



No. 474

Sunday September 8th 1996

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DEANSGRANGE, CORK

FAREWELL TO FR. JOHN NEWMAN



"IT'S SO HARD TO SAY GOODBYE" claimed the headlines on Bulletin No. 88 on September 6th 1987. Ballineaspaig was saying farewell to Fr. Tadhg O Mathuna after his seven years with us, endearing himself to so many people.

Then along came Fr. John Newman, quiet, shy, retiring and very scholarly, we were told! Fr. Tadhg must have been a hard act to follow. But the fatherly hand of the Dean (he was only a Canon then!), and the support of Fr. Bernard, Sr. Frances and Sr. Brendan all combined to make him feel welcome.

And it wasn't long before we realised that there was indeed someone of character behind that quiet exterior. Almost imperceptibly he began to make his mark on the parish and beyond.

Subsequently, he, the Dean, Fr. Finbarr and Sr. Ursula went on to become the parish team we have all got to know so well, and who have kept spirituality to the forefront in the parish.

He communicated well with the young people of the parish, encouraging and affirming them. He, together with Sr. Ursula, 'oversaw' the introduction of altar girls to our church. He was supportive of those under stress of any kind, always remembering them in prayer. He was encouraging of good liturgy in the Church of the Holy Spirit.

His expert knowledge of the Scriptures and his ability to share this gift was appreciated by many in the parish and well beyond. Indeed, he knew the roads to Killarney and elsewhere intimately, in good weather and in bad.

And now, after another nine years, we must say good bye again, this time to Fr. John. We say thank you for your caring ministry, for your thought-provoking and challenging homilies, for your giftedness in the many areas in which you served this parish of Ballineaspaig.

May the Lord of the Harvest continue to hone your talents wherever you may go.

Rest In Peace

Canon Timothy Mc Sweeney

The death of Canon Timothy Mc Sweeney occurred on August 10th 1996. His passing at the age of 94 years, the oldest priest in the diocese, was regretted by all the parishioners of Ballineaspaig whom he served from the time of his appointment as their first Parish Priest until he retired to Kilbrittain in 1984. Canon Tim is remembered as a builder of churches, schools etc. but above all, he will be remembered as a saintly priest whose devotion to his priestly duties and prayer life was unflinching.

During his 68 years as a priest, his devotion to his Mass took priority over every other duty right to the time of his death. Loyalty to his Breviary and his Rosary came next on his list, followed by his frequent visits to the sick and housebound parishioners.

When Canon Tim went to meet his Lord, I'm sure his room was ready for him, in the mansions above - his reward for a life well spent and work well done.

May he rest in peace.

Sean Moloney, Leesdale, died as a result of an accident in July. A warm-hearted and gentle young man who wished no ill on anyone has gone to join his father Sean who died four years ago. We offer sympathy to his mother Betty, brothers Mark and Kenneth, sister Colette, family and friends.

We pray for the late Eileen Richards, Farranlea, who died at the end of July. Eileen had been a resident in St. Patrick's Hospital for a number of years. A kind, warm woman was the way she was described by her neighbours. To her brother and relatives we offer our sympathy.



We offer our sincere sympathy to ROSALINE O'CONNOR, BishopsCourt Avenue, on the death of her brother in England.

To MARY MURPHY, Orchard Road, on the death of her brother.

To MARGARET O'MAHONY, Bendmeer Park, on the death of her father.

To MARY DRAKE, Wilton Avenue, on the death of her brother.

To SISTER REDEMPTA COUGHLAN, St. Columba's Convent, on the death of her mother.

To JIM LEONARD, Wilton Road, on the death of his sister.

To BRENDAN FINNEGAN, Leesdale, on the death of his brother.

To the HARTE FAMILY, Halldene, on the death of Niall.

To JEREMIAH O'LEARY, Farranlea Park, on the death of his sister.

To MAUREEN CREMIN, Liam Lynch Park, on the death of her brother.

To CHRISTY McCARTHY, Leesdale, on the death of his father.

To MARY REDMOND-QUINN, Leesdale, on the death of her mother.

To ROSE TWOHIG, Leesdale, on the death of her father.

To SHEILA O'MAHONY, Roger Casement Park, on the death of her sister.

We pray for the late Siobhan O'Reilly who died suddenly during the Summer. Siobhan was a great support to her extended family, and the obvious grief and love that her nephews and nieces had for her was very much in evidence after her death. A woman who led a quiet and private life, her strength was her faith, her love for the Eucharist especially, and her charity which was given anonymously to many. No doubt the Lord will reward her for it. She will be sadly missed by her sister Nell who was her great companion and friend. To all the O'Reilly family we offer our sympathy and prayers.



