

Sunday 3rd September 2000



No. 643

Ballinaspais Bulletin

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK



OUR
**PARISH
PRIEST**
writes

THE HURLER ON THE DITCH

Every club, association, trade union and community has hurlers on the ditch. They are people who like all the advantages of membership but who make little or no contribution to the wellbeing of the group. They may snipe at the officers and criticise the facilities but they accept little real responsibility as members themselves. Often the reason for such an attitude is downright selfishness. But there are times when the reasons may be more complex. People may feel that they are less than full members. They can see no way in which they can play an active part in the group to which they belong.

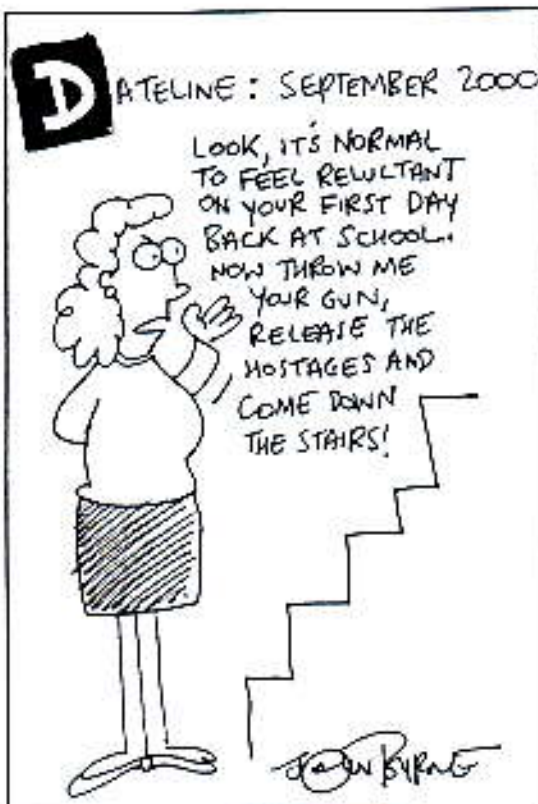
The Church has many hurlers on the ditch. Some are there by choice, others because they have no sense of real belonging. For them, the church seems to be for an "in-group" with whom they have no fellow feeling. Belonging is a question of spirit, attitude, structures and commitment. It must be continually created and recreated by each community in every decade. It is not that people need to be told they belong to the church; they need

to experience it.

It is true that Christ gave particular responsibility to leaders in the Church but He gave membership to all of us. We all share the responsibility of building up a people of God where both the "in-group" and the fringe people feel they really belong and respond accordingly.

Let us work and pray for it.

Thomas Lelaney

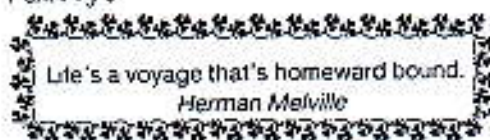


Dr. Dermot Loughnan, formerly of Bishopstown Avenue, died at Rosenalee Retirement Home, Ballincollig, on 28th June last. He had been in failing health since the death of his dear wife Eileen a few years earlier. Dr. Dermot had been one of the best known physicians in Cork, respected by patients and colleagues alike. He graduated from U.C.C. and continued his studies in London where he specialised in coronary illness, obtaining his M.D. degree. He returned to Cork and worked in the Bon Secours and Mercy Hospitals until his retirement. He was renowned not only for his outstanding ability as a physician but also for his gentle care and respect for all his patients. We extend our sympathy to his sons Michael and Martin, his daughters Mary and Margaret, his grandchildren and all who mourn his passing.

Abina Sweeney, Farranlea Park, died on 30th June at Marymount in her 95th year after a brief illness. A native of Millstreet, early in marriage she moved to Farranlea where she was one of the long-standing residents. Her husband Jerome who predeceased her worked on the building of this church with Pat O'Shea, Abina's brother. A woman of great heart and welcome, family was central to her life with a never-failing interest in the young, especially her grandchildren who will miss her greatly. Her funeral Mass was celebrated by her nephew Fr. Michael O'Shea, S.M.A. (Zambia). We offer our sympathies to her son Noel and daughter Joan, son-in-law Billy and daughter-in-law Marie, and to all the wider families who will miss her. May she rest in peace.

Dr. T.C. O'Connor was a member of a well known Cork family. He attended the Mass and funeral of his friend and colleague Dr. Loughnan on 30th June and died unexpectedly the following day. Dr. Tom was also a graduate of U.C.C. and went on to specialise in gynaecology, taking further degrees in Britain. He returned to Cork and worked in the Bon Secours and South Infirmity hospitals. He retired a few years ago from the practice of medicine, and helped in the parish as a very loyal Minister of the Eucharist. Many grateful patients attended his removal and funeral Mass, as well as doctors, sisters and nurses who had worked with him over the years. We extend very sincere sympathy to his wife Margaret, his family Anne, Maeve, Billy, Peter and Raymond, his brothers Willie and Derry, and his many relatives and friends.

