

Sunday 29th March 1988



# Ballineaspais Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Lent



No. 545

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



FROM OUR  
**PARISH  
TEAM**

*The Dean writes*

## CHURCH MUST STAND UP FOR TRUTH AT ALL TIMES

I bought a book in Veritas last week. It's not a book that everybody in the Parish would rush to buy - its title "Twin Pulpits".

The curious thing is that it concerns you as much as it concerns me. The book consists of a number of papers read at a conference on "Church and Media in Modern Ireland", held at All Hallows College, Dublin, last July. It's a valuable reference source when evaluating much of what we read and hear and see in the Media.

I don't have to tell you that the Media generally have been hostile to the Church, and what it stands for, in recent years. The Church, for the most part, has reacted with suspicion and fear - sometimes incompetently, and too often a little breathless and a little late. This Conference was set up to engage in frank and honest discussion between spokespersons on both sides.

It must be noted, of course, that Media and Church work from very different agenda.

Journalists work under pressure to produce saleable copy at high speed. The temptation is to introduce a little 'spice' into the story - it's the surest way to get it read. If it's slightly off the mark - or if it hurts - especially an influential institution - so be it. "Tickle the public, make them grin: the more you tickle, the more you'll win. Teach the public, you'll never be rich." (Old Fleet St. ditty). However, let it be said, loud and clear, a free press is one of the strongest bulwarks of democracy.

On the other hand, the Church's mission is to preach the Gospel. Jesus called it the 'Good News'. For the secular and liberalist journalist - this just isn't news - full stop. Jesus summed up his Gospel as love of God and our neighbour, but it's not the stuff of romantic novels, it's the genuine article which entails sacrifice. Jesus said He is the Truth - so the Church must stand up for the truth at all times. It follows that we must not look for special consideration, or whitewashing the facts if some members fail - but mindful always of justice and mercy - it's quite dangerous for people in glasshouses to throw the first stone.

At the end of the day it's all still true that 'all power corrupts'. For too long the

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**CHURCH MUST STAND UP FOR  
TRUTH AT ALL TIMES**  
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Institutional Church exercised power. ("Jesus came to serve not to be served"). Now the Media exercise awesome power - hopefully they will use it wisely, without arrogance - and always mindful that all power corrupts.

*Denis O'Connell P.P.*

**THE MILLENNIUM PRAYER**

We come to you, Jesus, in faith.  
You are the Lord of our memories.  
Forgive our past sins against you  
and each other.

We come to you, Holy Spirit, in  
hope.  
You are the Lord of our daily  
lives.  
Fill us with joy in you and in  
each other.

We come to you, Father, in love.  
You are the Lord of our future.  
As we walk with you towards this  
Millennium  
show us how to trust you and each  
other.  
Amen.



Congratulations to the following  
parishioners who were married in  
1998:

LEONARD CLINTON, 28 Mount Eden,  
Model Farm Road, who married  
Deirdre McCarthy, Uam Var Avenue,  
Bishopstown.

ELLMARIE SPILLANE, Farranlea  
Grove, who married Michael Dowd,  
Greystones, Co. Wicklow.

NOELLE MOLONEY, 32 Liam Lynch  
Park, who married Fergal Lowney,  
'Roancarrig', Bishopstown Road.

MARIA O'CONNELL, Laburnum Park,  
Bishopstown Avenue, who married  
Peter O'Shea, 'Eiscar', Clogheen.

PIONA MULCAHY, Ballyrichard  
House, Orchard Road, who married  
Victor Donnelly, Boston Park, The  
Lough.

Think twice before you speak and then  
say it to yourself.

*Elbert Hubbard*

**LENTEN CALENDAR**

<p><b>29</b> <b>New Life</b> Through Jesus, we are offered new life. Let us remove any barriers in our lives to the new life of Christ. <i>John 4:3-10-21</i></p>	<p><b>30</b> <b>Fear Not</b> We need not fear because God is with us. Pray that you might be more aware of God's presence in your life. <i>Psalm 23</i></p>	<p><b>31</b> <b>Love Revealed</b> Jesus is the revelation of God in the world. To believe in him is to find the path to life. <i>John 8:21-30</i></p>	<p><b>1</b> <b>April Truth</b> The truth is always being revealed in the hearts of those who follow Jesus. He will set us free. <i>John 8:11-42</i></p>	<p><b>2</b> <b>Ancestors</b> We are nurtured by the faith of others. Take a moment today to give thanks for those who have led you to faith in Jesus. <i>Psalm 103</i></p>	<p><b>3</b> <b>Listen!</b> The opponents of Jesus were so set against him that they ignored the truth of what he said and the good he did. <i>John 10:31-42</i></p>	<p><b>4</b> <b>Transformation</b> How can mourning be turned into joy? As it was on Easter: by the power of the Resurrection. <i>Jeremiah 11:10-12</i></p>
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# COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

