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Ballineaspig Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Easter



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, DUBLIN



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

THE TRUTH THAT SETS US FREE

For the past few months our news bulletins bring us regular accounts of large sums of money changing hands - allegedly for favours of doubtful legality. Commentators and letter writers are wringing their hands in anguish at the thought of our lack of standards in high places.

It all made me think of something the Lord said in his preaching: "If you make my word your home you will learn the truth, and the truth will make you free." (John 8:31-32) The Jews assured him that they were not slaves to anyone. But the Lord replied: "I tell you solemnly, anyone who commits sin is a slave."

The truth about God made manifest in the life of Jesus - the extraordinary love which God has for each one of us - this is the truth that sets us free, gives meaning to life, and puts a song in our hearts. It is this birth, this vision which sets us free - free from the tyranny of possession of the things of the world, the truth that enables us to rise above the weakness of our human nature - and free us from

crippling prejudice, because we know and believe the love which God has for us. "If we say we are in union with God while we are living in darkness, we are lying, because we are not living the truth." (1 John 6). "But whoever lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him" - a wonderful ideal, not easily attained, but worth living for.

Aelis O'Leary

Going Home

I see this life as a period of training, a time of preparation, during which we learn the art of loving God and our neighbour, which is the heart of the Gospel message. Sometimes succeeding, sometimes failing. As we learn, then many things begin to look different. Death, for instance, comes to be seen as the way which leads us to the vision of God, the moment when we shall see Him as He really is, and find our total fulfilment in love's final choice. The ultimate union with that which is most lovable, union with God, I call that the moment of ecstasy.

*The One who will understand,
who will forgive,
who will console.
That is my view of God.*

Cardinal Basil Hume.

BOOK REVIEW

Title: Celtic Threads
Sub Title: Exploring the Wisdom
of our Heritage
Edited by Padraigin Clancy.
Veritas 1999, Dublin.

Celtic Threads is a collection of 16 essays on the subject of Celtic Spirituality, by contributors from a wide variety of backgrounds, among them: M.E.P. Nuala Ahern (Green Party), Redemptorist missionary John J. O'Riordan, spiritual singer Noirin Ni Riain, philosopher-story teller John Moriarty, feminist theologian Mary Condren, Methodist minister Johnston McMaster, folklorist Padraigin Clancy.

Variety abounds in the topics of the essays. It shows the Celtic spiritual tradition to be a rich tapestry, the threads of which we need to pick in order to weave our own contemporary spirituality. But this heritage is not perceived as simply a treasure of preserved or even adapted resources, it is also viewed as a challenge to keep trying to fulfil and be faithful to ancient ideals and values. And John Moriarty writes: "... we daren't go without it. But ... the crisis we are facing now on the earth is so great ... that we must be **ORIGINALLY** creative., We have to get to the place where myths are born and allow a new vision to emerge."

An encouraging, exciting book!

Madelaine McNamara

Who Needs the Church?

As was to be expected, the chat programme on radio on Good Friday was on religion. One view expressed was: "Surely one can be a good Christian without belonging to any religious group or church." Such a view of Christianity is very incomplete. True enough, Christ has commanded us to love one another as He has loved us. Some people can do that on their own and live up to high moral values without being a member of a church. But, before He died and again after the Resurrection, Christ broke bread, blessed it and gave it to His disciples as His body. His command was clearcut: "Do this in memory of me." To be a follower of Christ, one must obey His command and share in the Eucharist with fellow followers. In Christ's own time, some Jews found that to be 'a hard saying' and walked no more with Him. In our time, some find it difficult to worship with the Church but Christ's words are very clear. "If you do not eat of the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you."

Jubilee Bells Ring for People in Need

Our parish bell ringers, both senior and junior, were received with great interest and approval at Wilton Shopping Centre where they performed to raise money for TELETHON. It seems they went down a treat because they made £472 in the afternoon. Well done!



Rest in Peace

We pray for Sheila O'Shea, late of Wilton Avenue, who died recently. Sheila's death would have come as a great shock to many. She was a woman who loved her garden and also spent weeks on end near the sea at Rosscarbery. A private and gentle woman Sheila devoted her life to her husband Billy. On visiting the O'Shea household, one was always guaranteed a great welcome and a slice of her Christmas cake. Sheila was a woman of deep faith, saying her own special prayers at home and attending daily Mass. We pray that the Lord will reward her gentleness and kindness. To Billy we offer our deepest sympathy.

Nancy Creed, Model Farm Road, died at the Bon Secours Hospital on 1st May. Nancy was a native of Croom, Co. Limerick. Later she met and married Tom Creed from Aherla. Tom was an official of Allied Irish Banks. Nancy was predeceased by her husband for well over twenty years. She lived with her family at Laburnum Lawn, before moving to a new house near her son on Model Farm Road about ten years ago. Her Requiem Mass was celebrated by her brother-in-law, Fr. Berard, O.F.M. Cap. We offer our very sincere sympathy to her family Deirdre, Michael, Anne, Tom, Mary, Grainne and Paddy, her sisters, relatives and friends.



USE THIS SPACE

We would welcome any comments you may have on the PARTSH PILGRIMAGE. Just drop them in the letter box at the C.P. Centre.





NOTICE BOARD

FIRST COMMUNIONS

Next Saturday 27th May for the pupils of St. Catherine's School. All invited.

ADVANCE WARNING

Change of Mass Time

On Sunday 11th and Sunday 18th June, R.T.E. will broadcast Mass from this church. To facilitate these broadcasts Mass will be at 10.00 a.m. on both Sundays.

On these Sundays Masses will be at 9.00, 10.00 and 12.15.

Mount Mercy News

On 4th May Mike Murphy, who was in Cork to present his Art Show programme for R.T.E. radio, visited the school to speak to the students - especially the Art students. He spoke about his work with R.T.E. and his own love of Art. Fifth year Art student Mary Jo Murphy, a recent winner in the Texaco Portrait Competition, presented Mike with a portrait of himself.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940

Readings for Sunday 28 May
Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48.
Ps.97. 1 Jn.4:7-10.
Jn.15:9-17.

TAKE NOTE:

South American Missions

The annual collection will take place at all Masses next weekend.



Baile'n Easpaig Gramophone Circle
Final Recital of this season will take place on Wednesday next 24th at 3 p.m. when Dan Murphy will present some glorious music. Everybody is welcome to a great finale.



A Prayer for Peace and Reconciliation In Ireland

Heavenly Father, Your Son, Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, died on the Cross a victim of violence.

We pray that Your peace will come to this island of Ireland. Our hope for peace rests entirely on You.

We pray for all victims of violence - that they may enjoy eternal peace.

We pray for those who have been injured in body, mind and spirit - that they may be healed.

We pray for the perpetrators of violence

- that they may reject their violent ways, and we pray for reconciliation amongst all the people of this island. Amen.