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CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
GENEHY'S CROSS, COBK.

Ballineaspais Bulletin

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



OUR
**PARISH
PRIEST**
writes

DEATH - AND THE CELTIC TRADITION

In the old Irish Celtic year, Samhain was the festival of the disappearing sun when the dead returned to visit their own people. Even before the arrival of Christianity, the Celts believed that the dead had only moved to another realm of existence, and at Samhain the two realms were in tangible communication. It was a time to remember family bonds, to be reunited in spirit, to deal with unfinished business. It was a time of mystery rather than magic, even if the magic was always nearby.

It is said that the Jews know how to celebrate weddings, the Greeks birthdays and the Irish deaths. What makes the celebration of death a possibility is the capacity to face death at two levels. There is the physical death with the cold lifeless body before one and, side by side with that, there is the belief that though the body be dead, the person is living in another area. The strengthening source of this faith of ours is the resurrection

of Jesus, the hallowed one.

Gradually, the Celtic and the Christian traditions meshed, sometimes fruitfully, sometimes destructively. Samhain became known as Hallowe'en, the evening before the day of All Hallows, All Saints. It is a time to celebrate the lives of those who have gone before us, to give thanks to them for the life they have given us and shared with us,

Just as Samhain was an opportunity to deal with unfinished business, All Souls Day is a recognition that the grieving is not fully over, that nobody is fully ready for the transition from this life to the next, that the transition of one family member is of concern to all the family, that we are linked to each other at every stage of our journey as a communion of saints.

So this is a time of magic especially for children, as well as a time of faithfilled mystery for believers. It is a time for all of us to experience and appreciate the wonder of who we are together, an ongoing family blessed by God in a myriad of ways now and always.

Happy Hallowe'en.

Tom O'Leary



Christianity in Action

A group from the parish recently visited **NASC**, the Irish Immigrant Support Centre. The Coordinator Brendan Hennessy showed us around, and told us of the work and of the aspirations of the Centre.

The Centre, at Sharman Crawford Street, opposite St. Aloysius' School, is a place where immigrants can drop in and be welcomed. The Centre provides an opportunity to meet, or more often to look for information: perhaps on accomodation, or training, or interpretation services: or for advice. There is access to news from their home country, through newspapers or by computer on the Web. English language classes are organised, and there is an active Womens Group. It was obvious to us that the Centre is providing an invaluable support for immigrants. At present Coordinator Brendan Hennessy is the only fulltime person in the Centre, which is open five days a week. Volunteers are badly needed to support the work.

Ballineaspai parishioners can play a significant role in the work of the Centre, helping newcomers to Ireland, as part of a team of volunteers working with the Coordinator in welcoming people at the Centre.

WILL YOU VOLUNTEER AS A MEMBER OF THE TEAM?

Commitment? At least one morning, or one afternoon a month at the Centre.

Qualifications? A willingness to be there, to welcome those calling in.

Training will be provided for those who volunteer.

If you are willing to volunteer three hours a month, please give your name and contact address/ telephone number to Anne O'Riordan at the Parish Centre, tel: 4344452 (10-12.30am), or leave a message for Máire or Brian at 4543180. We will get back to you within a few days.

Mount Mercy Sports News

Fionnuala Lombard, 5th year, had a very successful summer season in all her shot-putt competitions. She was 1st in the U-17 All Ireland, 1st in the Junior All Ireland and 3rd in the Celtic Games in Scotland. Well done Fionnuala.

Congratulations also to Sharon Kelly, 5th year, who came 1st in the Munster Relay, 2nd in All Ireland Schools Intermediate, 2nd in All Ireland Clubs and 2nd in All Ireland Senior Leagues. Comhghairdeas Sharon.



INDULGENCES

"Fools rush in where angels
fear to tread"

To deal with the question of indulgences could be said to be rushing in at a great rate. The Church split on the issue many years ago!

However, when we commit sin a certain wrong is done to God or another person, or both. God is always ready to forgive when we ask for it. The sin may be forgiven, but the wrong done to another person or God may not be undone. In fact, it is very often the case that our own efforts in undoing of the wrong are impossible for us. It is possible for God alone. When we say that someone has been granted an indulgence we say that the wrong done by sin has been undone by God. The church lays down certain conditions for the gaining of an indulgence.

