



Sunday November 17th 1996

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
BENNETT'S CROSS, CORK



FROM OUR PARISH TEAM

Sr. Ursula writes

THE FAS CANTEEN MASS

The FAS canteen has proved to be a very popular venue for our 10.00 a.m. Sunday Mass. The change from the Community School has meant a big increase in the congregation.

'The FAS Canteen Mass' as we call it, is one that I have heard the priests say they are very pleased with. The community involvement is tremendous. People own and take responsibility for their Sunday celebration of Mass. We have no sacristan, yet there are always several people involved in preparing the altar, etc. We have no official rota of readers, yet the priest never has to do either the readings or the prayers of the faithful. We have no rota of Eucharistic ministers, yet we always have a minister. Children are organised for the offertory procession; we have no rota of collectors, yet the collection is always taken up. Last of all we have no choir and yet we very often have singing at Mass.

I have heard it said that it is like saying Mass in a mission

country. The reason for this very real and very personal involvement is, I believe, that people are really grateful to our priests for taking the trouble to drive out to the FAS canteen every Sunday to facilitate those who find it difficult to get to the Church. "It's a long walk along the Model Farm Road on a wet Sunday morning," someone said to me lately, "and it's great to have Mass so near.". Yes, people are grateful and they show it. They show it by taking full responsibility for organising and preparing, for tidying up and putting things back where they belong and seeing that everything is left ship-shape when they leave. It is a great community effort and one in which all those concerned can take a just pride.



Some Marriages Are Plain Sailing
But most marriages go through difficult times - times of sadness, disappointment and even anger. If you need to talk to someone you are welcome to meet with one of the counsellors at the Cork Marriage Counselling Centre, 34 Paul Street, tel. 275678. Counsellors are carefully selected and professionally trained volunteers.

Rest In Peace

Sean McSweeney, Wilton Gardens, died quite unexpectedly after a very short illness. In fact, he became unwell while at work in the family business. Sean was pre-deceased by his wife Kitty, who died just a year ago, and whom he cared for with such dedication during her long illness. We extend sincere sympathy to his sons, Tom and Eamonn, his daughter Marie, and many friends.

Mary Coffey, Wilton Gardens, died peacefully at the Bon Secours Hospital on 6th November, the feast of all the Saints of Ireland. Mary was one of those beautiful people who was always more concerned for the welfare of others than herself. This love found expression in her care for her husband and family, and for the wider community in her work for meals-on-wheels. We extend the sympathy of our community to her husband Bryan, her family Gerardine, Patricia, Carol and Barry, her brother Pat, grandchildren, and her many relatives and friends who miss her.

We pray for the late John Neenan of Orchard Road, who died on 6th November. John was well known for his involvement in St. Finbarr's Hurling & Football Club. John was a man of great integrity, whose commitment was always not just to his own family, but also to his extended family. He was a man of deep faith who had a tremendous love for the Eucharist. To his wife Anne, daughters Adrienne and Carol, his brothers and sister, and all the family we extend our sympathy and prayers.

St. Anne's Adoption Society

The annual collection for St. Anne's Adoption Society will take place next weekend. This organisation was started more than 40 years ago, and has benefited more than 3,500 people during its existence.

The services provided include :

- Pregnancy Counselling
- Accommodation
- Advice regarding services and entitlements
- Foster Care facilities
- Day Care Nursery

Post-Adoptive Services include :

- Counselling of people searching for parents
- Locating of natural parents
- Maintenance of Register of Adoptions
- Facilitating of meetings between parents and children

Please donate generously to this very important and worthwhile service.

Carmelite Monastery, Castlemartyr

The beautiful chapel and grounds of the monastery are now open to the public for prayer, for time and space to enjoy the peace. Day Retreats for parish groups, Legion of Mary, school retreats, etc. can be arranged. Please contact Fr. Prior at 021-667113.

On the five Sundays before Christmas there will be Afternoons of Prayer (2.30-5.00), Exposition, Rosary, Talk, Confessions and Benediction. All welcome. No charge.



COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

CALLING A SPADE A SPADE

More than one political commentator in recent days has made the oft-repeated statement: a week is a long time in politics! But it is so true. Unfortunately for our country, we seem to move from one political embarrassment to another.

