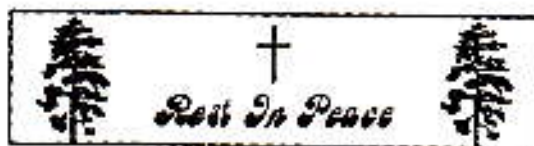
In view of all of this, the Irish Film Censor's decision to ban the film 'From Dusk till Dawn' is to be welcomed. Seamus Smith, the censor, does not normally give reasons for his banning. He has broken with tradition on this occasion to say that, in his opinion, the film is "totally irresponsible and totally gratuitous" given the recent massacres in Scotland and in Tasmania. Quentin Tarantino wrote the film script, as he did for the other banned film 'Natural Born Killers'.

Seamus Smith was quoted as saying that "someone has to say 'stop' to this 'extraordinary violence'." In my opinion, we owe our film censor a debt of gratitude for his decision. Too often, people in positions of authority lack the courage to make these kinds of decisions. Well done, Seamus Smith!!

## PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

The Pastoral Council held its monthly meeting last Monday night. The forthcoming Floral Tribute to the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday, May 26th, was discussed. The Sanctuary of the church will be decorated with flowers and foliage from each area in the parish. A box is placed in the church for donations towards this parish project, so we appeal for your support.

The Council continued its review of church groups and services in the parish and area. It also hopes in the future to look at new initiatives for all age groups.



Marie Corcoran (nee McMahon), Thomas Davis Street, Blackpool, died recently in the South Infirmary. Marie, who died at a comparatively young age, was daughter of Margaret McMahon, Greenfields, Model Farm Road, and sister of Sheila Cahill (Senior Choir). We extend sincere sympathy to her husband and family, as well as her mother, brothers and sisters. May she rest in peace.



Saturday 25th May

Children from St. Catherines National School will receive their First Holy Communion in our church at 10.30 a.m. As a result the 10.00 Mass has been cancelled.

First Holy Communicants

You are all invited to the 10.30 a.m. Mass on Sunday 26th. It is a special year for you and the parish community extends a welcome and full participation in our Sunday Mass.

Community School Mass

Mass will be discontinued after Sunday 2nd June.

**HELP NEEDED**

Urgently Required

A pram and baby clothes are urgently required for a needy family. Please contact the C.P. Centre, mornings, tel. 344452, if you can help.

Half Eight Mass of a Tuesday

Barabbas Theatre Company bring this show to the UCC Granary Theatre in the Mardyke from May 21st-25th at 8p.m. nightly. The show is based on the Catholic Church and the congregation at Mass. It has received high critical acclaim. Tickets from the Box Office, from 3-8p.m. daily. Tel. 904275

ANNUAL COLLECTION  
for  
CORK & ROSS MISSION  
in  
PERU AND ECUADOR

Please remember it's next weekend. They deserve our support.



Baile'n Easpaig Gramophone Circle

On Wednesday next 22nd May the final recital of the season will be given by the eminent broadcaster, Dan Murphy, at 3 p.m. in the Crypt of our church at Dennehy's Cross. Everybody is welcome to this afternoon of great music.



Cork Marriage Counselling Centre

Wish to acknowledge £330 donated at the annual collection in our church.

Readings for Next Sunday

The readings for May 26th are :  
Acts 2:1-11, Psalm 103, 1 Cor  
12:3-7.12-13 and John 20:19-23

**PRIESTS' EMERGENCY NUMBER**  
**088-519940**