

26th November 2000



Ballineaspig Bulletin

Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King



No. 655

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNHY'S CROSS, COBK



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

ST. ANNE'S FAMILY SERVICE

This weekend St. Anne's Family Service, Paul Street, are holding their annual collection. It is an occasion to see what services are provided there – to know a little more about what you are supporting financially.

As everybody knows, times change, and every generation throws up its own problems. Actual adoption is a very small part of the work at St. Anne's today. But much work remains caring for the needs of adoptees of past years, as well as a Day Care Nursery, the needs of children in cases of marital breakdown, and for those whose marriage relationship is unwell. Finally, a very important service they provide is Pre-Marriage Courses.

Sometimes young couples regard the pre-marriage course as a bit of a nuisance. What a pity that it should be so. Every counsellor who ever was knows the importance of communication. Marriage breakdown does not happen because of differences, but because a couple can't handle those differences. Statistics show that engaged couples who pursue a pre-marriage course that transmits communications and conflict resolution skills are far more likely to have a happy and fulfilling marriage relationship. A further point – did you know that a recent Gallup survey in the U.S.

found that a couple's future happiness can be better predicted by how often they pray together than by the quality of their physical relationship. And Inter-Faith marriages are more likely to succeed than those where there is no religion.

Lord, help all married people to look to you, to themselves, and to one another to rediscover the wonder and the mystery of their love for each other, and to know that God's love for them is always there, unconditional and unending. "I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord."

Aunty C. Lonnor

Evening prayer

Watch, dear Lord,
with those who wake,
or watch, or weep tonight,
and give your angels charge
over those who sleep.

Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ,
rest your weary ones.

Bless your dying ones.
Soothe your suffering ones.
Pity your afflicted ones.
Shield your joyous ones.
And all for your love's sake.

ST. AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO, FIFTH CENTURY

Solve your Christmas Gift Dilemma

Giving presents at Christmas can be a lovely thing. It's the one time in the year when, together, we all express our love, appreciation or friendship with a gift. So, here's a new idea. Why not buy a gift which will change someone else's life on the other side of the world? Our unique gift certificates - enclosed in a Christmas card for you to sign - will show your friends or family how your gift to them - and Trócaire - is being spent on vital projects in the developing world.

The following are examples of the kind of novel and life-changing gift certificate which you can buy in someone's else's name for Christmas.

- The gift of 40 chicks to be shared amongst several families in rural Central America.
- The gift of school books for adults in Luanda, Angola.
- The gift of a pig will transform the lives of a family in Honduras.
- The gift of a medical kit will cater for primary health care needs of a Vietnamese village.
- The gift of a plough will help a group of farmers in Kenya.
- The gift of a roof for a small house in Mozambique.

Every certificate carries an illustration and description of the project and the value of the gift will not appear on the certificate. Phone Trócaire at 1850-408408 to order your gift certificates immediately, or call to Trócaire Centre, 9 Cook Street.

A global gift for Christmas.

IN SYMPATHY

We offer our sincere sympathy to MARGARET O'SULLIVAN, Parkway, Model Farm Road, on the death of her brother Noel Considine.

APPROACHING ADVENT...

PREPARE THE WAY

The National Roads Safety Campaign keeps on reminding us that accidents don't happen by accident. For the most part, they happen by the decisions and choices we make. The same will be true of the kind of Christmas we create for ourselves and for others. The core of Christmas is the celebration of God's self giving of himself to us with the invitation to give ourselves in return to Him and to each other. The seduction of our time is to settle for less than God.

Advent is an opportunity to focus on the true wonder of God being born of Mary. It begins next weekend. We are invited to make weekend Mass for the four weekends before Christmas something special. Families could make space together to share the Sunday gospel, to pray the third joyful decade of the Rosary daily, to explore other ways of preparing our hearts and our hearths for the celebration of the coming of the Lord.

BAPTISM

We welcome into our Christian community the following who were baptised recently:

Shane Michael Devine
David Anthony Ogden
Callum Luke O'Connell
Jodie Sinead Cotter





ST. JOHN

Concluding our series on the symbols of the Evangelists inside the dome of our church....

The fourth gospel has been commonly rated the most theological of the gospels and very early in the history of the Church it came to be known as the "spiritual gospel". The evangelist was called "John the Theologian" and in art he is the **EAGLE**, for he has the most penetrating gaze into the mystery of God made man. Thus, reading this gospel means "flying high". It is also like climbing a spiral staircase for we are led from one level of meaning to the next. This quality and depth of reflection is the reason why many people say that they find themselves closer to God and to Christ in this gospel than in any other book they know. It is dated at 100-110 A.D.

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Highfield U-12 rugby team who defeated St. Mary's, Limerick, before the International match last Sunday between Ireland and South Africa in Landsdowne Road. Well done boys and thank you to coaches John Keogh, John Kearney and selectors. Good day had by all.

- A Parent

Mount Mercy News

Congratulations to Sarah Duffy, Junior Cert. on being a Junior Division prizewinner in the 2000 Australian Mathematics Competition which is sponsored by Westpac Banking Corporation, University of Canberra, and the Camberran Mathematical Association. Well done also to Joy Allen who received a Certificate in this competition.

Well done, Jimmy

Bulletin readers will have noted that Jimmy Barry-Murphy has retired from his position as coach of the Cork senior hurling team.

We should never be slow to recognise exceptional character, talent and ability, especially among our own. Jimmy and his family are of this parish and of this community.

His achievements as a hurler and footballer of all grades, as a mentor and coach, have given a huge sense of self-esteem and sporting enjoyment to people of all ages. Jimmy, you did us proud.



NOTICE BOARD

First Friday

Next Friday, 1st December, is the First Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on usual days.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration will take place next Friday 1st December from 10.30 to 7.30 p.m. followed by Mass.

Dues Envelopes

During the coming week, thanks to our ever loyal collectors, dues envelopes will be delivered to all homes in the parish.

St. Catherine's News

During the month of November many classes have held little services of remembrance for their friends and family members who have died.

Junior Infants and their parents joined in a prayer service to celebrate all they have learned (already!) since starting school.

This weekend sees the enrolment ceremony of 65 girls in second class for their First Holy Communion. The enrolment ceremony for the Confirmation Classes will be held in December.

Out with the old... Four classes have recently been furnished with new tables and chairs, a colourful replacement for the old two-seater desks!

Congratulations to Aine O'Byrne (6th class) on an excellent performance at the Great Britain and Ireland Dancing Feis, held recently in Manchester. Maith thu, a Aine!

Chernobyl Christmas Craft Fair

At Cork Opera House this Sunday 26th, 12.00 noon to 6.00 p.m. Many bargains available including Waterford Crystal, pottery, designer clothes, rugs, paintings, etc.



Show Some Civic Spirit

We appeal yet again to dog owners - PLEASE do not allow your dog to foul the footpaths. The amount of annoyance and frustration caused by inadvertently walking into 'it' doesn't need to be spelled out! Have consideration for people who are visually impaired, children who don't always look where they're going, and the general public who may wish to observe the world around them instead of constantly staring at the ground.

Furthermore, did you know that legally there is a £50 on the spot (pardon the pun) fine under the Litter Law for this offence. Also, pooper-scoopers (Fido Bags) are available free from your local authority.

Think about it.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940

Readings for Sunday 3 December

Jer.33:14-16; Ps. 24:4-5,8-9,10,14;
Paul 3:12-4.2; Luke 21:25-26, 34-36.