Another well-worn saying comes to mind: Oh, what a tangled web we weave when first we practise to deceive. Isn't it odd that, when serious accusations are made (and this applies not only in the area of politics) the first instinct is always to deny? It is almost never to stop and ask the question - might they have a point, could I/we possibly be wrong or at fault? No! Denial seems to be the first response.

From that point on great energy is spent on digging oneself out of the hole that we create by our own (let us call a spade a spade) lack of honesty in the first place.

Speaking of politics: I was reminded recently in the media of a publication which was published as far back as 1992. Fr. Sean Healy spoke about "Work is the Key" published on behalf of the Irish Bishops Conference with the subtitle "Towards an Economy that Needs Everyone". It was an in-depth and alternative approach to work and the economy. Despite our obscene unemployment figures this well-researched book seems to have sunk without trace. I

wonder why? It can hardly be that politicians believe they have all the answers to providing a healthy economy - unless, perhaps, they believe all their own propaganda! Maybe we should ask them?

PRISONERS' WEEK

It is significant that one of the first things that Pope John Paul II did after his election was to journey across Rome to visit prisoners.

We are all called on, as Christians, to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, minister to the sick, visit prisoners. "As often as you do this to the least of my people, you do it to me."

Familiar? Of course! Like me, you've probably never been in a prison in your life. Prisoners deserve to be there, don't they? They MUST repay their debt to society. Lock them up! Throw away the key! Ah, but then we come back to Christ's invitation to visit prisoners. No condemnation. No judgement. Simply - visit them!

This past week was dedicated to "respecting the human dignity of prisoners." As Christians we can do no less. Without stretching ourselves, we could do a lot more!!!

Let us pray for All prisoners, those who have offended against society and those who are imprisoned for standing up to injustice. And let us pray for a world where peace and justice reign.

- (Sent in by a parishioner)



Christmas Dues

Dues envelopes will be delivered to homes in the parish during the coming week. We would like to thank the distributors in a special way who offer to do this work.

Visitation

Fr. Finbarr will begin visitation in Farranlea shortly.

Remembering the Dead

Mass will be celebrated in St. Oliver's Cemetery on Saturday 23rd November at 3 p.m. There will also be blessing of the graves.

Mass for Deceased Parishioners

Will be celebrated on Monday 25th November at 7.30 p.m.

Family Mass

Meeting will take place in the C.P. Centre on Tuesday 19th November at 8 p.m. for those involved in the Family Mass.

Sick Poor Society

The Sick Poor Society of St. Finbarr has been supporting people in need for almost 150 years on the south side of the river, stretching from Mahon to Curraheen. Funds are derived mainly from house to house visit. The Society needs new members with work to be done as follows:

- 1) Collect regularly from door to door.
- 2) Visit selected families.
- 3) Attend weekly meetings.

If anybody is interested please contact 542979 any evening for further information.

Readings for Sunday 24 November

Ex.34:11-12, 15-17. Ps.22 1.
Cor.15:20-28. Mt.25:31-46.

Farranferris College

Parents intending to send their sons to Farranferris in 1997 should apply at once to the Very. Rev. President, Fr. Noel O'Sullivan.

Ceili with Timmy "The Brit"

Bishopstown & District Lions Club will hold a Ceili at Highfield R.F.C. on Friday 22nd November, 8.00 to midnight. Proceeds in aid of Lions charities. Adm. £5. Please support this worthy cause.

Mount Mercy Class of '75

Twenty-first reunion at Doughcloyne Inn on Friday 29th November at 8 p.m. Contact Fionnuala 965958/313911, Sinead 026-41861, or Ger 775652/344800.



Baile'n Easpaig Gramophone Circle

Our final recital for 1996 will take place on Wednesday next, 20th November, at 3 p.m. in the Crypt of Dennehy's Cross church. Vera Wellcome will give the recital and we hope to see all our faithful supporters as usual, but new ones will be most welcome.

MASS TIMES

Weekdays: 9.00 and 10.00
7.30 p.m. during November.

Saturday Vigil: 6.15 p.m.
Sundays: 9.00, 10.30, 12.15.

**PRIESTS' EMERGENCY
NUMBER**

088-519940