

Sunday 9th March 1997



Ballineaspig Bulletin

Fourth Sunday of Lent



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CO. DK.

No. 500



Congratulations 500th Edition



The Ballineaspig Parish Bulletin began as we know it in September 1985, under the watchful eyes of Fr. Tadhg O'Mathuna and Fr. Bernard Cotter.

A small A4 page was used in the beginning, the bulletin being photocopied on to different coloured sheets each week. It quickly gained popular interest from parishioners, it being utilised in the beginning as a very efficient way to publicise local events, and help to bring a Christian message into the homes of the parish.

Bulletin 50 saw a change to a new banner for the bulletin, which was used for a further year when in 1987 a more familiar look was given to the bulletin. Regular columns from the many parish activities, and from columnists - Luke, Thomas and Ruth meant that in 1988, on a trial basis we switched to the larger B4 size. The reaction from the public was tremendous and very encouraging and we have never looked back since then.

September 1990 was the start of the banner we have used for the last six and half years. Time moves on and I now have the pleasure in unveiling the new banner heading for the bulletin, which will hopefully take us into the next Millenium.

The Bulletin is truly a parish activity :- from my co-workers on the editorial teams, the priests of the parish, the regular columnists, to the teams who fold and count the bulletin, and then the many people involved in the distribution of the bulletin, both within the church on a weekly basis and also those who deliver it each month to the homes of the parish.

The fact that this is our 500th edition is a milestone and its because of everyone playing their part that it is so successful. I would like to thank everyone and hope that we will all be around to celebrate when we have Edition 1000!!

Colm Linehan - Editor



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

Our Parish Lenten Retreat - just three days - is on this week, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. I read an article recently entitled "Why I have given up Religion". Quite honestly, if I thought religion was what that writer thought it was, I too would give up with him. If one man no longer finds meaning in religion, it does not follow that religion is meaningless. The religion Jesus taught has two impulses. One - love God and show this love in your relationship with other people. Two - we need to gather in worship to live that as well as we can.

As we all know, quite a large percentage in our community has lapsed from the religion into which they were baptised and brought up. Quite often there is a sense of grievance behind this move - a sense that the 'Official Church' is uncaring - a difference with a priest - he may be wrong, maybe not.

Whatever it is, the fact remains that Church life, and the lapsed themselves are the poorer.

No family is happy when some of the children are out there, somewhere in the night, refusing to come home. Neither, I suspect, are the children. This is a great time to steal in home again, and everybody will be happy in the family of the Lord. Join us in a little prayer this week, led by Fr. Pat O'Donoghue - if you haven't heard him, you don't know what you are missing.

Melbourne House,
Model Farm Road

Dear Editor,

I am particularly concerned to read the contents of your "comment section" in Bulletin No.498. I am surprised your Parish Bulletin is being used to canvass objections against our development at Curraheen Road. The article is entirely incorrect in that the land in question is zoned industrial in the recently adopted County Development Plan and not green belt as stated. Whilst the proposed uses will, of course, generate traffic, there is no question of noise or any emissions with the type of planning sought.

Your writer should have taken the time to consult with our company to obtain the facts. I also note your readers are being canvassed to write to the County Planners, Public Representatives and UCC, however, no mention of the developer so obviously we are to be avoided.

I have been contacted by parishioners of Ballineaspais who are appalled by this action. I trust you will correct matters in your next Bulletin.

Yours faithfully,
Michael O'Flynn,
O'Flynn Construction Co.Ltd.

PRAYER & RENEWAL

With

Fr. Pat O'Donoghue SSC

on

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday - 10th 11th
& 12th March '97 each day at
10a.m. and 7.30 p.m.



DO WE HAVE A MORAL CRISIS?

On RTE 1 TV's programme "What Really Matters" recently, presenter Olivia O'Leary asked the panel the question: Do you believe we are suffering from a moral crisis? The answer, from a panel of three, was pretty unanimous.

Gerard Casey, leader of the Christian Solidarity Party answered 'yes', claiming that a moral crisis follows from social change and breakdown. Bishop Bill Murphy of Kerry said the answer was yes - but suggested that there was still "a great sense of God out there" but that "the alarm bells were ringing", instancing family erosion, crime, and the high birth-rate outside marriage. Dick Spicer of the Humanist Association of Ireland suggested that, while traditional moral values were in crisis, "good things were happening too". He felt that, in the past, too much was left to the Church and the schools in this area and that parents must inculcate the family with the right moral values themselves.

