

Sunday 8th June 1997



Ballinaspaig Bulletin

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



No. 513

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

DRINK - PROPER ATTITUDES MORE IMPORTANT THAN LAWS

Friday last, 6th June, was the feast of the Sacred Heart - a day of special devotion for all Catholics, but especially for members of the Pioneer Total Abstinence Association. Pioneers abstain from alcoholic drinks to make some small return of love to Jesus for the love He shows for us. I take off my hat to every Pioneer in the country, but clearly the movement is not for everybody.

Alcoholic drinks are good - in moderation. Every thinking person knows how important are the words "in moderation". How to promote conviction on moderation is the problem. Some people call for stricter drink laws. Sometimes we feel we have solved a problem by passing a law - often a dead letter. Latterly we have heard a lot about "zero tolerance". If the laws we have are enforced within reason, as for example the drink driving at Christmas time, it's great. This

has saved lives, whatever about the howls of anguish emanating from some quarters.

There are three important steps that could help "in moderation":

1. Curb advertising. It has worked with smoking. Drink firms spend millions on advertising, and it's not out of concern for local communities or the games they sponsor.
2. Education. The "Shock and Horror" in our local papers of youngsters celebrating Junior Cert. results are as predictable as "The Greening of the Lee" after a few weeks of summer weather. Surely entertainment venues without drink could be provided - at least the young person has to make a decision then. What happened to the "No Name Clubs"?
3. Public attitudes are best of all. It has worked for smoking in public places - the wearing of seat belts - why not in promoting a sensible attitude to alcoholic drink? Getting drunk is really not something to boast about.

Have a nice holiday this summer - and if you drink, do so in moderation.

Denis O'Donnell PP

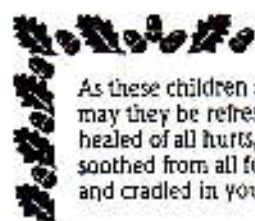
PRIEST SAVES MOTHER AND CHILD

A pregnant Chinese woman told that she would have to abort her child is now in Vienna after an intervention by a Catholic priest.

The woman was living in Austria with her husband and two children when she was obliged to return to China to renew her passport. Without it she would be unable to get an Austrian residence permit.

She duly renewed her passport, but was told by the Austrian authorities in China that the quota for refugees had in the meantime been filled. Then, eight weeks before the baby was due, the Chinese authorities told her that her third child would be "against family planning policy" and that it should be aborted in her local district hospital within one month. A date was given for the operation, three weeks before the birth was due.

When Fr. Anton Lowe, who has a mission to the Chinese in Vienna, heard of the case he alerted the Vienna Archdiocese, which asked the Austrian Ministry of the Interior to make an exception on humanitarian grounds, enabling the woman to return. Within hours the woman was on a flight back to Vienna. ("The Tablet")



As these children sleep, dear Lord,
may they be refreshed for tomorrow,
healed of all hurts,
soothed from all fears,
and cradled in your arms of love.

Amen



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

JUNE

Our tradition is one of caring and friendship for our neighbours, the doors of the cottages are left open to symbolise the welcome we give each other, the stepping stones are to remind us to share the path with each other, to keep an eye on our elderly and lonely neighbours.

DID YOU KNOW?

According to Canon 919, Code of Canon Law, the elderly, and those who are suffering from some illness, as well as those who care for them, may receive the Blessed Eucharist even if within the preceding hour they have consumed something.



We offer our sincere sympathy to MRS. BRIGID O'BRIEN, Bendemeer Park, on the death of her sister.



COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST?

By the time you are reading this, the General Election will be over and, hopefully, we will be on track for a further period of political stability.

Many issues have been raised in the seemingly endless TV debates: the economy, crime, peace, water-charges, abortion, unemployment. Many promises have been made in the media and on the doorstep. Some will be kept, others won't.

There is a limit to what any government can do. But well within the scope of the incoming

government, in a booming economy, is the will to do something fundamental about making some of the benefits of this boom available to those who are living close to the poverty line. It needs radical new thinking, not the tired old rhetoric we hear too often, nor indeed the traditional handouts. CORI have made useful suggestions which should be listened to - and acted upon.

Fr. Robert Brophy has been quoted in the media as saying, during his homily at the Eucharistic Procession, that the Celtic Tiger economy should not be governed by "the law of the jungle or the survival of the fittest". The consumer society, he said, "was not satisfying a deep spiritual hunger in people. Jesus is the answer to our deepest needs, our longing for true life - eternal life."



Sister Michael O'Regan passed away peacefully at St. Joseph's Convent last week. Sr. Michael was a native of Kildorrery - educated at Drishane, and later joined the sisters there. Subsequently she spent over forty years on the mission in Malaysia. She was a lady - small in stature, but big in mind and determination. We extend our sympathy to her community at St. Joseph's where she lived since the opening of that convent, and her nephews and relatives, all of whom were very special to Sr. Michael.

EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION

It was a heartening and uplifting sight - thousands of people gathered in prayer and faith in our city last Sunday.

The theme of Fr. Robert Brophy's homily was faith - its presence and its absence. Even the great saint Therese of Lisieux had to fight the darkness of doubts. He blamed the growth in crime among us on a society in which so many people have no God in their lives.

The traditional ending with Faith of Our Fathers would have been moving even to the most cynical - thousands of voices raised with great conviction - "We will be true to thee 'till death."



NOTICE BOARD

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

No June meeting. Resuming in September.



Youth Ministry

The Dominican Fathers are holding a Folk Liturgy Course at Knockadoon July 19th-26th and August 16th-23rd. Cost for week is £85 - everything included. Any group who would be interested in putting their skills to good use in our Parish Church would receive part sponsorship. Tel: 276574.

Irish Wheelchair Association

14th annual International Walk, 18-27 October 1997. Trekkers go East, arrive in Kuala Lumpur and walk on the island of Borneo in Malaysia. Details from Rita at 966544.

Readings for Sunday 8 June

Gen. 3:9-15. Ps. 129.
2 Cor. 4:13-5:1. Mk. 3:20-35.

TAKE NOTE:

**PLEASE CUT BACK THOSE
PROTRUDING HEDGES!**

It's an annual appeal. We're asking you again to please inspect the outside of your hedges for protruding bits - especially thorny ones. Walking on some of our footpaths can be a hazardous business.

Don't let YOUR hedge be the cause of such annoyance. Get out there with your clippers - today. You just might save somebody's face!

PARISH TEAM

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EMERGENCY NUMBER:

088-519940

(To be used when you cannot contact the priest at his home.)

Mass Times

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