



Ballineaspais Bulletin



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

First Sunday of Lent



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

Sr. Ursula writes

MY LORD HAS WALKED THAT WAY BEFORE ME

The Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem winds through the narrow streets of the old city. It is in the middle of the market place. Suxs or small shops line both sides of the street. Their owners are working desperately to make a quick buck. There are cries of "Welcome, welcome, come into my shop. I give you good price. How are you? You want nice bag?", a continuous hubbub and babble of noise, often aggressive, a lot of jostling and shoving as people try to pass about their ordinary business. All the time the pilgrims are trying to pray and meditate as they follow the Way of the Cross in the very place where Jesus, Our Lord and Saviour, went carrying his own cross, to the place of execution, Calvary. A sacred place which has been described by Fr. Murphy O'Connor, O.P. as "a cacophony of warring chants", all of which can be very off-putting to those with high devotional expectations.

What was the first Via Dolorosa really like? Did the ordinary bystanders feel involved? Did they feel any

great interest or sorrow? It's extremely unlikely that they did. That realisation, on the streets of Jerusalem, takes the Stations of the Cross from beautiful devotional pictures on the walls of our churches into real life. For all of us, in real life the Via Dolorosa is a very ordinary, painful and often sordid experience. It isn't either easy or nice and it certainly isn't highly devotional. We are much more likely to cry, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" from the depths of our pain, than we are to go about with great fervour contemplating Jesus' passion. One of the big spiritual experiences of a pilgrimage to Jerusalem is the realisation that when I am asked to walk my personal way of the cross, Jesus himself, my Lord and my God, has walked that way before me, has walked it in all its pain, degradation and shame.

LENTEN FASTING

Lenten fasting is a decision to tone up the mind and body to the service of Christ. It is a decision that can only be made by a believer who values Christ as Son of God and as our Saviour. A person puts first what he values most. A Lenten fast in any one aspect of our lives is a choice to put Christ's values first. Such a choice must appear as complete foolishness to the non-believer.

FINANCIAL REPORT 1998

Presented by the Parish Finance Committee

INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Sunday & Holyday collections	63,922	Wages and PRSI	22,588
Poor Clare Chapel collection	4,440	Heating and Lighting	6,679
Shrines	8,221	8% Levy to Diocesan Office	5,571
Bank Interest	567	Insurance	2,997
Folds, Directories, Booklets, etc.	1,234	Poor Clare Chapel maintenance	2,500
Subscriptions for Parish from groups	490	£10 Government Levy for Primary School children	4,582
Miscellaneous Income	787	Cathedral Renovation Fund	3,000
		Amplifier	4,690
TOTAL INCOME	81,661	Eucharistic Procession Fund	350
		Bulletin, Folds, Missalettes, booklets	5,575
		Church requisites	7,028
		Repairs and maintenance	5,857
		6% Retirement Levy	4,188
SUMMARY		Telephones	951
Income 1998	81,661	Bank charges	239
Expenditure	80,245	Miscellaneous expenses	3,450
Surplus	1,416		
Legacy	15,000	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	80,245
Credit Balance at 1/1/98	33,873		
Credit Balance at 31/12/98	50,289		

SPECIAL CHURCH COLLECTIONS 1998

C.M.C.C.	£377	Peter's Pence	£831
Holy Places	£368	Trocaire	£2,010
Episcopal Commissions	£430	Mission Sunday	£1,155
Peru (incl. church boxes)	£3,011	St. Anne's Adoption Soc	£876
Education of Priests	£816		



FAMILY PRAYER FOR LENT

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



(while candle is being lit)

Leader: May the Light of Christ always shine on us.

We thank you for the gift of being here.

(Pause and pray for one another in silence)



Reader (Adult): If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness... Yahweh will always guide you, giving you relief in desert places... and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never run dry.

Isaiah 58:9-14

Leader: What are we asked to do in the gospel?

Reader (Child):

St. Paul says: "Where there is peace, the Holy Spirit is present and at work there. Where there is love, the Holy Spirit is present and at work there. Where there is forgiveness, the Holy Spirit is present and at work there. Where there is joy, the Holy Spirit is present and at work there."

Child: What is the reading saying to us?

Leader: We now make our prayers. We ask God to bless, look after, help, etc.

(Invite all to ask God for something).

We thank God for many things, especially...

(Invite all to share a prayer of thanksgiving)

Final Prayer

Leader: Help us, Lord, not to feel we are better than others, that we don't take pleasure in the failings of others. Because you love us when we fail to show love to you and others, may we too show love and forgiveness in our own lives. Amen.

Rest In Peace

We pray for Sean Herrick, late of The Manor, Model Farm Road, who died recently. Sean had been ill for the past number of months, but the courage and hope he had through those months was a great source of strength, not just to his family, but to all who knew him. Sean was one who had great wit and a sense of humour, always able to mix with both young and old alike. His death at such a young age is a huge burden for his parents, brothers and sister to carry, so I invite you to pray for them.

IN SYMPATHY

We offer our sincere sympathy to CARMEL MURPHY, Leeddale, on the death of her mother.

To TOM BARRETT, Parkway, on the death of his brother.

To CLAIRE O'LEARY, Leeddale, on the death of her brother.



BELLS



Something New and Novel

A group of people have come together to form a Handbell Ringing Group for children aged 9 to 12 in our area. A meeting of interested parents will be held in the Crypt on Thursday 25th February at 8.00 p.m. An explanatory video will be shown.

TAKE NOTE

Adult Education Lecture Series

The first lecture (of four) "The Sacraments yesterday, today and tomorrow : an Overview" by Fr. Tom Clancy, will take place next Tuesday 23rd February in the Crypt at 8 p.m. All welcome.



Ballineaspai Gramophone Circle

Our monthly recital will take place on Wednesday next, 24th February, at 3 p.m., in the Crypt of the Church at Dennehy's Cross, when Patrick Doyle will present his choice of music.

Computer Courses

Now that you have bought that computer why not learn how to use it! Courses in wordprocessing, database and spreadsheet at Colaiste an Spioraid Naoimh - beginners start Thurs. 25th Feb. Intermediate Wed. 24th Feb. 7.30-9.30p.m. for ten weeks. £55 (students £40). Please contact school at 543790.

Cork Ursuline Past Pupils' Union
Ursuline Bridge Night (for charity)
Sunday, 28th February, 1999
at Douglas Bridge Club, St. Patrick's Woollen Mills, Cork.
Admission £5. Bridge will commence at 7.30 p.m. Great prizes for various categories (including novice competition).

HOW ARE YOU PREPARING FOR THE YEAR 2000?

Join us at the Lough Church
for
Faith of Our Fathers

An Evening of Prayer and Song
at 8.00pm
on Friday 26th February 1999

Everybody Welcome
Tea and Cakes served afterwards

MOUNT MERCY NEWS - HOCKEY

Congratulations and well done to the Senior "A" Hockey Team who beat St. Angela's in the semi-final of the Munster Cup at Harlequins. Two first half goals from Alma Carey put M.M.C. well in command. Louise O'Sullivan scored the third goal in the closing minutes of the game. M.M.C. will play Scoil Mhuire in the final on Monday, 22nd February.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940

Readings for Sunday 28 February
Gen. 12:1-4. Ps. 32.
2 Tim. 1:8-10. Mt. 17:1-9.