Rest In Peace

Siobhán Ban Uí Chonail (nee Ferriter) 1907-2000. R.I.P. The world has seen many changes since Siobhán Uí Feiritéar first saw the light of day in Baile an Fheirtearaigh in July 1907. Siobhán grew up in that beautiful Gaelteacht area, completed her second and third level studies, and joined the teaching profession at an early age. She met and married Michéal O'Connell, another teacher. They lived in this parish for many years at Bendemeer Park, before moving to Firgrove. During their long years in teaching they inspired a grá for the Irish

Norms for Indulgences at the Commemoration of All Souls

1. From 12 noon on 1st November until midnight on 2nd November, all who have confessed, received Holy Communion, and prayed for the Pope's intentions (one Our Father and Hail Mary, or any other prayer of one's choice) can gain one plenary indulgence by visiting a church or oratory, and there reciting one Our Father and the Apostles' Creed. This indulgence is applicable only to the souls of the departed.

Confession may be made at any time within the week preceding or the week following 1st November.

Holy Communion may be received on any day from 1st November to 8th November.

2. The faithful who visit a cemetery and pray for the dead may gain a plenary indulgence applicable only to the Holy Souls on the usual conditions once per day from 1st to 8th November. The conditions mentioned above apply also for this.

language in thousands of pupils, but above all imbued them with a deep sense of loyalty and appreciation for Christian values in life. It was fitting that Siobhán's cousin, An Canóic Michéal Ó Mongáin from their own native place should celebrate her funeral Mass in the beautiful Irish of Corca Dhuibhne. Siobhán was predeceased by her husband Michéal many years ago. To her family, Mairéad (Waldron), Cormac, Michéal, Mairín (McLernon), her grandchildren, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, relatives and friends, we extend sincere sympathy.



All Saints

Wednesday 1st November is the feast of All Saints and a Holyday of Obligation. Vigil Mass on Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. Masses on Wednesday at 9.00, 10.30, 12.15 and 7.30 p.m.

Novena for Holy Souls

Thursday 2nd November is the Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed. Each priest will start a Novena of Masses on that day for all the dead on our November list. Envelopes and prayer cards available in the church, and please place your completed envelope in the box at the altar rails before November starts.

First Friday

Friday, 3rd November, is the First Friday of the month. Calls to sick and housebound on usual days.

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Friday 3rd from 10.30 to 7.30 p.m. followed by Mass.

St. Vincent de Paul

Monthly collection will take place at all Masses next weekend.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

Monthly meeting next Thursday 2nd November at 8.00 p.m. in C.P. Centre.

Young People

A group of priests, sisters and brothers are holding a special meeting for young adults in Mardyke House, The Mardyke, on 6th November, 7.30 to 9.00 p.m. They wish to invite young people who are thinking about their future direction in life to join the group for this information evening.

Readings for Sunday 5 November

Dt. 6:2-6; Ps. 17;
Heb. 7:23-28; Mk.12:28-34.

Parents of Marital Breakdown

Cork Marriage Counselling Centre will hold a programme for parents who are about to or who have separated at 34 Paul Street on Wednesday 29th November, 6.15 to 10.00 p.m. Early booking advisable as there are only a few places available. Tel. 275678.

St. Columban Variety Concert 2000

In aid of Maynooth Mission to China at the Cork Opera House on Sunday 5th November at 8 p.m. with Mary Hegarty, Tony Hegarty, Cork Male Voice Choir, etc. All tickets £10, sit where you please.

Speech and Drama

Winnipeg School of Speech and Drama classes now available. For further information contact Denise/Anne at 4342636/4344360, 087-6733886.



Hallowe'en is a lovely time for children. Long may they enjoy it. Not wishing to put a damper on such sentiments, nevertheless - a cautionary note. Would the parents of older children make sure that "trick or treat" doesn't get out of hand. Such "tricks" as throwing eggs or the like can be upsetting and destructive. Just keep an eye on things.

Have fun!

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940