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

Fr. Finbarr writes

COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

Fearless Communicator Faithful Disciple

I have the privilege of welcoming all the readers back after the Summer break. It has been a Summer of changes for us here in the parish. Not alone has Fr. John left us, but also we have said goodbye to parishioners who have gone to live and work elsewhere, and we welcome all who have taken up residence here in the parish.

For me, it's a reminder that life doesn't stand still for any of us. Last May I enjoyed a beautiful retreat in Dublin. During the month of August I went to the Intercession for Priests in Dublin, and if I learned anything from those two events, it would have been that the Lord wants me to live and celebrate life and make the most of every moment of every day.

So I invite you all to share that thought with me. Life is too short to hold grudges and not live it to the full. As the Lord said, "I came so that you may have life and have it to the full." It's His wish for us and I pray that it may also become part of all your lives.

Little did I realise when I wrote my last Media Comment before the Summer recess, that the Catholic Church in Ireland would be mourning the loss of Fr. Joe Dunn so soon afterwards. At that time I quoted from the Vatican II Papers saying, "The modern media offers new ways of confronting people with the message of the Gospel" and "the standard of such presentations must at least equal in quality the other productions of the media".

Joe Dunn was 100% committed to this ideal, setting up or being involved with so many vibrant initiatives - The Communications Centre, Veritas, The Catholic Press & Information Office, Intercom and, of course, Radharc.

Yes, he ruffled feathers. He never lacked the courage to stick his neck out. He wasn't one to settle for the easy option. But there was never any malice. More importantly, as Fr. Colm Kilcoyne put it, "He believed in the Church, loved the Church, and if he was sometimes critical of the captain and the crew, well it was his ship as well and he was sticking with it!"

"Thin sowing means thin reaping," says St. Paul. But he goes on, "God loves a cheerful giver." Fr. Joe Dunn was all of that. He had many attributes, genial host, cook, mariner, journalist and film-maker. We in the Catholic Church in Ireland are beholden to Fr. Joe Dunn as a fearless communicator of Christ's command to be "the light of the world." We need more like him. May he continue to grow in God's Kingdom, faithful disciple that he was.

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to the following parishioners who were married in June:

MARGO MULCAHY, 'Ashton', Highfield
Lynn, who married Keith...

SHIRLEY McKEON, 16 Parkway Drive, who married Liam Hannon, Portlaoise.

MARTIN McELLIGOTT, 3 Victoria Village, who married Majella Power, Melbourn.
SALLY O'DONOVAN, School Avenue, Glasheen, who married Stiofan O Cadhla, Central Avenue, Firgrove.



Pastoral Council Meeting

A meeting of the Pastoral Council will take place in the C.P. Centre on Monday September 9th at 8.10 p.m.

Bulletins to the Homes

Bulletins to will be delivered to the homes in the parish next weekend. If you do not receive a copy please contact the parish office. We would like to thank our distribution teams for their continued good work.

Ireland's Biggest Coffee Morning

Coffee mornings in aid of the Hospice Movement will be held nationwide on Thursday September 12th. Locally you can support this worthy cause in the following locations :

C.P. Centre at 10.30 a.m.
10.30 a.m. to 12 noon at St. Joseph's Model Farm Road

Proceeds in aid of the Hospice Care Team of Marymount, St. Patrick's Hospital.

Ladies Friendship Club

The Club will resume meetings on Monday September 9th at 2.30 p.m. in the C.P. Centre.

Aifreann le Gaeilge

Beidh Aifreann as Gaeilge ar a naoi a chlog on Domhnach seo chugainn.

Sunday Readings

The readings for Sunday Sept. 15th are Sir.27:33-28:9 Psalm 102 Rom. 14:7-9 and Matthew 18:21-35

Tuesday Morning Coffee

May O'Connell, Mary Crean & Dorothy O'Connell wish to announce that the Coffee morning will resume on Tuesday next, September 10th. All are welcome!

The Fold Magazine

The September Fold is on sale after Mass. Price 60p. Articles include the re-opening of the Cathedral, Spotlight on Crosshaven, and news & photos from Peru, Farranree and Knocknaheeny. We take this opportunity to wish Fr. Tom Hayes all the best in his new role as Editor of the Fold, and wish Fr. Bernard Cotter success in his studies.

Menopause Counselling

In addition to our Natural Family Planning and Pre-Marriage courses, a new service specifically for Menopause Counselling will commence on Monday September 9th. This will be provided by a qualified counsellor on the second Monday of each month thereafter from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon at :

N.A.O.M.I.
2nd Floor
36, Washington Street
Cork.
Tel. 272213 (Tue-Fri)