

Sunday 1st October 2000



No. 647

Ballinaspais Bulletin

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNHY'S CROSS, COFK



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

Fr. Patrick writes

RICH MAN, POOR MAN.....

Some few days ago I happened to be listening to a radio interview of a young playwright. He had lots to say, much of it very interesting. Pat Kenny asked what did he like to write about, what was his inspiration. One of the points he made was that he felt that there was a great lack of moral leadership in our country. All the concern of most people was how to spend the excess in our budget. The question was never asked for whom should it be spent. In other words, who is poor in this great society of the celtic tiger? No one is asking this question. The young interviewee felt it was the duty of the playwright to ask such questions in his drama.

Indeed, I would have to agree, no one does ask the question who is poor, who is rich in Ireland today. The New Testament forces us to ask this question. In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus says, "How happy are you who are poor, woe to you who are rich." (Chapter 5). St. James in our second

reading today says: "An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you." If we are rich we are in big trouble, if we are poor we are beloved of Christ. As a church, a Christian community we, like the playwright, must ask the same questions, raise the same issues. Who is poor in our parish, our city, our country? We ignore this question at a great cost.

Patrick Walsh

MARYMOUNT HOSPICE



Sincere thanks to all who supported and helped in any way to make the coffee morning at St. Joseph's, Model Farm Road, a great success. £460.00 was raised in a few hours. Cups of coffee and tea were sipped as friends and neighbours chatted in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. May we continue to put energy and effort into this kind of quality time.

TIPS ON PRAYER

1. Decide on a time and place in your daily routine and try to stick to it.
2. If you are not used to daily prayer begin with five minutes a day.
3. Start with a few moments becoming aware of God's presence.
4. Try to relax. Relaxing opens you up to God's inspiration.
5. If you have a grudge against anyone, ask God's help to let go of it.
6. If you like, start with a prayer you know, but move on to use your own words.
7. Feelings are important. Share them with God as well as your thoughts.
8. Don't talk to God too much. Leave space for God to talk to you.
9. A slow reading of the Scriptures can be helpful. But with lots of pausing.
10. Think of the latest world news and include it in your prayer petitions.
11. If you are down hearted, spend time thanking God for the good things in life.
12. Playing a background tape of hymns or religious music can sometimes help.
13. Using different body positions can help. Kneeling, sitting, lying down.
14. Build up your prayer time slowly. Too long too soon can discourage you.
15. Enjoy your prayer!

- From Far East Magazine



CONCERN RE MOBILE PHONE MAST

Local residents have called a public meeting at the Bishopstown G.A.A. clubhouse on Wed. 4th Oct. at 8p.m. to discuss the dangers of the above structure recently erected in the grounds of Highfield R.F.C. without planning permission.

BAPTISM

We welcome into our Christian community:

Susan Clare Burke
Jennifer Devone O'Donoghue
Cillian Joseph MacNamara
Edward Jack Liston
Kevin Michael Costello
Michelle Alice Quaid

MOUNT MERCY NEWS

There was great jubilation last Wednesday when the Junior Cert. results were handed out. They were excellent, with the following students achieving 10 straight As on higher level papers - Jane Cunningham, Frieda Long and Jennifer O'Sullivan. Comhghairdeas leo go léir.



We offer our sincere sympathy to DON HARTE-BARRY, The Manor, Model Farm Road, on the death of his mother.



ANNUAL AWARDS
OF THE
RELIGIOUS PRESS ASSOCIATION

This certificate is awarded to

Fr Denis O'Connor, Ballinacraig, 30 April 2000
2000 Best Editorial - Newsletter



James J. O'Connell
President
30 April 2000

The Dean writes

Refugees and asylum seekers are very much in the news these days. It's a new problem for us in this country. Because it's new we haven't quite made up our minds how to deal with it. There are arguments for a Christian and caring response, which is very good, until they come to live next door and we are confronted with uncomfortable realities - from some only it must be stressed.

What should we do? A hundred years ago a Texas Senator made a famous statement at a school board meeting where Spanish speaking immigrants were demanding that their children should be taught through the medium of their own language. He pronounced, with due solemnity and conviction: "If English was good enough for Jesus Christ, it's good enough for me." Before you burst out laughing at such a nonsensical assessment you should remember that the brave senator couldn't see it as any laughing matter. The fact was he didn't know.

So my suggestion is that we

should inform ourselves fully before we rush to judgement. There is a strong exhortation throughout the Bible to treat refugees and orphans with great compassion. We are reminded too that many of our own people had to seek work and refuge in foreign countries - and face resentment and prejudice. In fairness, the vast majority acquitted themselves with honour - often against the odds. And this very day a Cork businessman told me he has several Romanian immigrants in his workforce. He has nothing but praise for their efficiency and dedication.

Of course there are problems. We find it difficult to provide housing for our own young people who want to marry and settle down, not to mind our "street children". The whole question needs to be assessed in the light of Gospel values, and with respect for every human person, because every person is a child of God.

Denis O'Connor

This is the article that won the award. Well done Dean! It is truly deserved and we are very proud of you.



First Friday

Next Friday 6th October 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 to 7.30 p.m. followed by Mass.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

Monthly meeting takes place next Thursday 5th October in C.P. Centre at 8.00 p.m.



Special Day of Prayer

At Knock shrine on Saturday 7th October, commencing 2.15 p.m. with Stations of the Cross, followed by Rosary Procession and Mass at 3 p.m.

Parents of Marital Breakdown

A programme for PARENTS who are about to or who have separated will be held at 34 Paul Street on Wednesday 11th October at 6.15 p.m. Further information from 275678.

Fashion Show

In Jurys Hotel on Monday 9th October at 8 p.m., featuring Sheena's Boutique, Nouvelle, Saville, Cummins, Michief Makers. Tickets £10, raffle and surprises, all in aid of St. Vincent's Secondary School Development Fund.

Readings for Sunday 8 October

Gn.2:18-24; Ps. 127;
Heb. 2:9-11; Mk.10.2-16.

Caretaker

Required for local school, must be eligible for community employment. Please ring 347611.



Outdoor Pursuits

For details of Bishopstown Hillwalking and Orienteering Clubs, please contact 45 Rossbrook, Model Farm Road, tel. 546194.

Job Opportunity

Office co-ordinator required for Ballinora Hall/Gym Complex under existing community employment scheme rules. Details from 873497.

Can You Help?

Big fire guard needed to keep children safely away from open fire at Edel House. Please phone Betty at 274249, or 088-6922685.



Oral Irish for Adults

A 10 week course will commence in Gaelscoil Uí Riada on Tuesday 3rd October, 7.30-9.00 p.m. and will cater for beginners and those who wish to improve their existing Irish. Registration with School Secretary at 4342027 between 9.00 and 2.30 any day up to Friday 29th 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