

Sunday 2nd May 1999



Ballineaspais Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Easter



No. 592

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK.



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

I hesitate to write this piece for our Parish Bulletin - yet I feel I should. I know it will be criticised - fair enough. I fear it may be misunderstood - not so good. I refer to a widespread spirit of condemnation so prevalent in the media generally, and indeed among us all. Now don't get me wrong, if something is wrong it's wrong, and we shouldn't slide over it or around it. But there used to be an old principle in Church teaching, "Condemn the sin, but not the sinner" - not a bad rule at all.

Long ago priests in general, and Redemptorists in particular, were criticised for putting the fear of God into people. Now the people who led that criticism are the very ones who wield an awesome power, and for the most part ruthlessly. They say if the truth hurts - it should. They haven't heard the story about the one without sin can afford to throw the first stone.

I was re-reading the story of the Prodigal Son recently. That young man was self-centred, heartless, and used others for his own advantage. His elder

brother who stayed at home was jealous, angry, self-righteous, resentful, a complainer. We are not told in the Parable how the Prodigal got on after his welcome home, nor if the elder brother was ever reconciled with his father, brother, or indeed himself. Here is something to think about:

If I were the Prodigal, how would I end that story?

If I were the elder brother, how would I like to end his story?

But there is one thing I'm very happy about - the Loving Father (yours and mine) has a generous heart of love and compassion, and I trust he will extend that love and welcome to me when my time comes to meet Him. Perhaps we could try to be like Him in our own imperfect way - very slow to condemn, but quick and generous in forgiving.

for this thy brother was dead
and is alive again





GLANMIRE GROTTTO

On May 1st, 1949, the well-known Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes at Glanmire was blessed and opened by the late Canon Gould P.P., in the presence of thousands of people, following a Procession from Springhill Church. Every year since then, the parishioners accompanied by many visitors from surrounding parishes, have walked in procession to the Grotto.

This year's Golden Jubilee Procession will take place on Sunday 9th May, leaving St. Joseph's Church, Springhill, at 3.00 p.m. Bishop John Buckley will preside and the special sermon will be preached by Canon Eoin Cashman, P.P. Ballinlough - a native of Glanmire. Visitors are welcome to attend a very special day in the history of Glanmire's Grotto.

Our Prayer List

We pray for the late Angela Murphy, Mount Desert View, Model Farm Road, who died recently. Angela was a devoted mother who will be sadly missed by her sons Vincent and Brian. Up to her illness she was a daily Mass goer, and of course she was ever faithful to her game of Bridge. The young men from Christian Brothers College who played and sang at her Requiem Mass did credit to her sons who teach there. To Vincent and Brian, her sister Kathleen, we offer our prayers and sympathy.

Sympathy

We offer our sincere sympathy to TERESA and SEAN GILL, Merlyn Lawn, on the death of their son-in-law.

To JOHN YOUNG, Cherrygrove, on the death of his brother.

To MRS. HELENA DENNEHY, Dennehy's Cross, on the death of her brother.

in  we gloried day by day. Your name we praised always.



Comment

By

Ruth

Our collection for Kosovo this week-end is uplifting, to say the least. It's quite a topic of conversation around the parish: "Isn't it great that our church can be a vehicle for us to express our Christian charity?" It's significant that nobody is asking: "Do these people belong to our church?"

The recent bombings in London by the Nazi group, Combat 18, are a chilling reminder that "ethnic cleansing is a lot closer to us than we might suspect. How readily do we accept stereotypical portrayals of people of other nationalities on our T.V. screens, then scream outrage when we Irish are portrayed as drunken layabouts?

Our charity will truly be tested if and when some refugees come to live amongst us. Pray that we will be ready for the challenge.

The Fold

Fold Magazine

The May issue is on sale this weekend. It includes the following items:

- * A special pictorial feature on the broadcast of the Easter Ceremonies from the Cathedral.

