

Sunday 9th April 2000



No. 630

# Ballineaspais Bulletin

Fifth Sunday in Lent



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DENNEHY'S CROSS, DORK



FROM OUR  
**PARISH  
TEAM**

*The Dean writes*

You simply **MUST** read this. Holy Week and Easter are just around the corner and, believe it or not, this is something of vital importance for every man, woman and child who takes up this Bulletin. Over the years we have come to regard Christmas as the most important feast of our Christian Calendar - it's beautiful of course, but our Christian Faith depends for its sanity on the fact that Christ rose from the dead. St. Paul spelled it out in unmistakable terms: "If Christ has not been raised from the dead our preaching is empty, and your Faith without foundation."

Without the Resurrection the Church and all it stands for is one big scam, and Christians are the world's number one fools. Of course there are plenty good people who do not believe that Jesus rose from the dead, nor do they believe in anything after death. But don't run away with the idea that they are the clever ones. There are just as many bright and deep thinking people who have no problem in believing in the Resurrection and life everlasting.

The truth is that Faith is a gift, freely given by God himself, and has nothing to do with intelligence, or the lack of it. What do we actually believe about the Resurrection of Christ, and how relevant is this fact to our own destiny - yours and mine?

What Christians believe is that the word 'Resurrection' describes a change from a state of death to another life that is beyond time and space. Christ's resurrection was not simply a return to the kind of ordinary life we had before. It is a new form of life, continuous with the past, but a totally different form, changed, glorified - beyond the power of pain and evil.

The Apostles were witnesses to this new transformed life. Reluctantly at first, it must be said, but convinced to the extent that they professed to the reality of what they saw and preached at the cost of their lives.

Reflecting on this central mystery of our Faith should fill us with awe - that the Son of God should submit to such suffering and humiliation for our sakes. Think of the love that sucked him into this extravagant sacrifice. Thank you Lord from my heart for what you have done for us. And to everybody who reads this Bulletin - Happy Easter, filled with Faith and love.

*Denis O'Leary*

**Our Congratulations  
to the newly appointed  
Archbishop of Westminster**

Our parishioner, Mary McEnri, who is first cousin to the new Archbishop of Westminster, Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, has recently returned from attending the wonderfully impressive inauguration ceremony. Eighty-three family members were there from Ireland, England and Spain.

Mary has been telling us that it was a most moving ceremony. It was edifying to see so many priests and friends from his previous dioceses present. Although the occasion was on such a grand scale the atmosphere was personal and friendly, and the warmth of his own personality came through. He was so calm, and was even able to joke!

He has a daunting task ahead with 400 priests in his new diocese that he will have to get to know. Three Mercy Sisters have been appointed to look after his house.

We, in Cork, have some claim to the new Archbishop as he spent some of the war years in Cork where he attended Pres. school. We wish him success, happiness and fulfilment in his very responsible position, which sentiment we hope Mary will convey to him.



**ALTERNATIVE SLANT**

**BY "RUTH"**

The recent decision by Archbishop Brady to ban eulogies at funerals set me thinking. At first, I was selfishly glad, because I always cry even more when listening to a close relative try to keep composed while speaking so lovingly of a deceased family member. Also, I felt relieved that I would be under less pressure to address a congregation in the event of being bereaved myself! However, I think it can be very consoling for the bereaved, and the funeral Mass would seem the best place for it.

Increasingly, over the past 20 years or more, the laity has been encouraged to take a more active part in preparing the liturgy for special occasions, such as weddings and funerals; choosing the readings, hymns and bidding prayers, and offering meaningful gifts. It would only follow that people would like to personalise the liturgy as much as possible.

I wonder if a eulogy were offered in the form of a prayer: "O God, receive the soul of...who..." Would it be more acceptable to those who disapprove?

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Psalm 23:2,3



## God among the Meals on Wheels

Fr. Clancy concluded his Lenten series on the Sacraments by a thought-provoking two-part lecture on the Eucharist. In the first part he examined the eighty Prefaces and the four Eucharistic Prayers and our obligation to participate alertly in them, although practically in silence, and the moments of verbal response by the congregation. He discussed the great Amen at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer, where the people confirm their faith in what has gone before, reminding us that in the early Church according to Justin, "All the people present shout their assent saying 'Amen'."

