



Sunday June 23rd 1996

No. 472

# BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DEARINGS CROSS, CO. CK



## FROM OUR PARISH TEAM

*The Dean writes*

I received a circular letter during the past week. It had no address, nor was it signed. It did contain a leaflet promoting Dianetics and the Church of Scientology.

This letter was headed "How those opposed to so-called 'unorthodox' religions portray those religions." It then proceeds to state the obvious - "It is very easy to portray any religion in extremely negative terms. One can assemble a 'profile' of a religion in which it appears dangerous, suspicious, and a threat."

It then goes on to illustrate this point. Mind you it does not take as an example Judaism, Hinduism, Islam, Protestantism, Buddhism, or the Church of the Latter Day Saints. No, you guessed correctly - Catholicism. Of course they say this is a deliberately slanted profile, and then go on to make appallingly sacrilegious references to Jesus, the Real Presence, the Sacraments, Our Lady. If this were not enough, they go through the history of the Church, citing scandals and calumnies of a most

foul nature right down to our day.

I wonder what the real purpose of this letter is. I'm sure some of you have seen it, or perhaps received it.

To be honest, all I could think of were the words of Jesus - "Beware of false prophets who come to you disguised as sheep, but underneath are ravenous wolves. You will be able to tell them by their fruits. Can people pick grapes from thorns, or figs from thistles?"

I commend you to the Lord. Have a lovely holiday and may God bless you.

*Denis O'Looney P.P.*



*Nativity of John the Baptist  
June 24*

### JUST A THOUGHT

I remember standing high up on the mountainside overlooking Gougane Barra. A lovely world of valleys, lake, mountainside stretched out below me. Trees, rich, green pines, in great clusters reached for the sky. It was a breathtaking view on a gloriously sunny day.

The vast expanse of beauty, the silence, the wind catching my throat, the wonderful majesty of God who made all this overwhelmed me. I tried to put into words how I felt. I wanted to express in language how beautiful it was.

The grandeur and magnificence of creation has touched me as profoundly in so many other places and in simple everyday things - a field of sheep and lambs, spreading hills of 'forty shades of green', the song of birds especially on a sunny morning, cascading and rippling water, roaring or gentle lapping of the ocean's waves on the seashore, a warm smile or caring gesture of a sensitive heart, the first daffodil in Spring, the simplicity of God's presence in the laughter of children playing - so much beauty.

I want to say. I want to put into words. I want to tell, to express in some way the rapture my soul experiences, but I can't.

Then one day I thought, why? Why do I want to verbalise, to put into mere words what Beauty is? Why not just 'listen' to the loveliness, see with my heart, listen with my soul, let God do the 'talking'.

I have too a sense of wishing

to absorb the beauty that stirs my soul. How do I explain this? There I go again, wanting to 'tell', to 'say'. However, I think it is because within each one of us there is a desire to be at one with the God who made all things. I am part of mountain, river, lake, tree, bird, mankind. To look, to see, to admire with my wordless soul, is to be united with my Creator. I believe my gasp of wonder, my sign of praise enfolds God, His work, my soul. That is my poem. What need is there for words?

- Carmel O'Shea



#### Summer Time is here at last !

The bit of good weather was gladly received over the past week or so. Good weather can change a person's mood, and helps to cheer everyone up. Long may it last !



PG 111C





# COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

## Greater Love than this ...

What is your picture of a Trappist monk? I'm sure it would not be all that different from mine: a serene man living out his life in Mount Melleray, dividing his day between morning and evening chant, the Eucharist, simple meals, manual work, silent prayer. And, at the end, a gentle passage from this world to the next.

Not so for Fr. Christian de Charge, prior of a Cistercian monastery in the Atlas mountains. Along with seven other monks he was murdered by Algerian terrorists, this 59 year old described as "a gentle and charming person" with a deep love and respect for the Muslim religion and the Koran.

In a letter to his family in France written in 1993, but not opened until after his death, he forgave (in advance) his would-be murderer, calling him "my last-minute friend, you who know not what you do. May we be granted to meet each other again, happy thieves, in paradise, should it please God, the Father of both of us. Amen! Inshallah!"

What a profound statement and example to those who treat life so trivially and so insensitively in this poor country of ours. And how fortunate we are to have a God whose patience and love for forgiveness is so so limitless.



A brief résumé of the life and times of Bro. Edmund Rice - Founder of Christian and Presentation Brothers - is available at the entrances to the Church.

This leaflet is made available - courtesy of the Brothers - prior to the Beatification Ceremony of Bro. Edmund Rice at Rome on 6th October, 1996. Please take one.



## Rest in Peace

We pray for the late Kitty Hazel, College Road, who died recently. A native of Bantry, Kitty spent the last twenty-four years with her late sister and family at College Road. A most welcoming and friendly lady, whose greeting of warm welcome was something any caller to the house looked forward to, Kitty was lovingly cared for with much devotion by her niece Mary. To Kitty's sisters and all her relatives, especially Mary, we offer our sympathy and prayers.



### Peter's Pence (Papal Charities)

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



### Cathedral Parish Carnival

At Roman Street on Sunday 23rd June from 2.00 to 5.30 p.m. All sorts of stalls will be there with loads of bargains. The Butter Exchange Band will be there also. If you have any goods in your cupboards that will help stock any of the stalls please donate them to the Carnival Committee. Contact Sr. Geraldine or Janet at 304324/304204, or hand into the Presbytery. All proceeds are in aid of the Cathedral Renovation Fund.



### GAA and Euro '96 Fans

We remind all participants in the above competitions last week, that we have to have all the entries into the C.P. Centre by Wednesday June 26th.

### Life Pregnancy Care Service

Will be holding a sponsored parachute jump this Summer. If you or a friend/relation are interested in doing a jump and at the same time helping a worthy cause, contact Elaine/Deirdre at 270445 for further details.



### Summer Bulletins ?

The editorial team of the Ballinaspaig Bulletin are toying with the idea of printing two holiday editions of the Parish Bulletin during the summer holidays, one in Mid July and a second in Mid August. This would be dependant on us getting notices for inclusion from parishioners. What do you, the readers think ? We would be glad for your comments....

### Readings for Sunday June 30th

The readings for next Sunday are 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16, Psalm 88, Romans 6:3-4, 8-11, and Matthew 10:37-42

### Parish Team

Dean Denis O'Connor, P.P.	542972
Fr. Finbarr Crowley C.C.	343895
Fr. John Newman C.C.	541572
Sr. Ursula O'Callaghan	545549

**Emergency Number (088) 519940**

The emergency number is to be used when you can not contact the priest at his home.