



Sunday 16th May 1999

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Ballineaspig Bulletin



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

Ascension of the Lord



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

Sr. Ursula writes

The Jesuit Retreat Centre in Dublin has some lovely stained glass windows that I find very prayerful. They are by the artist Evie Hone. I have a postcard copy of one of them, 'Pentecost' in front of me now. The dove, the tongues of fire, the storm clouds are all there. The apostles are gathered around Our Lady, some startled, some fearful and some confused. Mary alone remains calm. She is not at prayer. Her hands are raised and pointed outwards. Her eyes look straight out of the picture, as if she were looking right down the ages, taking in the whole sweep of the centuries. To me it looks as if she is reaching down through time to us and seeing the fruits of the wonderful gift of the Holy Spirit for all her children.

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you" the angel said to Mary. "A sword of sorrow will pierce your soul," Simeon said in the Temple not too long afterwards. How true that proved to be. Yet, Our Blessed Mother remained calm, full of faith and totally trustful of her God. Mary stood by the Cross. The Holy Spirit within her did not prevent sorrow. It did help her to say "yes" to God's plan as it unfolded in her life.

Unlike us, Our Blessed Mother opened herself completely to the power of the Holy Spirit. "Our tainted natures' solitary boast" a poet called her. The Holy Spirit is just as powerful and just as real today. We are just as much in need as the apostles were on that first Pentecost. Mary our Mother is just as ready to help and guide us as she was to help and guide the apostles in their doubts and fears. This year Pentecost falls within Our Lady's own month. Let us keep very close to the "Queen of Peace" as we prepare for this beautiful feast.

ASCENSION



**KNOW THAT I AM WITH
YOU ALWAYS UNTIL THE
END OF THE WORLD**

PENTECOST PARISH FEAST DAY

As a sign of our unity as a community of believers in the Eucharist, it is suggested that Eucharistic Ministers would bring Holy Communion on Pentecost morning to the housebound who wish it.

Ministers might be kind enough to offer the service to any of their neighbours, even those temporarily housebound and to make appropriate arrangements. The housebound themselves can take the initiative by contacting any Eucharistic Minister, or any of the parish team or parish office before Thursday next, please.

"Serious sickness often physically cuts a person off from full participation in the life of the Christian community. It can seem to impair full visible communion with the Church, especially when it gathers for the Eucharist. When we are ill or housebound, we can feel isolated from God's family and weakened by the lack of visible, tangible involvement.

Participation in the Eucharist and full communion with the Catholic Church is maintained above all by receiving Holy Communion at home or in hospital, ideally directly from the celebration of Mass. Taking Holy Communion to the sick is the richest way of making visible to them that they are still in living communion with the Body of Christ."

One Bread, One Body. par.74.

A PENTECOST INVITATION

All parishioners Confirmed this year, here or in other churches, are invited to join together for the 10.30 a.m. Mass on Pentecost Sunday 23rd May, 1999, with their families and friends, to thank the Lord for the gift of his confirming Spirit and to ask for a new outpouring of God's blessing upon us all through the gift that you, young people, are to this parish.

We invite you to hand your names into the Sacristy, C.P. Centre or to any of our parish team by next Wednesday please.



ST. CATHERINE'S NEWS

Congratulations to Emma Noonan (5th class) who came first in the Bord na Gaeilge essay-writing competition. She was presented with her prize of a stereo system by none other than Michelle Smith! Maith thú, Emma!

On April 30th Carol Wyley visited the school to collect all the goods donated for Kosovo. She expressed her deep thanks to all on behalf of the Kosovans, and asked us to keep them in our prayers.

Forthcoming Events at the School:

18th May: 8.00 p.m. Open evening for parents to view the R.S.E. materials.

19th May: 8.00 p.m. Talk by Dr. Rosemary O'Connell to the parents of next year's Junior Infants.

26th May: 1.30 pm. Informal visit for the new Junior Infants and their parents. We look forward to meeting you!



PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

An Interfaith Service, the Parish Directory, Ministers of the Eucharist and Fathers Day were some of the matters discussed at the May meeting. The opening prayer was given by a member of Council who led us in quiet reflection on God's presence in our lives.