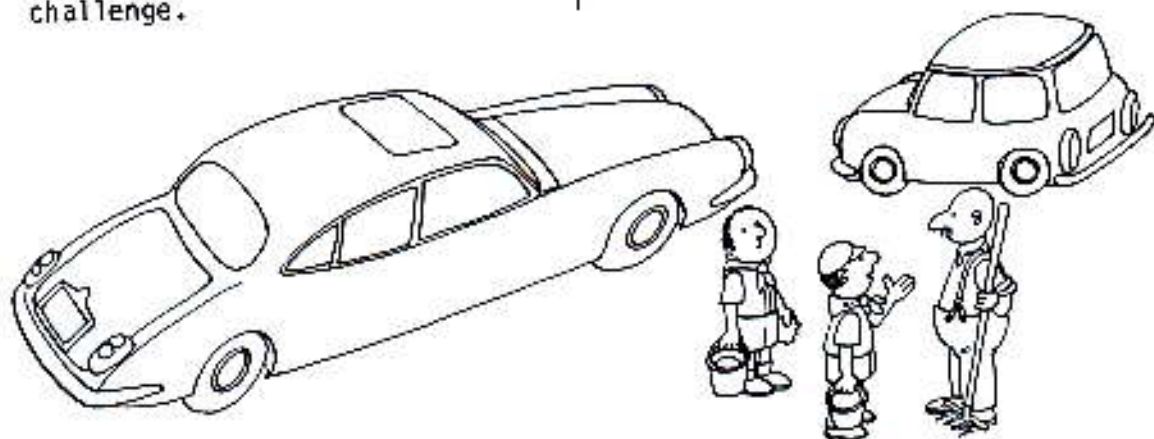
- * An examination of the statistics relating to the number of priests in Cork & Ross now and a prediction for the years 2005 and 2010 - an issue which should concern all parishioners of the dioceses.

- * Special reports from our diocesan mission in Peru and Ecuador, including an inspiring piece of poetry by Fr. Sean O'Sullivan reflecting on his experience of praying for a dead child.

- * The story of the Lourdes grotto in Glanmire.

- * Your last chance to enter the Cathedral 15-car draw before the May 21st deadline.

- * Padre Pio's beatification by the Pope, his background and life.



'The Treasurer has asked us to wash his car.
Which one is his?'



Sacrament of



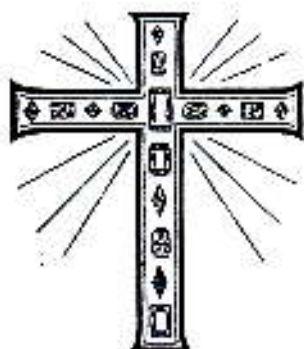
Confirmation

Sacrament of Confirmation

Next Thursday at 10.30 a.m. the 6th class pupils of St. Catherine's School will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Consequently, 10.00 a.m. Mass will not take place.

First Friday

Next Friday 7th May is the First Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on usual days.



Adoration

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place next Friday from 10.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

Monthly meeting next Thursday 6th at 8.00 p.m. in C.P. Centre.

Padre Pio

To commemorate the Beatification of Padre Pio, Mass will be celebrated in Holy Trinity Church on Sunday 2nd May at 3.00 p.m.

Public Talk

By Cork Mental Health Association, at Penrose Wharf Call Centre, on Wednesday 12th May at 8 p.m. sharp. The topic is 'Understanding Suicide', the speaker Dr. Martin Lawlor, Psychiatrist. Free admission. Please call 551433 for booking.

Schizophrenia Ireland (Lucia Foundation)

Has opened an office at 42 Penrose Wharf. For information regarding support groups for people with schizophrenia, support groups for caring relatives, family support courses, schools outreach programme and other services. Contact Marie at 552044.

Join Us!

Alzheimer National Tea Day

Join us at the C.P. Centre on Wednesday next 5th May, from 10.30 to 12 noon to aid this worthy cause.

Coeliac Society

The Southern Branch will hold a meeting on Tuesday 4th May at 8.00 p.m. in SMA Centre, Wilton.

Readers



Readings for Sunday May 9th

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17. Ps. 65. 1 Pet. 3:15-18. Jn. 14:15-21.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940