



Seventh Sunday of Easter

No. 509

Ballineaspais Bulletin

Sunday 11th May 1997



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



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**
The Dean writes

Last week a highly intelligent and articulate young lady phoned to ask: If a person gets divorced under the new legislation in this State, can he/she marry again in Church?

I replied: The short answer is - No! - But ... Again she was back like a rocket: I wish you would make these things clear. They are of practical importance, you know.

Of course she was right. Prompted by this intervention I thought it timely to set out the Catholic position regarding marriage as clearly and as briefly as I could.

1. When Catholics marry in Church both Church and State regard the marriage as valid - unless proven otherwise. (Actually, the document signed by the couple in Church after the ceremony is for the State Registrar.)
2. The Church, following the teaching of Christ Himself, teaches that "Christian marriage creates a bond between husband and wife that endures for life, and cannot be broken." ("Anyone who divorces his/her partner, except for the case of an

illicit marriage, and marries another commits adultery." Matt. 5.32).

3. If the State grants a divorce - may a person marry again in Church? The answer is no - except:
(A) If it can be shown that the first marriage was in fact invalid for some reason - then, if that reason no longer exists, it may be possible to re-marry in Church.
4. There are a number of reasons that could affect the validity of marriage, e.g. (a) serious lack of discretionary judgement, (b) problems of a psychological nature, etc.
5. The Regional Marriage Tribunal at the Lough Church deals in detail with these matters.
6. The final question from my caller: Does it cost a lot to get a Church annulment? Happily the answer is: No.
7. Finally, a small word of advice - which is not quite as superfluous as it might appear to you who are in love - say a little prayer to the Holy Spirit to guide you in the most important decision you will ever make in life.

God bless you all.

Denis O'Connor P.P.



Congratulations to the following parishioners who were married recently:

EOIN McMANUS, 15 Melbourn Court, who married Vicki Coyne, Killarney.

CRUTHUR O'SULLIVAN, 26 Kenley Close, who married Aoife Ryan, 26 Donscourt, Bishopstown.

ROSITA COUGHLAN, 4 Kenley Heights, who married Neil Murphy, Hillgrove Lawn, South Douglas Road.

ROSEMARIE HOGAN, 3 Victoria Court, who married Simon Bartels, Turner's Cross.

KEVIN ANDERSON, Orchard Court, who married Marian Conneely, Orchard Court.

BRENDAN FINNEGAN, 11 Leesdale, who married Brigid Lyons, Leesdale.

DANIEL LYNCH, 30 Parkway Drive, who married Denise Wilcox, Schull.

Confirmation

On Tuesday, 29th April, the pupils of St. Catherine's National School received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Again this year, Bishop Russell from Waterford made the ceremony a very special occasion for each child and their parents, and commended the children on the high quality of their singing and participation.

A special word of thanks to the teachers who prepared the children so well.

IN SYMPATHY

We wish to express our sincere sympathy to Colm Linehan, Editor of the Bulletin, on the death of his mother, Noirin.



CHOIR

Welcome home to our Church Choir, recently returned from their trip to Orleans in France where they were guests of the local choir. They gave a concert on Saturday night and sang at 10.30 Mass on Sunday.

Their French hosts lavished hospitality on them - as well as sharing their homes they took them for a trip to the Chateau of Louis XIV. Their visit to Paris en route brought them to the Arc de Triomphe, Montmartre, and the famous Basilica of Notre Dame - not forgetting the Eiffel Tower - and as they marched down the Champs Elysees the whole of Paris looked on in admiration!

We are glad they are all home safe and well, once more having done us proud during their stay in la Belle France.



COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

GOSPEL VALUES

Unless one was in a state of ongoing hibernation, it would have been impossible not to have had, at the very least, a passing interest in the British general election. The media were full of discussion, heated debate and polls, polls and more polls. Now it is over and Tony Blair and the Labour Party have swept to power, leaving a trail of devastation among many of the 'big guns' within the Conservative Party.

Democracy at work, one might say. Great entertainment for the masses perhaps. In no time at all, it will be 'back to business' in the world of politics and people will, no doubt, ask themselves: what was it all in aid of? We do tend to become a little cynical when it comes to the matter of politics, don't we?

I was, therefore, a little surprised - and chastened - at a morning Mass after the election when, among the other subjects prayed for was a respect for gospel values in government among those who cherished these same gospel values. The celebrating priest (no, it wasn't in Dennehy's Cross!) emphasised how difficult it has become to uphold these values in a society whose values lie elsewhere. He spoke of the courage needed to speak up for a point of view that is not

shared by a majority of those in positions of authority.

I came away from that Mass feeling that there was so much more to the selection of a new parliament than simply casting one's vote. I also came away feeling that, yes, standing up for gospel values in public life was well worth praying for, not just after elections but all of the time.

CONGRATULATIONS

European honour

Congratulations to five students from Mount Mercy who won top prize at the EU Young European Consumers competition, which was held in Dublin Castle. The five team members are Michelle O'Flynn, Laura Power, Elaine Dewhurst, Aoife Power and Sandra Power. The competition was for the production of a consumer magazine aimed at young people and addressing a range of key issues, which include the single EU currency, advantages of free movement to European consumers and consumer habits throughout the 12 member states. The students now go forward to a grand final to be held in Brussels later this year.

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord.

Psalms 92:1



Bulletins to Homes

Bulletins will be delivered to all homes in the parish next week-end.

Aifreann le Gaeilge

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

Pastoral Council

Meeting on Monday 12th in C.P. Centre at 8.10pm.

Invitation

Children who this year received their Confirmation and First Holy Communion are invited to attend 10.30 Mass on Pentecost Sunday, 18th May. Those who would like to take part in readings, etc. are asked to ring Ber at 542702 or Nollaig at 341717.

Visitation

Fr. Finbarr Crowley will visit Magazine Road and College Road in the coming weeks.

Taize Prayer

"Dochas" Community invites young adults to an evening of Taize Prayer on Monday, 12th May at 8pm. at 19 Montfort Park, Nardyke, Cork...

Job Opportunity

Caretaker/Supervisor, Bishopstown Lawn Tennis Club. Must be eligible for C.E. Scheme. Contact 343113. 10 a.m. - 12 noon, Wednesday or Friday.

Congratulations

Congratulations to St. Vincent's, Sundays Well, who are celebrating 150 years in Cork this week-end.

The Community there extend a welcome to anyone who may wish to join their celebrations:

Masses on Sat. 10th at 7.00pm.
Sunday 11th at 9.00, 10.30 and 12 noon.

MASS TIMES

Weekdays: 9.00, 10.00.
Saturday Vigil: 6.15 p. m.
Sundays: 9.00, 10.30, 12.15.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

088-519940