

Sunday 28th September 1997



No. 520

Ballineaspais Bulletin

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

Sr. Ursula writes

"There is a green island in lone Gougane Barra," and it is a spot that I, for one, am very fond of. With its "thousand wild fountains" it is a place of great beauty and of great tranquility. Each season of the year brings its own special quality to Gougane. I must confess that I have never been there in the depth of winter, but I have been told that, even then, its beauty is not diminished.

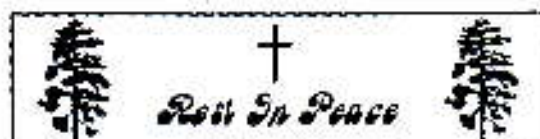
The feast of St. Finbarr was last Thursday and we are told that he spent much of his monastic life in Gougane Barra. It must have been a hard, even a harsh life, but it was also a life of deep prayer and of great dependence on God. During that period of our history there were many monastic settlements and they were nearly all in places of great scenic beauty. St. Finbarr was no exception to the rule in his choice. There is something about the beauty of creation which, if we let it, can lead us straight to the creator Himself. St. Teresa of Avila, that great Spanish Mystic and Doctor of the Church, said that convents should be built near water because it is a help to prayer.

So, what message does St. Finbarr have for us today? Dare I suggest that it could be something as simple and profound as spending some time in a place of natural beauty? Perhaps a walk in the Lee fields or even time in our own back garden. That we really look and see, and that we give praise and thanks to God our Father who is the giver and source of all beauty. It could, in its own way, be a very prayerful experience.

THE WAY OF CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Meditation involves coming to a stillness of spirit and a stillness of body. The extraordinary thing is that, in spite of all the distractions of the modern world, this silence is perfectly possible for all of us. To attain this silence and stillness we have to devote time, energy and love. The way we set out on this pilgrimage is to recite a short phrase or word. The word is simply a means of turning our attention beyond ourselves, a method of drawing us away from our own thoughts and concerns. The real work of meditation is to attain harmony of body, mind, and spirit. This is the aim given us by the psalmist: "Be still and know that I am God".

Weekly Group Meeting takes place every Thursday from 7.00-7.30pm. in the C.P. Centre.



Mrs. Kitty Madden died at St. Joseph's, Mount Desert, on 8th September. She had retired there a few months earlier. Kitty had been quite active in different charitable and social activities in the Parish until very shortly before her retirement. She cooked for Meals-on-Wheels, she was a founder member of the Friendship Club, and played her hand of Bridge with finesse. Above all, she was an example in her loyalty to her religious duties. We extend sincere sympathy to her family - Claire and Kevin, her grandchildren, son-in-law and daughter-in-law - and indeed to all who knew and loved her.

IN SYMPATHY

We offer our sincere sympathy to SEAN Ó BROIN, Woodlawn, on the death of his father.

EMIGRANT SUNDAY

Next Sunday, 5th October, is Emigrant Sunday. Why not heed the advice given by Maeve Binchy in one of her columns:-

"Years ago I remember when they began an Emigrant Sunday where we were all meant to pray for the boys and girls who had gone. I suggest writing to them - not instead of praying, but as well as. Prayers are fine, but letters are great in the here-and-now."



Altar Servers New and Old

Boys and girls who are in third class upwards and are interested in becoming altar servers please contact Mercedes Cunningham 544113.

Would all old altar servers please contact the above re new rota.

Light Out Of Darkness

An information night will be held on Monday 29th September at St. Joseph's Convent, Model Farm Road, at 8.00pm.

This gentle course is a joyful way to meet the true living God as a friend who is always present in our lives. Please contact Eileen at 541582 or leave your name into the C.P. Centre. Everyone welcome.

Pre-Marriage Course

In the Crypt of the Church on Thursday nights 6, 13, 20 and 27 November. This year the course is being run by C.M.C.C., Paul Street, where bookings can be made. Tel. 275678.

Pilgrimage to Knock

CIE (Staff) Annual Pilgrimage takes place on Sunday 19th October. All in cost £23. Contact John C. Hennessy (506976) for details and booking.