## WAKE UP AND SMELL THE COFFEE

Watching the Late Late Show segment on alcohol abuse might not have been entertaining, but it could certainly have been described as a salutary experience for anyone tempted to over-indulge in the consumption of alcohol.

Dr. Patrick Nugent's comment that more people had been killed by alcohol in the past 30 years than had died in the Northern troubles is a sobering thought. Prof. Joyce O'Connor spoke of the "conspiracy of silence" and of the "high tolerance for drunkenness" in Ireland. Dr. Mick Loftus, a lifetime advocate of moderate drinking, claimed that, as a coroner, 70% of the fatalities he investigated were drink-related.

Particularly disturbing was the segment on young Limerick University students "out on the town", even though the panel made it clear that over-indulgence was not confined to young people. The young people, they claimed, took their headline from their parents or adults in general.

The answer? People must take responsibility for their drinking habits. "Less is better" should be the slogan. The drinks industry must cut back on the huge spending on advertising. Our Government must be satisfied with a lesser "take" on excise duty. A national alcohol policy must be put in place.

Where does it begin? It begins, dear reader, with you and with me. As Dr. Nugent said on the programme, "wake up and smell the coffee".

Oops! For St. Francis' Church in last week's Media Comment read St. Augustine's Church. Sorry!

Luke



We offer our sincere sympathy to the O'HERLIHY FAMILY, Dromana, Model Farm Road, and McINTOSH FAMILY, Bishopstown Park, on the death of Brendan.

To EDDIE O'SULLIVAN, College Road, on the death of his sister Eileen in London.

To FRANK O'HARA, Court Cairn, Model Farm Road, on the death of his father.

## Special Message from Bishop John Buckley

To encourage prayer, especially prayer in the home, I have prepared a special mailing on prayer which will be delivered to each home in the dioceses over the next week or so by An Post. It contains a leaflet highlighting the importance of prayer, and a prayer card which you can use.



## Announcements

### Attention Readers

A special meeting of Readers and Commentators for Holy Week will be held in C.P. Centre next Monday 30th March, at 8.00pm.

### First Friday

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

### Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Will take place next Friday from 10.30 to 7.30pm.

### St. Vincent de Paul

Monthly collection will take place next week-end.

### St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

Monthly meeting next Thursday, 2nd April, at 8.00pm in C.P. Centre.

### Highfield Squash Club

Junior Section - new members welcome, boys, girls, aged 7 and up. Come to training every Monday at 3.15pm. Contact Club 341022 or Martin O'Donoghue at 962194.

### Reflexology

Treatment of most ailments the natural way. For appointment ring Phil at 546250.

### Powermill Toastmasters Club

Will hold an open meeting on Wednesday 1st April at 8pm at the Anglers Rest Bar, Carrigrohane.

### Readings for Sunday 5th April

Is. 50:4-7. Ps. 21. Phil 2:6-11  
Mk. 14:1-15:47.

### MOUNT MERCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to the Mount Mercy hockey team who came second in the All-Ireland Schoolgirls Hockey Tournament. They were beaten by a single point by Regent House. Congratulations to all involved.

Congratulations to Fionnula Lombard who came 2nd in the Shotputt competition which was held in England.

Well done to Avril Kelly who won her two All-Ireland events in Nenagh over the week-end.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat will be presented by Mount Mercy's Transition Year Students on the 1st and 2nd April. The show will start at 8.00pm. Adm. £6 for adults, £3.50 students.

### **PARISH TEAM**

Dean Denis O'Connor, P.P.,  
Parochial House, Model Farm Road.  
Tel: 542972  
Fr. Finbarr Crowley, C.C.,  
1 Woodlawn, Model Farm Road.  
Tel: 343895  
Sister Ursula O'Callaghan,  
St. Columba's Convent,  
Bishopstown Avenue West  
Tel: 545549

### **EMERGENCY NUMBER:**

**088-519940**

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