Mary Forde, Wilton Road, died at home very unexpectedly on June 28th. A native of Ballygarvan, Mary always maintained strong links with her roots and family as was evidenced at her removal and funeral. A woman of strong faith and practical love, she will be greatly missed. Always full of life, Mary had all the preparations made on the day she died to go on a picnic pilgrimage to Mount Melleray with her husband John, her sisters Ann Kelleher (Kenley) and Eileen Kiely (College Road) to whom we offer our deepest sympathies, as we do to her sons Gerard and Noel, and all the extended family.





FORTIETH BIRTHDAY

Our Church of the Descent of the Holy Spirit will be forty years open on 25th September, 2000. We hope to mark the occasion with a weekend of prayer and renewal: prayer because our church must be above all a focus of prayer; renewal because every birthday, as well as giving thanks for the past, must look forward in hope to new beginnings.

It is suggested that there be an overnight prayer time of thanks, praise and intercession on Friday/Saturday (22nd-23rd September) with a renewal of baptismal commitment at all Masses over that weekend. A highlight could be a baptism ceremony at 12.15 p.m. Mass on Sunday 24th September.

Baptism is what links us with Jesus and with one another in the wider faith community. All of us need to fan again and again the flame of faithful love in our hearts. For those who were baptised in this church over the forty years, or who had family baptised here, it will be a particular opportunity to enrich their relationship with the Lord and with the believing community. Sometimes these relationships grow tattered and broken over the years, but a birthday in a jubilee year can be a great opportunity for homecoming.

Bring a family member on September 22nd-25th and bring a family member.



Best Wishes

On Saturday September 9th, Sr. Anthony Mary Taylor will make her Solemn Profession at the Poor Clare Convent, College Road.

We offer our prayerful best wishes to Sr. Anthony Mary and all the community on this happy and hope-filled occasion.

Come, Follow Me

Among the new seminarians who started in Maynooth on Sunday last was Colm O'Mahony from Bendemeer Park. One of three beginning their studies this autumn under the banner of Cork & Ross in Maynooth, Colm will be known to many parishioners, at least by sight, from his service as a Eucharistic Minister in the church here for which we thank him.

Already a graduate in Social Science from U.C.C. Colm will take a one year diploma in philosophy before his study of theology. We wish God's blessing on all three seminarians and ask you to remember them in your prayers.



We offer our sincere sympathy to MICHAEL BYRNE, Kenley Crescent, on the death of his father John. To Lena Dennehy, Dennehy's Cross, on the death of her sister Margaret Ryan.

To MARY and MICHAEL COAKLEY, Liam Lynch Park, on the death of their grandson Michael Quinn.

To DECLAN JONES, Wilton Road, on the death of his mother.



PASTORAL COUNCIL

The present Pastoral Council completes its three years of generous service this month and a new council will be formed shortly. The twelve areas of the parish provide one representative each who together form the core of the council. With the September 17th Bulletin to the homes, a nomination paper will be sent to each home in the parish inviting nominees for the council. Those nominated in each particular area will meet and select one from among them to represent the area.

The council contributes greatly to the life of the parish by highlighting opportunities and needs and, generally, working to build a caring and praying community among us.

Please think about who you would like to represent you and talk to such a person about it beforehand. If nominated and chosen, please come forward to serve us in faith, hope and love.



Handbell Ringing - Jubilee Bells

It's time to start ringing again. Children's classes will resume on Wed. 13th September at 6.00 p.m. in the Crypt. A new adult group will be starting on Tues. 12th September at 7.30 p.m. in C.P. Centre, and the usual 1.00 p.m. class will continue on Thurs. from September 14th. If you are interested in handbell ringing contact 4543016 or 4541798.

Ballineaspai Bridge Club

Reopens at the G.A.A. Club on Monday 11th September at 7.30 p.m. All are welcome.

Light Out of Darkness

Light Out of Darkness is a gentle human spiritual growth course. We become more aware of God as being our friend who cares for each of us unconditionally. Starting in October. Interested please ring Eileen 541582.

Senior Help Line

Are you feeling lonely? Are there days when nobody calls? Would you like to share a worry? Call the Senior Help Line at 1 850 440 444, mornings 10-1, evenings 7-10 p.m. You will be talking to an older person trained by the Southern Health Board who will welcome your call. The service is provided from anywhere in Ireland for the price of a local call.

Day Courses

For adults and school leavers will be held in the Cork College of Commerce, details from 4270777, and in Colaiste Stiofain Naofa, contact 4961020/4961029.



The Friendship Club

Recommences on Monday 11th September.

PARISH TEAM

Fr. Tom Clancy, P.P. 4347616
Fr. Patrick Walsh, C.C. 4348588
Dean Denis O'Connor 4542972

Emergency Number: 087 251 9940

Readings for Sunday 10 September

Is.35:4-7. Ps.145. Jm.2:1-5,
Mk.7:31-37.