Parish Social

Will be held in Jury's Hotel on Tuesday 21st October. Tickets £7 available in C.P. Centre. Spot prizes would be appreciated.



COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

A £50 MILLION DILEMMA

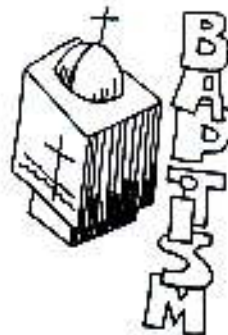
The media have been active of late in drawing our attention to the increasing sales of alcoholic fruit drinks known as alcopops. Despite denials by the drinks industry that these drinks are aimed at the under-18 age bracket, they are condemned by the Government as "insidious concoctions cynically aimed at the impressionability and vulnerability of youth".

The market for these drinks is enormous, estimated at £50 million a year in Ireland, a huge £250 million yearly in Britain. The packaging and general presentation is so colourful as to make the range of products most appealing to young people, despite the denials. The names, too, are trendy and would appeal to young purchasers: Hooch, Corkys, Woodys and Two Dogs to name a few.

At the time of writing, one major supermarket chain at least has banned the range from its stores because of the growing popularity among under-age drinkers of these brightly-packaged, sweetly-flavoured, high-alcohol drinks. Another major chain, who had previously banned them but later re-introduced them, will continue to stock the range but have promised to "take cognisance of any public concern". RTE has banned their

advertising.

There is an ambivalence in Ireland concerning our attitude to alcohol and its potential for abuse. Let us hope that our attitude to this new introduction is more positive. Enough of our young people have succumbed to the evils of over-indulgence in alcohol without putting a whole new generation at risk through the sales of this gimmicky range of products.



We welcome the following into our Christian community:

Nicole Josephine English
Dara Mae O'Keeffe
Ciara Maria Kavanagh
Aaron Alexander Kavanagh
David McCarthy
Miamh McNicol
Laura Daly
Scamus David Nolan
Angela Dooley
Shane Gerard Connor O'Neill
Nathan James O'Rourke
Joseph Jacob McKeon
Sinead Therese Flynn
Brian Michael O'Donovan
Ronan Cillian Dennehy
Amy Ann Johnson
Chloe Marie Buckley
William Jeremiah O'Brien
Sophie Leonie Keohane
Shauna Mary Kelleher



First Friday

Next Friday, 3rd October, is the First Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on usual days.

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Will take place on Friday 3rd October from 10.30-7.30pm. Please sign your name at a time that is convenient to you in the book at centre aisle.

Visitation

Fr. Finbarr will continue visitation at Model Farm Road this week.

St. Vincent de Paul

Monthly collection will take place next week-end.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

Monthly meeting next Thursday 2nd October in C.P. Centre at 8pm.

Sunday Crèche in C.P. Centre

Volunteers required for Crèche at 12.15pm Mass.

Bishopstown Community Association

Will hold a public meeting to discuss the revised City Development Plan, in the Bishopstown G.A.A. Club, on Tuesday 7th October at 8.00pm. All are welcome.

Youth Training Workshop

At Togher has vacancies on their Catering & Manual Skills Courses, for girls and boys over 15 years who have left school. Please apply to the workshop at Southside Shopping Centre, Clashdub Road, Togher, tel. 311638, between 8.45-4.45 Mon-Thurs, and between 8.45-1.30 Friday. Participants will be paid the normal FAS training allowances.



Coffee Morning

Our Senior Choir will hold a Coffee Morning on Wednesday 1st October, 10.30-12.00 noon at the Rendezvous Bar. Raffles will take place. £2 adm. Please come along, everyone welcome.



Fashion Show

In aid of North Cathedral Renovation Fund in Jury's Hotel, Monday 6th October at 8pm. in association with Cash's. Tickets £5 available at Cathedral, Jury's Hotel or Cash's.

Fine Gael

Model Farm Road branch will hold a meeting on Monday 29th September at Rendezvous Bar (upstairs) at 8.30pm. New members very welcome.

Readings for Sunday 5 October

Gn. 2:18-24, Ps. 127, Heb. 2:9-11, Mk. 10:2-16.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

088-519940