As a result of a very enthusiastic meeting between members of the Council including the Parish Priest and the Dean, and Ministers of the Church of Ireland, Methodist and Presbyterian faiths, an Interfaith Service of the Word dedicated to the Holy Spirit, with readings and psalms, a homily and hymns, will take place in the crypt of our parish church, on Wednesday following the Feast of Pentecost, 26th May, at 8 p.m. Further announcements will be made about this important event in our parish. In the meantime, we ask you to pray that our coming together will be fruitful.

A parish directory similar to the Kerry Diocesan Millennium Newspapers, recently distributed with the Kerryman, was proposed. The publication would be a celebration of the millennium with parish information included, with distribution planned for October.

New Ministers of the Eucharist are still needed. Retiring Ministers are asked to seek suitable candidates and also Ministers who have served in previous years are asked to consider a new term. Names should be given to Fr. Clancy immediately.

As this is the year of God the Father a special celebration of Fathers Day is planned for June 20th. An appreciation of fatherhood is to be encouraged and explored.

Finally, your Pastoral Council is always open to new ideas and would welcome letters and comments to the Bulletin on its meetings and work.

THE ANGELUS - MARY'S PRAYER

The Angelus prayer is a story prayer that finds an echo in every Christian's life with its invitation, response and prayer of faith. Last week we wrote about the invitation to pray. This week we write about our response.

Response

Mary wondered about her suitability for the job. She doubted that God could achieve anything so great through her. But she saw that the greatness

came from God, not from herself. So finally she submitted to his will and his power.

We also often lack confidence in ourselves and in God's power plan for us. But we are the stuff that saints are made of. It is God who does the asking. He shared in our nature. We need to be able to say 'Be it done unto me according to the word'. It is our response that triggers off God's power at work within us. It must be a daily response.



MOUNT MERCY NEWS

Athletics:

At the BLOE Athletic Championships held in Tullamore on Monday last, Avril Kelly (5th year) came 1st in the 400m, Sharon Kelly (3rd year) came 1st in the 100m and 200m, and Fionnuala Lombard (3rd year) 1st in the Shot Putt. The three girls qualified to take part in the European Youth Track & Field Championships to be held in Denmark in July.

Camogie:

Congratulations and well done to Jean O'Sullivan (3rd year) and Joanne O'Callaghan (4th year) who played on the Cork Minor Camogie Team who won the Munster final last weekend beating Clare 7-17 to 1-5. Cork now go on to meet the Ulster Champions in the All-Ireland semi-final on August 1st.

Maths Competition:

First year students Sarah Duffy and Vicki Brennan participated in the Irish Junior Mathematics Competition 1999. They reached 5th and 6th place respectively at national level.

Well done to all.

Baile'n Easpaig Gramophone Circle

Our final recital for this season will take place next Wednesday 19th May at 3 p.m. in the crypt of our church at Dennehy's Cross, when the renowned Dan Murphy will be the presenter. Do not miss this great musical occasion.

Alzheimers Tea Day

The Friendship Club would like to thank those who supported our Alzheimers Tea Day. We made a creditable total of £255 to aid our local Alzheimer sufferers.

Annual Padre Pio Mass

At Enniskeane Parish Church on Tuesday 25th May at 8.30 p.m. The chief celebrant will be Fr. Angelus, O.F.M.Cap. A blessing with the relic will take place after Mass. Everybody most welcome.

Charity Walk

The Lee Tunnel Charity Walk takes place on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd May. This is a unique opportunity to walk the Tunnel before it opens to motor traffic. The Tunnel will be open to walkers from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days. Admission £5 adults, £3 children and £10 families. Drivers should approach from the Kinsale Road Roundabout and access for pedestrians is from Skehard Road.

I.C.A. Bishopstown Guild

Meeting will take place in S.M.A. Community Centre on Thursday 20th May. Crafts Demonstration at 8.p.m. New members welcome.

CONGRATULATIONS

Br. Martin Kenneally who was a member of the current Pastoral Council, has been appointed Principal of Presentation Brothers College.

Sympathy

We offer our sincere sympathy to ALISON MOYNIHAN, Leeddale, on the death of her brother, and to her husband JAMES on the death of his mother.

To EILEEN HEALY, Farranlea Park, on the death of her mother.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940