

Sunday ^{15th} February 1999



Ballineaspais Bulletin

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



No. 600

S 79

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

Fr. Finbar writes

SIT IN SILENCE WITH GOD

One of my favourite places is Harbour View strand just outside Kilbrittain. When the tide is out you can walk a good distance out to the water and look across the bay at Courtmacsherry. I especially love it at this time of year - it's nearly always deserted, with the wind blowing into your face, the cobwebs quickly blown away. I frequently go there on Wednesdays, my day off. It's possibly the place where I work out most of my problems and, because of that, I consider it one where I pray best. The sand, sea, wind, scenic view, myself and God walking on that beach, and how I treasure it, and I think of the psalm that says: Alone with none but thee my God, I journey on my way.

Many people nowadays speak about the hectic lives they live and the need to have quality time for themselves and their families. People often say to me that their lives are so hectic and find that quality time is very difficult. No matter how hectic a day I have, for a quarter of an hour before I go to bed I turn off the T.V. and

radio, set aside the paper, and just sit in silence with God as my companion, sharing the day gone by with Him.

I'm just sharing what I do to find stillness and quiet in the hectic world I live in. I would like to invite the reader to asked yourself the same question as myself - how can I spend quality time with myself, family, God, in my daily life?

MOUNT MERCY NEWS

On Wednesday 20th January a team from the programme 'Nationwide' came to the school to interview three second-year students on the eating habits of teenagers, teenage dieting and teenage role models. The students were Jane Cunningham, Bishopstown Avenue West, Ciara Daly, Ballygarvan and Donagh Fitzgibbon, Shanakiel. The programme will be broadcast in February.

GREASE

The Transition Year Students of Mount Mercy will be hosting their annual Musical on 6th/7th February in the School Hall. This year the production is GREASE. Admission £5 adults, £3.50 students and O.A.Ps. Tickets available at the door on the night, or beforehand in the school office.

A great night of dancing, singing and acting is guaranteed.

PARISH CALENDAR

We conclude our explanation of themes on our parish calendar.

Reconciliation

The 'open door of welcome and reconciliation' invites us to be reconciled in the home, with family and friends, and ultimately with God in the celebration of the Eucharist. Reconciliation lies at the heart of the three calendar themes already discussed:

- * Reconciliation with God by being sorry for our sins and learning to live the Christian life more generously, receiving the sacraments and tackling the evils of our society.
- * Reconciliation with our fellow Christians with the intention of eventual unity.
- * Reconciliation with the poor at home and abroad, raising our voices on behalf of the world's poor.
- * Reconciliation in our own hearts, with ourselves, our family friends, and the community we live with.



We offer our sincere sympathy to MICHAEL RIORDAN, 16 Bishops Court Lawn, on the death of his brother in Canada.
To PAT KELLEHER, Lynbrook, Glasheen Road, on the death of her father.

OUR OWN ST. BRIGID

St. Brigid was born in 454. Her youth was spent herding, milking cows and making butter. But her wish was to consecrate herself to the service of God. Her father would have none of it but seeing her determination he eventually gave in. She received the veil and spiritual formation, probably from St. Mel, and stayed for a while under his direction in Ardagh.

Many others followed her example and she founded a monastery in Kildare with the assistance of Bishop Conleth. As well as working actively within her community - concentrating on hospitality, almsgiving and care of the sick - she also travelled abroad spreading the word.

A remarkable woman, she earned the title "Mary of the Gael" in her own life-time. She died in 524 and her cult still exists today in a number of continental lands.

St. Brigid's Feast Day is on Monday, 1st February.

St. Mel, under whom she studied, also has his Feast Day this week, on 6th February. It is said that he came to Ireland with St. Patrick from Brittany and worked with him until his ordination in Ardagh in 488.

This period in our history is said to have been one of the most glorious, spiritually and intellectually.


Surely life means more than food and the body more than clothing - look at the birds in the sky. *Matthew 6:26*



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD - TUESDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 1999
A FAMILY OCCASION

Faithful to the traditional practice of her own people, Mary brought her newly born son to the Temple to thank God for the gift that he was and to entrust her boy to the care of the Father. She brought him so that he would be imbued with the spirit of God in all that he would do throughout his life. The presentation was both an act of thanksgiving and of seeking a blessing. Even though she was warned of pain and suffering, Mary was assured that her Son would bring hope and salvation to the world.

