



Sunday December 1st 1996

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

First Sunday of Advent

No. 486



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
DENMEYS CROSS, CO. DK

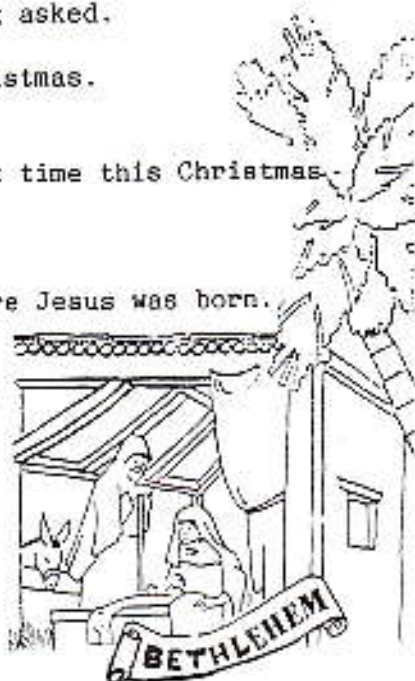


A CALENDAR FOR ADVENT



1. Hug each person who is important to you.
2. Help with a chore at home.
3. Pray about what makes you sad.
4. Pray for someone who lives alone.
5. Thank God for your family and friends.
6. Pray for peace in war-torn countries.
7. Draw a picture of someone waiting for something special.
8. Forgive someone who has hurt you.
9. Be kind to someone today.
10. Thank God for life and love.
11. Pray for all who are sad today.
12. Do something for your Mum or Dad without being asked.
13. Write a Christmas letter to someone.
14. Tell or write a story about preparing for Christmas.
15. Pray for those who are afraid.
16. Think quietly about the people you love.
17. Pray for all those who are alone for the first time this Christmas.
18. Thank God for the gift of faith.
19. Give away one of your best smiles.
20. Pray for those who are blind.
21. Draw a picture of Bethlehem and the place where Jesus was born.
22. Pray for love in the world.
23. Thank God for the gift of Mary.
24. Say something nice to everyone you meet today.

FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES





CHILDREN'S ADVENT MASS

Your Advent Mass will be held in our church next Sunday at 12.15. There will be a Carol Service at 12 noon before the Mass.

Don't forget to bring:

1. Your greeting card for the child Jesus, brightly coloured, with a little string attached so that it can be hung on our Christmas tree.

2. Your gift for the poor - it doesn't matter how small or big it is, but wrap it up so that nobody knows what is in it but the child Jesus. After the Mass the St. Vincent de Paul Society will unwrap the gifts and give them to families in our parish who haven't much for themselves this Christmas.

3. Bring all your friends and family with you.

We'll all have a happy time together at this Mass.

More details? See notices at the end of the Church.

Mass for Sick and Housebound

Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 14th December at 3 p.m. in the Crypt. The Sacrament of the Sick will be administered during the Mass. We would request Contact people to ensure that transport is available where required.

As always, the organisers are dependant on the wonderful response from Contact people and parishioners who supply sandwiches and cakes to ensure that those who attend the Mass enjoy the social aspect afterwards.

THE ADVENT WREATH

The tradition of the Advent Wreath, normally consisting of a circle of evergreens, grew up in the western Church. The circular shape symbolises the eternal nature of God; the evergreens represent the continuing and everlasting life that comes from God through Christ.

The four candles (three purple and one pink) mark the four weeks of Advent and attest to the truth of Jesus as the light of the world. The purple candles symbolise that Advent is a time of repentance, a time when we turn towards God. The pink candle (for the third week of Advent) reminds us that we can rejoice because we are drawing near to Christmas Day. Placed in a prominent position in the home, the Advent Wreath can be a constant reminder of the real meaning of the season we are celebrating.

The lighting of the candles (one the first week, two the second, and so on) could be done at the evening meal each day in conjunction with the reading of Scripture. The service could close with a formal or spontaneous prayer led by one member of the family. If it is not practical to do this at the evening meal, try to set aside time before or after the meal.

IN SYMPATHY

We offer our sincere sympathy to RENEE LONG, BishopsCourt Hill, on the death of her mother, Kathleen O'Sullivan.



COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

SHIVERS DOWN THE SPINE

Looking back over recent 'Media Comments' I realise that, by and large, they are all concerned with serious matters. For a change this week, we will share the pleasant company and the wonderful talent of 'one of our own' parishioners, Rita Shaw, otherwise known as Rita Lynch.

Donna O'Sullivan featured Rita on her "Looking South" Radio One programme last week. What a wonderful talent she had. Nearly fifty years on, the recordings we heard on the programme, despite the surface noise, still do justice to the purity of that voice.

Rita Lynch's musical potential was 'discovered' while at school in the Ursuline Convent in Cork. She went on to develop her talents leading, in time, to a career in Opera and on the Concert Platform. Her very first radio broadcast was from the Women's Gaol in Cork in 1936. No, I'm not going to tell you her age at the time, although Rita did reveal her present age on "Looking South"!

She shared with us on the programme the excitement of her career, "a whole new world", although admitting that she may not have had the 'toughness' required to survive such a demanding occupation. She loved the applause and the knowledge that you could get people to sit and listen, occasionally giving her audience "shivers up and down

the spine"!

Then along came Pat Shaw. "The chemistry was right", said Rita, and the musical career took a back seat. Rita and Pat became engaged and married, much to the annoyance of the great Margaret Burke-Sheridan who had hoped to see Rita continue with her career!

But rearing her family of four children was more important to Rita and she has never regretted her decision to share her life with Pat and her family as wife and mother. "What a lovely programme" concluded the announcer. What a lovely lady, say I.



LETTER

Dear 'Luke',

It saddened me to note in our Bulletin a bout of Government bashing issuing from a normally sound source. A little patience would have helped you to avoid this. It is wrong to label all the fine articles we have seen on the subject as "propaganda"; indeed such "propaganda" has helped my family to a "No" vote in the bail referendum.

What Ruairi Quinn had to say is much too close to the truth for my liking and deserved reasoned but not hysterical rebuttal.

- name and address with editor



St. Vincent de Paul

The monthly collection will take place at all Masses next weekend.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

Monthly meeting next Thursday 5th at 8 p.m. in C.P. Centre.

First Friday

Next Friday 6th December is the First Friday of the month. Calls to sick and housebound on the usual days.

Liturgy Group

Meeting on Monday 2nd December at 8.10 p.m. in C.P. Centre.

Evening Mass

The 7.30 evening Mass will be discontinued for December. However, we will have it as usual on Friday 6th December (First Friday).

Advent

During Advent Benediction will take place every Sunday at 5 p.m.

Annual Christmas Dinner

The Bishopstown Social Services Annual Dinner for senior citizens and friends will take place on Sunday 15th December at 6 p.m. at Bishopstown G.A.A. Pavilion. Tickets £5, and transport available if required. Contact persons:

Nora Fitzpatrick 546358

Brid Hartnett 544693

Michael Haydon 541638

We wish to thank our many sponsors and supporters of this event.



Visitation

Fr. Finbarr will visit Farranlea during the coming weeks.

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Friday next December 6th from 10.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.

Time list on Offertory Table in the church.

This month's intention: We pray for the sick and the housebound.

TAIZE Prayer

"Dochas" community invites young adults to an evening of Taize Prayer on Monday 2nd December at 8 p.m. at 19 Montford Park, Mardyke.

Lavanagh Centre

Wish to thank the residents of The Orchard, Farranlea Park, for their generous contribution to their house-to-house project.

Bishopstown Community Association

Please note - meeting for members will take place on Tuesday 3rd December at 8pm in Wilton Park House. All are welcome.

World A.I.D.S. Day Mass

At Sacred Heart Church on Monday 2nd December at 7.30 p.m. Principal Celebrant Bishop John Buckley. All welcome.

Afternoon Prayer and Benediction

At St. Benedict's Priory, Cobh on Sundays at 3.30 p.m.

Readings for Sunday 8 December

Is.40:1-5,9-11. Ps.84.2 Pet.3:8-14. Mk.1:1-8.

MASS TIMES

Weekdays: 9.00 and 10.00.

Saturday Vigil: 6.15 p.m.

Sundays: 9.00, 10.30, 12.15.

**PRIESTS' EMERGENCY
NUMBER**

088-519940