Following on from some discussion of the question as to whether a moral code was possible without God, the audience (comprising parents, teachers, priests, psychologists) were invited to voice their own opinions - and they did.

There was general agreement that moral values cannot be taught in the classroom - "values are caught, not taught". They must come from the parents. The truth of the faith must first be communicated to the children in order to make them their own "agents of change". Only then can they acquire moral values and

make them their own.

The peer group and TV were seen as the great competitors in outweighing parental values and guidance. The importance of setting boundaries, in the matter of TV especially, was stressed, as was making the distinction between innocence and ignorance.

A good series, I would suggest, and well worth watching. Why not watch it together, parents AND children and open up a discussion afterwards?



Rest in Peace

We pray for the late Noelle Stack, The Belfry, Model Farm Road, a sister of Ted who died just over two months ago. Noelle hadn't been well for the past while, but during her own sickness her concern for Ted was uppermost in her mind. Those who knew Noelle were privileged to know a kind, gentle woman, whose faith was such a source of strength to her, especially in the past year. To her sister Eva and family we offer our sympathy and prayers.

Tom Driver, Bishopstown Avenue, died at the Bon Secours Hospital on 23rd February, where he had been a patient since Christmas. Tom had served as a professional soldier all his life, and attained the honoured rank of Lt. Colonel. In his retirement he enjoyed a game of golf, and was a keen car enthusiast, as well as giving time generously to different projects in the Parish. We extend sincere sympathy to his wife Joan, his son Ciaran, daughter Irene, brother Seamus, sister Chris, and grandchildren.



Bulletins to Homes

Bulletins will be delivered to every home in the parish next week-end.

As Gaeilge

Leifear Aifreann as Gaeilge an Domhnach seo chugainn ar a naoi a chlog. Tagaigi agus bigi pairteach linn.

Visitation

Fr. Finbarr Crowley will visit Wilton Avenue/Bishopscourt/Merlyn Lawn during the coming weeks.

Cake Sale

Our choir are holding a cake sale next Sunday 16th in the Crypt, after 9.00, 10.30 and 12.15 Masses.

Church Book-Racks

A number of new booklets are now available in the book-racks. Some are on topical subjects, eg., Lent and Easter, Confirmation and First Communion. Others are of a more general nature and deal with Prayer, Spirituality, Stress, etc.

A few minutes perusal of the titles available will show that most aspects of living today are covered.

The FOLD

The March issue seems to be all about birthdays! Cura marks 20 years of special care for women with unhappy pregnancies as it celebrates its 20th birthday in Cork. Colm O'Connor of CMCC challenges our assumptions about violence against women. Ogra, the Cork Youth Association, is marking its 30th birthday. Frankfield/Grange parish is spotlighted! We talk about the PTAA as it approaches 100 years. And Innishannon parishioners go wild about their recent mission!! Your copy awaits you in exchange for just 60p.

Easter Bulletin Cover

Remember, designs for the Easter Bulletin Cover must be in the C.P. Centre by Wednesday 12th March.

Car Parking

A parishioner points out that some cars have been damaged during the Saturday evening Mass. We would ask people to please be vigilant.

Charity Bridge

For Guide Dogs for Blind will be held in Arbutus Lodge Hotel on Sunday 16th March at 7.15pm.

Bishopstown G.A.A.

Race Night will be held in the Pavilion on Friday, 14th March at 9.30 p.m. to raise funds to install new heating system. Buy your own horse for £20 or sponsor an advert in race programme. Great night assured - all are welcome.

Under 11 Football Street Leagues resume on Sunday 9th March at 11a.m.

Self Esteem and your Child's Education

Colaiste an Spioraid Naoimh's Parents Association will hold a lecture by Dr. A. Humphreys on Monday 10th March at 8pm. £2 to cover one or both parents.

LENT

Masses

Mon-Fri: 9.00, 10.00, 7.30pm.

Half-Hour Adoration:

Thursday 7.00-7.30pm.

Sunday Devotions: 5.30pm.

Readings for Sunday 16 March

Jer.31:31-34, Ps. 50, Heb.5:7-9, Jn. 12:20-30.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

088-519940