So Tuesday is a family day and a parents day in a special way. It is an opportunity to entrust our children to the Father as Mary entrusted Jesus, praying that they, too, be imbued with the spirit of God. Our prayer is that they will bring hope to their worlds and build oases of faith and love wherever they are. Tuesday is a day for each family to gather for a little evening prayer time to thank God for the gift of family and to ask his blessing on our home.

Rest in Peace 

Nora Burton of Rosenalee, Convent Lane, died at Rosenalee Retirement Home, Ballincollig, on Friday 22nd January. By a curious coincidence, Rosenalee, Ballincollig, had been at one time the private residence of Nora and her late husband Cornelius, so it was literally "home from home" for Nora when she retired there more than ten years ago. When she built the bungalow at Convent Lane she renamed that also Rosenalee.

Nora had been a most accomplished lady, and a former National President of the I.C.A. Many present members attended her Requiem Mass, and appropriately formed a guard of honour for her funeral. We extend our sympathy to her sister-in-law, nephews, nieces, and her many friends.

**ST. BLAISE AND THE
BLESSING OF THROATS**

What is the significance of having the blessing of throats on the feast of St. Blaise? It appears that St. Blaise, an Armenian bishop of the 4th century, was famous for many miracles. Among these was his saving a boy from imminent death when a fish bone had got firmly lodged in his throat.

THIS IS LOVE

Love is at its most Christian when the recipient is not appreciative, takes that love you're offering for granted, exploits or even rejects it, and yet despite these things we go on loving and serving and fulfilling Christ's double edged commands of love. Such loving will lead to the folly of the Cross. It is this which makes people say: 'See these Christians, how they love one another.'



First Friday

Next Friday, 5th February, is the First Friday of the month and an extra Mass will be celebrated at 7.30p.m. Calls to the sick and housebound on the usual days.

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Adoration will take place next Friday 5th February, commencing at 10.30a.m. There will be a break from 12 noon to 3.00p.m. to facilitate a wedding, and adoration will then continue to 7.30p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul

Monthly collection next week-end.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

Monthly meeting next Thursday, 4th February, at 8.00p.m. in C.P. Centre.

Focus on the Millennium

Every Friday evening there will be a Holy Hour at St. Catherine's Convent from 7.30 - 8.30p.m. Come and pray with us for even 15 minutes this Year of the Father.

Cork Friends of Lough Derg

Fund Raising event to be held in Jury's Hotel, February 21st, at 8.00p.m. with Ronan Tynan (Tenor), Fiona O'Reilly (Soprano), Leaside Singers and John Creedon (R.T.E.) compere. Tickets £10 available from office of St. Augustines, Washington St. Secure your ticket early to avoid disappointment.

Scoil an Spioraid Naímh

Registration week in boys and girls school, 1st-5th February. Call to the school or telephone 543333(B), 543305(G).

Readings for Sunday 7 February

Is. 58:7-10, Ps. 111, Cor. 2:1-5, Mt. 5:13-16.

Bishopstown Lay Dominican Chapter

Invite you to join them in a Day of Reflection & Prayer on Saturday 20th February from 10.00-5.30p.m. in St. Dominic's Retreat House, Ennismore. Contact Mrs. Jean McKeown, 11 Uam Var Grove, tel. 545093.

FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

WEDNESDAY 3 FEBRUARY

Blessing of throats will take place after the 9.00 and 10.00a.m. Masses. There will also be a short blessing ceremony at 7.30p.m. on Wednesday evening.

The prayer said at the blessing is:

"Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, May God deliver you from all ailments of the throat and every other evil,

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen."

CANDLEMAS DAY

February 2nd is known as Candlemas as candles are blessed on that day for use in church and in our homes. A lighted candle is a reminder of the risen Christ present with us throughout our lives from Baptism to the Paschal candle at our funeral.

Bishopstown G.A.A. Underage

A.G.M. on Wednesday 3rd February at 8.00p.m. in Club. All welcome.

A Free Delivery Service

By McCarthy's of Dennehy's Cross. Minimum order £10. Tel. 345384.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940