



30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

# Ballineaspais Bulletin

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October 1998

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



FROM OUR  
**PARISH  
TEAM**

*Sr. Ursula writes*

ALL STORIES are true, so they say: this one actually happened. The summer of my final profession I lost my profession ring. At that time we had a farm in the country and I was asked to feed the hens and clean the hen house. In the course of the work my ring slipped off. I was devastated. Anyone who has lost or misplaced a wedding or engagement ring will understand. No other ring would replace the one I had lost. I went through the cleaning of the floor with my bare hands until I found the ring.

I'm open to correction by scripture scholars, but one possible explanation of the story of the woman with the ten groats may be this. The Jewish bride did not get a ring. She got a head-dress of coins. The groat in question could be one of those from her head-dress. In her eyes it was more than a coin. It was part of her profession of love and commitment to her husband and his love and commitment to her. So, of course, she swept the house and searched diligently until she found it. Of course she called her neighbours to come and they congratulated her. Every Jewish woman would

understand its value - much, much more than mere sentimental value.

Where is all this leading? Next week we have All Saints Day, All Souls Day and the Feast of All the Saints of Ireland. These feast-days remind us of all those who have gone before us and who placed great, great value on the Kingdom of God. During their lives on earth they were preparing to "work diligently" and "search" because of the value they placed on knowing Christ the King and coming into his Kingdom. They supported each other in these values by their prayers and attendance at Mass. God grant that we who come after them may continue to cherish the same values and to support and encourage each other as they did.



**THE PUPIL IN THE CORNER  
OF THE LIVING ROOM**

"A tour de force" was the unanimous verdict on Professor Joe Lee's contribution to the series of lectures organised by the Adult Education committee. Speaking without a note he paced the floor while he held his audience captive as he discussed 'The Challenge of Change' facing the Irish Church. After an interesting analysis of the pre- and post Famine Church and the Church of the television age, he highlighted the need for the creation of a Catholic intelligentsia to engage with the new pulpit of the media. In the course of the very lively discussion which followed his talk Professor Lee predicted that there would be women priests within a generation. He urged the Church to greet graciously what he described as a "basic right and a basic truth" rather than concede it grudgingly.

The series continues next Tuesday, 27th October, with 'The History of Church Bells' by Mr. Adrian Gebruers, Cobh Cathedral, who has recently been appointed president of the world federation of carilloneurs.

- Rosalie Maloney



We pray for the late Maurice McMahon who died recently. Maurice worked as a Consultant Rheumatologist in the Bon Secours and Orthopaedic hospitals for many years. It was said at his funeral that "he cured many an ache and pain" for people. Maurice was well known in the musical circles of Cork where his fine voice and love of music endeared him to many. To his family and all who mourn his loss we offer our prayers.

**Petition**



*A debt-free start for a billion people*

Over 500 people signed the petition last weekend seeking to celebrate the Millennium by freeing the poorest nations of the world from the burden of unpayable debt owed by their governments to better off countries. Throughout the week, more people have signed the petition. The petition will be available for signing this weekend. Join us.





# COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

## COLOSSUS ON THE WORLD STAGE

TWENTY YEARS ago, one hundred and eleven cardinals elected Karol Wojtyla to be the first non-Italian pope since the 16th century. Over those twenty years, Pope John Paul II has written 12 Encyclicals, 11 Apostolic Exhortations, the same number of Apostolic Constitutions, 81 Apostolic Letters and 84 Messages or Appeals. He has made 84 pastoral visits outside Italy, including Ireland in 1979.

The media have been busy assessing his pontificate. Sadly, we have seen the robust and energetic man of the early years ravaged by illness and an assassination attempt. But his zeal for his evangelical missions has not diminished one jot. He has been described as "a colossus on the late 20th century international stage".

Undoubtedly charismatic, John Paul II has led a Church that has changed dramatically over the period of his papacy. Was he the right man for the job? Only time and history - and God! - will tell.

He has been very willing to meet world leaders, and would appear to have impressed them tremendously. He has been quick to respond to incidents of social tension and armed conflict. He has spoken out on the question of international arms industry and the divisions between rich and poor, including the Third World

Debt.

Yet, he has been severely criticised for his stance on priestly celibacy, women priests, contraception, abortion and divorce. And there are those, within and outside the media, who would reserve their criticism of Joh Paul II for - as they see it - his reneging on the promises and hopes of Vatican II. He has come in for criticism, too, for his "silencing" of theologians who would challenge orthodox Catholic teaching.

His has been a difficult and challenging pontificate. If I may be irreverent for a moment, I am reminded of the caption often seen in the workplace. It goes: "You don't have to be mad to work here - but it helps!" Perhaps it could be applied to the Vatican?!!

As we approach the great Jubilee Year of 2000, we need to pray for Pope John Paul II and for our Church as we struggle on our pilgrim journey.

# *Congratulations!*

## CELEBRATION IN FARRANLEA PARK

During the week, Mrs. Margaret Flaherty, one of the first people to come to live in Farranlea Park, celebrated her 100th birthday in her home in the company of family, long standing friends and neighbours. On behalf of the President, Mary McAleese, Fr. Tom Clancy presented the customary cheque to mark the occasion. Fé choimirce Mhuire, go raibh sí.



**Novena of Masses for the Dead**

Will take place at 9.00, 10.00 and 7.30 p.m. Masses from 2nd to 11th November inclusive. Envelopes are available at the Church doors for names to be included.

**All Souls Day**

Holy Hour will take place at 8.00 p.m.

**St. Vincent de Paul**

Monthly collection will take place next weekend.

**Catholic Papers and Magazines**

Will be for sale at rear of Church after 6.15 p.m. Mass from Saturday 24th October.

**Friendly Morning Bridge**

Continuing on Monday mornings at 10.30 in SMA Centre.



**Family Mass Group**

Parents willing to help on committee please leave names at C.P. Centre.

**Bells - The Voice of God**

Adult Education Series continues next Tuesday, 27th October, at 8.00 p.m. in the Crypt. Speaker - Adrian Gebruers, recently elected World Carillon Federation President.



**Can You Help?**

Person required to collect 6 year old boy from Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh at 1.00 p.m. and deliver to Donscourt. Contact 345487 after 6.00 p.m.

**Crèche**

Re-opening this Sunday 25th October for 12.15 Mass.

**Toothpaste Study**

At Dental Hospital. If you are aged between 25-75, and are interested in participating in a toothpaste study and could attend for six visits between October and May, please ring 901213/901209 for further information.

**Fine Gael**

Model Farm Road branch monthly meeting on Monday 26th October at Rendezvous Bar. Interested new members very welcome.

**Readings for Sunday 1 November**

Apoc.7:2-4,9-14. Ps.23.  
1 Jn.3:1-3. Mt.5:1-12.

**EMERGENCY NUMBER**

087 - 251 9940