In the second part he outlined the ecumenical background to "One Bread, One Body", the controversial teaching document on the Eucharist by the Bishops of Ireland, England, Wales and Scotland, and its conclusion that

there was not sufficient unity of faith to justify inter-communion at the moment. He described the presence of God in the Word of God, in the Sacraments, the Church at prayer, the poor and sick and supremely in the action of the Mass. Those present were startled to hear that the ministry of the Meals on Wheels was as sacred as the Ministry of the Eucharist. His comments included the proper respect due to the Anglican Eucharist, the seeking of unity in diversity rather than in uniformity and the concept of the people of God, united in faith, going with one another to God.

Footnote: Our thanks to Irene Connolly for her practical organisation of the lectures and to the members of the Tuesday afternoon Bridge Club for their assistance with the chairs.

We congratulate the following parishioners who received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Buckley last Wednesday:

Emily Bredin  
Lorna Brown  
Louise Cashell  
Caroline Collins  
Gemma Delahunty  
Clara Enright  
Karen Flynn  
Rosemary Healy  
Maria McCarthy  
Claire Newton  
Sara Nagle  
Aoife O'Donovan  
Jennifer Owens  
Louise Quinn  
Fiona Shanahan  
Niamh Shanahan  
Victoria Whelton

## Lets Go to Mass



The booklets for children have received a great welcome. Many people use them and ensure that they are returned to tables after use. Some people have bought a booklet (£2) to bring home and bring it to Mass each Sunday. If you have not paid for your copy, you can put the money into the ordinary Sunday collection basket today. Thank you.



**Bulletins to Homes**

Bulletins will be delivered to all homes in the parish next weekend.

**Pastoral Council**

Meeting this Monday 10th in the Crypt at 8.00 p.m.

**Easter Eggathon**

St. Vincent de Paul will hold an Eggathon at Merchant's Quay Shopping Centre from April 10th to 22nd. If you have a spare Easter Egg to give, or would like to donate cash towards Easter Eggs, however large or small, it would be most welcome.

**Priesthood in Cork & Ross**

Bishop John Buckley invites you to an Informal Meeting to be held on Saturday 15th April at St. Dominic's, Ennismore, from 11.00 to 5.00 p.m. There will be:

- \* information from students and priests
- \* an open discussion and time for questions
- \* quiet reflection/prayer
- \* a chance to meet others with similar thoughts.

**Parish Dues**

Through the courteous service of our dedicated collectors, dues envelopes will be distributed over the coming week or so. Your cooperation and generosity will be appreciated.

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Meeting (half-hour) at 8 p.m.  
Thursday next 13th April

Purpose: To plan especially for  
**Holy Thursday**

Venue: Crypt

**Grande Messe de Morts (Requiem)**

By Berlioz, performed by the Irish Youth Choir, Fleischmann Choir, Cork School of Music Symphony Orchestra and Brass Groups, Robert Craig (Tenor) and Geoffrey Spratt (Conductor) at the Church of the Descent of the Holy Spirit, on Monday 24th April at 8.00 p.m. Tickets £10 (conc. £8) available from Pro Musica and Cork School of Music. The work lasts for just under 90 minutes and will be performed without an interval.



**Contact People**

All contact persons are requested to come to a meeting with the Pastoral Council in the Crypt on this Monday evening 10th April at 8.00 to plan the Parish Pilgrimage to Gougane Barra, the Inter-Church Service, and other current issues.

**Monday April 10th**

**8.00 p.m.**

**Crypt**

**Bishopstown I.C.A.**

Easter Bonnet meeting on Thursday 13th in S.M.A. Wilton at 8 p.m.

**Readings for Sunday 16 April**

Is. 50:4-7. Ps. 21.

Phil. 2:6-11. Mk. 14:1-15:47.

**EMERGENCY NUMBER**

**087 - 251 9940**